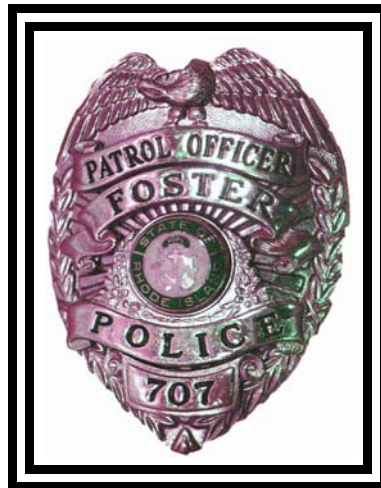


Foster Police Department



**Serving Our Community
With Pride**

**2008
Annual Report**



History of the Foster Police Department

The Foster Police Department was formally established by act of the Rhode Island General Assembly on April 27, 1964. Prior to that time, the Town was served by a Police Chief and constables who were appointed by the Town Council.

A volunteer Police Force consisting of four citizens was established in 1928 by request of William Wright who was appointed Chief. Ellis Benis who served for twenty years was the first paid Police Chief retiring in 1962.

During the 1960's, the department was staffed until midnight each day. Patrols from the Rhode Island State Police covered the Town during the overnight hours.

In the 1970's a full time Foster police officer was assigned to patrol the Town during the overnight hours. Calls were dispatched to the officer from either Rhode Island State Police Headquarters or the Scituate Police Department.

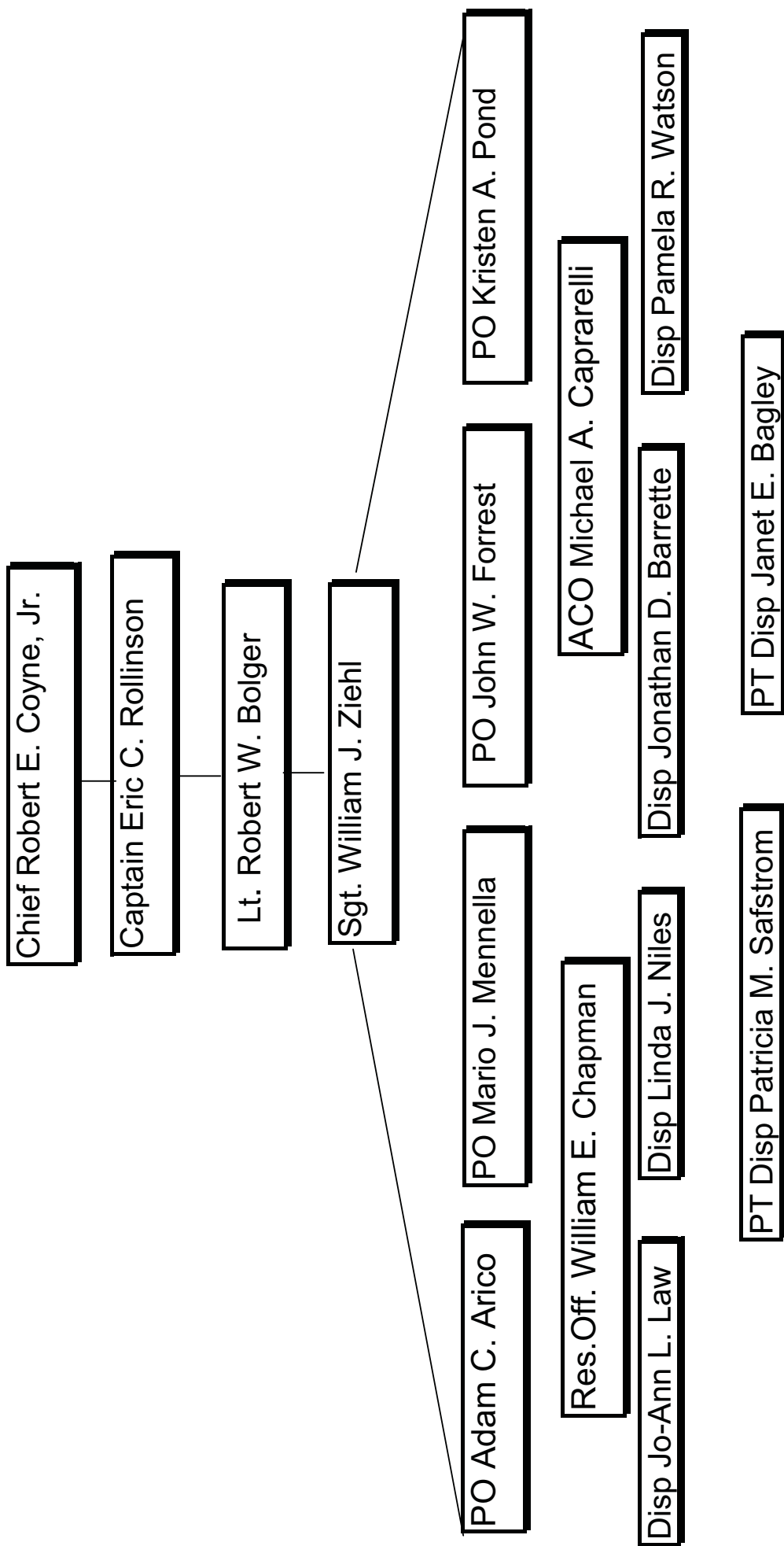
In 1981, the Foster Town Council ordained the first central dispatch system and the department was staffed on a 24 hour basis for police, fire, and rescue services.

The Foster Police Department has evolved into a highly professional agency, staffed by a Police Chief, eight full time police officers, one reserve officer, animal control officer, and six trained emergency dispatchers. The department handled over 15,000 calls for service during the calendar year 2008 through our emergency operations center.

We are proud of our history of service to the people of Foster and look forward to meeting the needs of a growing community in the future.



FOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION CHART



SENIORITY LIST
(By rank as of Dec 31, 2008)

SWORN PERSONNEL

NAME	RANK	DATE OF APPOINTMENT
Robert E. Coyne, Jr.	Chief	10/28/05
Eric C. Rollinson	Captain	06/01/88
Robert W. Bolger	Lieutenant	07/21/95
William J. Ziehl	Sergeant	12/18/95
Adam C. Arico	Patrol Officer	12/01/06
Mario J. Mennella	Patrol Officer	12/01/06
John W. Forrest	Patrol Officer	11/30/07
Kristen A. Pond	Patrol Officer	12/16/07
William E. Chapman	Reserve Officer	01/01/78

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

Jo-Ann L. Law	Full-time Dispatcher	05/01/89
Linda J. Niles	Full-time Dispatcher	11/01/90
Jonathan D. Barrette	Full-time Dispatcher	03/28/06
Pamela Watson	Full-time Dispatcher	07/03/08
Patricia M. Safstrom	Reserve Dispatcher	08/01/81
Janet E. Bagley	Reserve Dispatcher	10/01/81
Michael A. Caprarelli	Animal Control Officer	07/01/81

FOSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT CALENDAR YEAR 2008 ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Completed renovation projects to police headquarters which included a new roof, replacement windows, and a new heating system, affording enhanced energy efficiency and a safer work environment.
2. Worked in cooperation with the RI Secretary of State's Records Retention Schedule to streamline archived paper records in accordance with state guidelines.
3. Renovated an accessible and well lit area for the safe storage of police department records.
4. Replaced three police cruisers and acquired a patrol motorcycle with a focus on efficiency and increased fuel economy.
5. Provided comprehensive field training specific to motorcycle patrol officers.
6. Pursued and were awarded the following grants:

Byrne Grant	\$3,975
Blue Riptide Impaired Driving	\$8,000
Blue Riptide Speeding Grant	\$4,000
Click It or Ticket Grant	\$4,500
Occupant Child Protection Grant	\$2,000
7. Initiated periodic meetings between officers and residents of Hemlock Village to discuss and address concerns of the residents.
8. Participated with fire and rescue personnel in the second annual Public Safety Day.
9. Secured grant funding from CAST to assist with Public Safety Day events and provide local families with a day of fun and healthy activities.
10. Enrolled a ranking member in the prestigious F.B.I. Academy where he successfully completed 10 weeks of intense upper level law enforcement technology training. This was the first member to attend in the history of the department.
11. Replaced an outdated computer system in the communications center to assist dispatchers in processing incoming calls and handle emergencies more efficiently.
12. Sponsored our first annual senior citizens' cook out at the Foster fairgrounds.
13. Held a Holiday luncheon for the residents of Hemlock Village.
14. Conducted a Holiday Toy Drive assisting the Department of Human Services in providing toys to local children.

COMMUNITY POLICING

DARE PROGRAM

The drug abuse resistance education program(DARE), is an important part of our community policing agenda. The Foster Police Department is committed to serving the children and youth of our community with educational programs about the harmful effects of alcohol and drug abuse. In recent years the program has expanded to include the harmful effects of tobacco use, youth violence and bullying. Our DARE officer is a graduate of the National DARE officers training program. He is certified to instruct on the elementary, middle school and high school levels.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

We successfully graduated another Citizens Police Academy class during 2008 and have received very positive feedback from our participants. Students are offered an 11 week program that provides Foster residents with a unique insight into how their Police Department operates. Participants receive classroom instruction and hands on experience from experts on a wide variety of police and emergency operation subjects. Classes meet for two hours each week culminating with a graduation and certificate award.

FOSTER PUBLIC SAFETY DAY

Our second annual Public Safety Day was held in August at the Foster Fairgrounds. Through a cooperative effort among our police, fire and rescue personnel and generous donations from individuals, local businesses, and community policing grant funds, we were able to provide the families in our community with a day of fun, education, and interaction with our police officers and emergency service personnel.

CONNECTING WITH SENIORS

In a continuing effort to provide a positive connection with our senior citizens, members of the department conduct on site interactive sessions with the residents of Hemlock Village for the purpose of discussing concerns and developing a positive relationship.

TRAFFIC SERVICES

The Foster Police Department continues a commitment to promoting traffic safety on the roads and highways of Foster through strict enforcement. Continued concentration, supported by grant funding and disciplined enforcement has served to increase our totals for citations and traffic related arrests over previous years. Citations totaled 2,040 for 2008 as compared to 1,965 in 2007. This represents a 4% increase. Drivers cited for operating on a suspended license rose from 59 in 2007 to 71 in 2008 representing a 20% increase. and our zero tolerance policy regarding impaired driving, assisted by funding from the Byrne grant, resulted in an increase from 30 arrests in 2007 to 50 in 2008. This represents a 60% increase in that one year period.

We continue to utilize our speed monitoring radar trailer to reduce speeding violations on roads throughout the community.

In addition to the trailer, we continue to make progress with our radar posting system, whereby officers are required to post in certain areas where excessive speed has been reported by the public. All posts are logged in and violations noted. We are pleased to report a 40% decrease in traffic accidents on Mt. Hygeia Rd.

The department handled 132 traffic accidents during 2008 with 56 resulting in injuries and 2 fatalities. 5 were DUI related. The highest rate of accidents occurred on Danielson Pike(Rt 6), followed by Hartford Pike(Rt 101), Plainfield Pike(Rt102), Foster Center Road,(Rt 94), and Moosup Valley Rd.

Although the majority of accidents occur on state highways, we are committed to providing enforcement on our town roads as well.

CITATION OFFENSES

TOTAL	SPEEDING	SEAT BELT	CHILD RESTRAINT	UNREG VEHICLE	LANE VIOLATIONS	RECKLESS	ALL OTHER
2144	1913	32	0	19	56	2	122

TRAINING REPORT

In a continuing effort to assure that our personnel maintain the highest degree of professionalism and preparedness, the Foster Police Department continues its commitment to provide in service training, specialized, advanced and remedial training over and above our recruit training program.

As Law Enforcement technology evolves, we strive to provide our personnel with the most recent educational and tactical resources available. In addition to reducing the level of liability to the Town, on-going training programs benefit not only our personnel but the residents of our community as well.

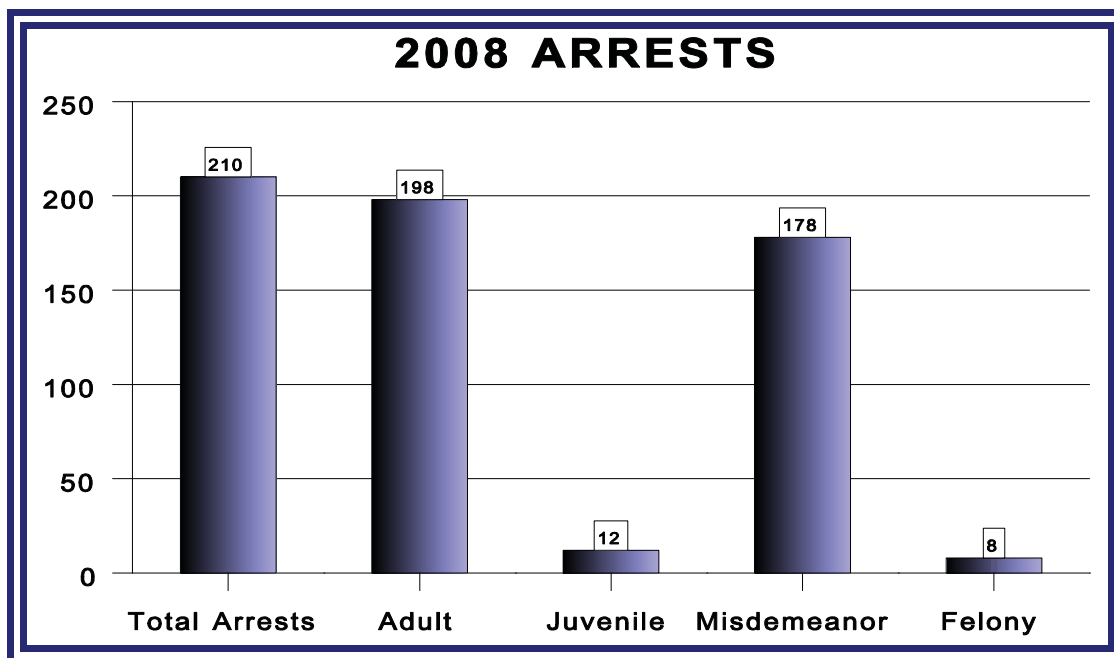
The department strives to maintain a policy of mandatory, department-wide, minimum 40 hour annual in service training for all sworn personnel.

During the year 2008, an officer successfully graduated from the National FBI Academy, we have certified an officer as a DARE instructor, basic school resource officer, and motorcycle patrol officer. All officers are certified in first aid and CPR. Additional courses included firearms qualification and simulation, immigration practices, practical homicide investigation, and senior citizen alerts.

We have provided 80 hours of in house training on police, fire and rescue dispatch practices, call taking, and basic office procedures.

2008 TRAINING PROGRAMS

	Sworn Personnel	Civilian Personnel
Personnel Trained	9	2
Separate Topics	18	2
In-House Training	5	1
Total Number of Hours	759	84
Average Hours per Person	84	42



ARRESTS BY OFFENSE

TOTAL	WARRANTS	DUI	B&E	LARCENY	DRUG OFFENSES	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	SUSPENDED LICENSE	ALL OTHERS
296	27	50	12	19	18	26	71	20

A total of 210 individuals were arrested for various offenses during the calendar year 2008. This reflects an 18% increase over the year 2007. In some cases, multiple misdemeanor and/or felony offenses were processed under a single arrest bringing the arrests by offense to 296.

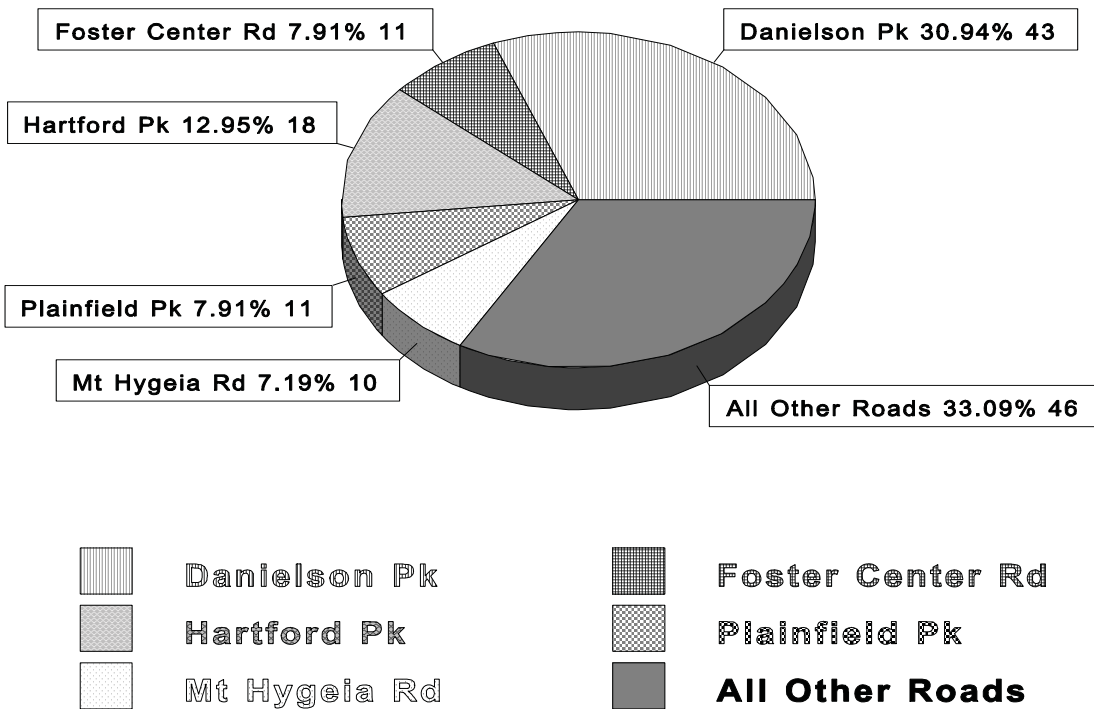
A total of 24 burglaries and attempted burglaries were recorded during the calendar year 2008. Of the 24 burglaries reported, 12 were cleared by arrest.

Domestic Violence offenses for the year 2008 totaled 26 and included offenses charged under the domestic violence statute such as assault, disorderly conduct, and domestic vandalism. The Foster Police Department remains committed to strict enforcement of domestic violence laws and the protection of those affected by it.

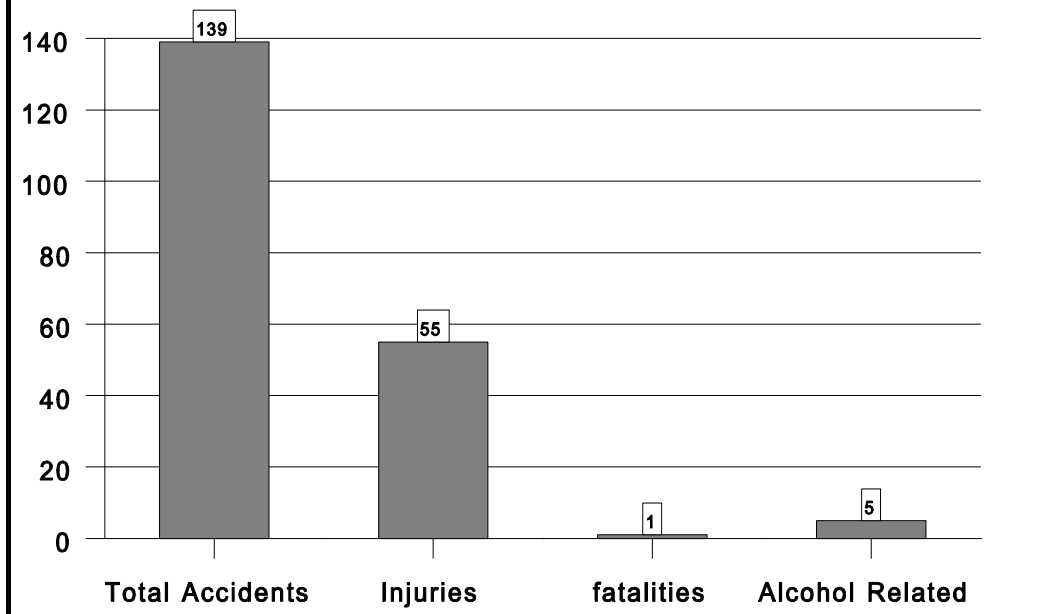
Totals for suspended license include operating while under suspension, operating on an expired license, and operating with no license.

ACCIDENTS BY LOCATION

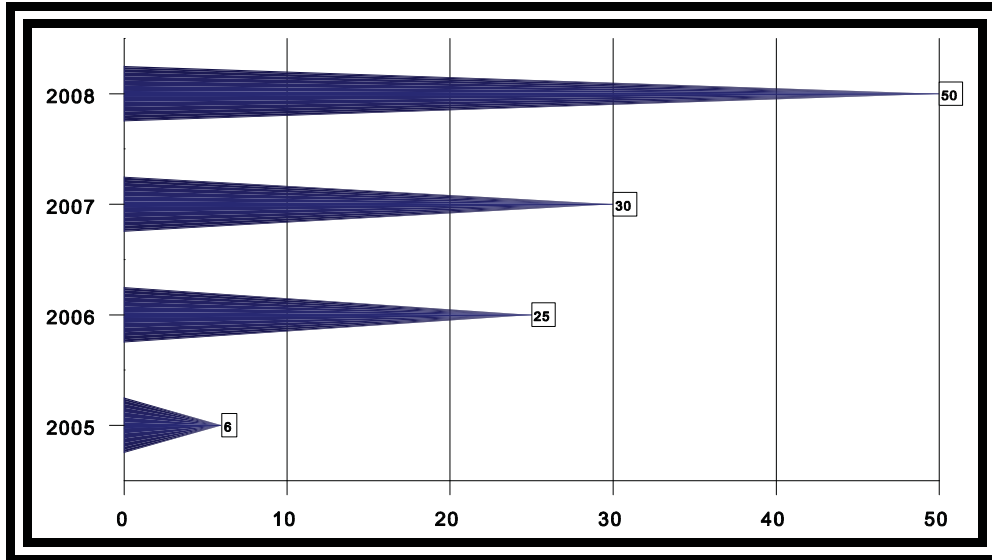
TOTAL 139



2007 ACCIDENT BREAKDOWN

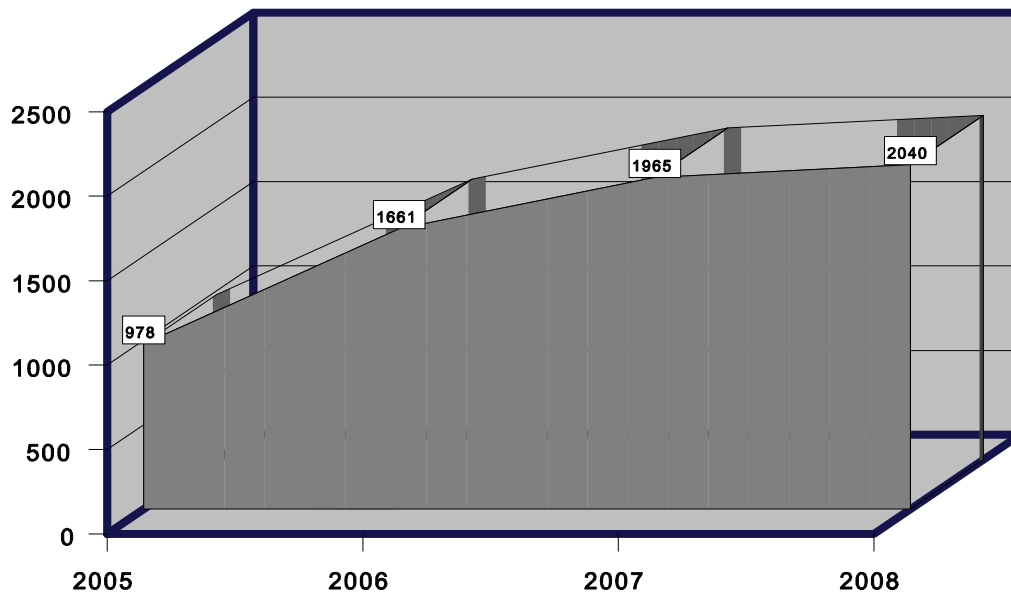


FOUR YEAR DUI ARREST COMPARISON



F

FOUR YEAR CITATION COMPARISON





COMMUNICATIONS

The Emergency Service Central Dispatch System for the Town of Foster is located at Foster Police Headquarters and provides twenty four hour coverage to the community.

Four full time dispatchers and two part time dispatchers disseminate all calls directed to the Police Department, Fire Departments, and Rescue service. Emergency calls to the 911 system are transferred to the Emergency Operations Center where the appropriate emergency service is provided.

All calls for service require documentation and are electronically recorded by the dispatcher. Calls for service include requests for emergency response from police, fire and/or rescue, animal control reports, business and residential alarm activations, property checks, traffic stops, and request for information.

Calls for service in 2008 totalled 15,634 which represents a 15% increase over the year 2007. There was an 18.5% increase in traffic stops over the year 2007, and a 30% increase in recorded property checks.

There was a slight decrease of 3% in animal complaints in 2008 over 2007, a 2% increase in residential and business alarm response calls, and a 2% decrease in fire and rescue calls.

Full time dispatchers also share administrative and clerical duties for the department.

	Calls for service	Traffic stops	Alarms	Property checks	Animal control	Fire/rescue
2008	15,634	3818	294	7273	328	444
2007	13,187	3110	288	5041	339	452