



OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** **FOURTH QUARTER - 2008**

CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE (SEE PAGE 14)

Fifty-four thousand, four hundred and ninety-one (54,491) calls for police service in Omaha were recorded during the fourth quarter of 2008 by the 911 Communications Center. This represents an increase of two percent (+2%) over the same period in 2007. For the entire year, calls for police service declined by three percent (-3%).

Average call to arrival time increased by an average of two percent (+2%) to nine minutes and fourteen seconds (0:09:14) compared to fourth quarter 2007, as well as for the entire year. Priority I call to arrival decreased by one percent (-1%) to six minutes, thirty-one seconds (0:06:31) in the fourth quarter as well as the entire year. Priority II call to arrival time increased by three percent (+3%) to eleven minutes and fifty-six seconds (0:11:56) during the fourth quarter and increased by four percent (+4%) for the year.

REPORTED CRIMINAL AND NON-CRIMINAL INCIDENTS (SEE PAGE 21)

Twenty-three thousand, four hundred and ninety-five (23,495) reports of criminal and non-criminal incidents were filed with the Omaha Police Department during the fourth quarter 2008. This represents a five percent (-5%) decline in the number of incidents based on police response to 911 Communications Center calls, the Telephone Response Squad, or internal reports compared to the same period last year. For the entire year of 2008, incidents reported to the Omaha Police Department declined by six percent (-6%).

REPORTED OFFENSES AND CLEARANCES (SEE PAGE 3)

Total Part I offenses increased by two percent (+2%) during the fourth quarter of 2008. This increase is attributed to a forty-eight percent (+48%) increase in Robbery and small increases in Aggravated Assault and Larceny Theft. During the calendar year 2007, total offenses declined by eight percent (-8%) compared to 2007.

During the fourth quarter 2008 OPD cleared twenty-nine percent (29%) of Total Index Offenses compared to a national average of twenty percent (20%). For the year as a whole, OPD cleared twenty-eight percent (28%) of Part 1 incidents. The number of cases cleared for any crime type can vary widely over any given month and is not directly related to the number of crimes of that type reported in that month. For low volume crime types, clearances may exceed the number of reported crimes in any given month. Clearances can result from cases that are months or years old.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES (SEE PAGES 4, 15, 17, 18, AND 19)

Total Arrests for Part I Crimes declined by five percent (-5%) in the fourth quarter of 2008 compared to 2007. Part I arrests increased by one percent (+1%) during the last quarter of 2008 and Part II arrests declined by seven percent (-7%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2007. Total Arrests year-to-date declined by five percent (-5%) compared to the prior year.

Air Support activity continued to decrease significantly in 2008 compared to 2007. For the fourth quarter, flight hours decreased by forty-eight percent (-48%), and Total Activity increased by fifty-three percent (-53%). During entire year, flight hours declined by thirteen percent (-13%) and Total Activity declined by twenty-one percent (-21%) compared to 2007.

The Canine Unit also reported significantly decreased activity compared to last year. The Canine Unit responded to twenty-three percent (-23%) fewer Calls for Service in the fourth quarter of 2008 compared to the same period in 2007. For the year, The Canine Unit responded to thirty-six percent (-36%) fewer calls for service compared to 2007, resulting in twenty percent fewer (-20%) Arrests.

The Narcotics Unit recorded a twenty-two percent (-22%) decrease in felony drug arrests during the fourth quarter 2008 and an eleven percent (-11%) decline for the entire year. During 2008, there were significant increases in drug seizures. Seizures may vary greatly during any reporting period.

The Gang Unit reports total gang activity increased slightly in the fourth quarter by six percent (+6%) compared to the same quarter last year. For the year, total gang activity also increased by five percent (+5%). The decrease in the numbers of suspected number of gang members may be largely attributed to the purging of individuals who no longer meet gang criteria. The number of suspected gangs increased by one compared to 2007.

The Mounted Patrol Unit responded to fewer calls for service during the fourth quarter of 2008 compared to same period in 2007. Responses to traffic stops, arrests, and assignments declined in the fourth quarter. For the calendar year 2008, the Mounted Patrol Unit responded to thirty-three percent (-33%) fewer calls for service and fourteen percent (+14%) more assignments compared to 2007.