



# OMAHA POLICE DEPARTMENT **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** **FOURTH QUARTER - 2005**

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## **CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE**

Fifty-five thousand, seven hundred eighty-six (55,786) calls for police service in Omaha were recorded during the fourth quarter of 2005 by the 911 Communications Center. This represents no change over the same period in 2004.

Average call to arrival time decreased by an average of four percent (-4%) to eight minutes and fifty-nine seconds (0:08:59) compared to fourth quarter 2004. Priority I call to arrival declined by two percent (-2%) to six minutes, forty-eight seconds (0:06:48). Priority II call to arrival time declined by five percent (-5%) to ten minutes and fifty-four seconds (0:10:54) during the same period.

## **REPORTED CRIMINAL AND NON-CRIMINAL INCIDENTS**

Twenty-seven thousand, five hundred and eighty (27,580) reports of criminal and non-criminal incidents were filed with the Omaha Police Department during the fourth quarter 2005. This represents a five percent (+5%) increase from 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.

## **REPORTED OFFENSES AND CLEARANCES**

The number of Part I offenses continued to drop during the fourth quarter of 2005 compared to fourth quarter 2004. Total Part I offenses declined by four percent (-4%) during this period. The numbers of reported Homicides, Robberies, and Burglaries declined substantially compared to the same period in 2004 during this period. Forcible Rape increased by eleven reported incidents and Motor Vehicle Theft increased by twenty percent (+20%) during this quarter. For the calendar year 2005, total offenses declined by three percent (-3%) compared to 2004.

During the fourth quarter 2005 and for the calendar year of 2005, OPD cleared twenty-eight percent (28%) of Total Index Offenses compared to a national average of twenty percent (20%). 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**

Total Arrests for Part I Crimes increased by four percent (+4%) in the fourth quarter of 2005. Part I arrests increased by eleven percent (+11%) during the last quarter of 2005 and Part II arrests increased by five percent (+5%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2004.

Air Support activity continued to decline in 2005 compared to 2004. For the year, flight hours declined by three percent (-3%), following a twenty-seven percent decline the year before. During the fourth quarter of 2005, flight hours declined by nineteen percent (-19%) compared to the fourth quarter of 2004 while vehicle pursuit support increased by seventy-one percent (+71%) during the same period.

The Canine Unit responded to five percent (+5%) more Calls for Service and participated in an increase of nine percent (+9%) more searches resulting in three hundred ninety percent (+390%) more evidence recovered in the fourth quarter of 2005 compared to the same period in 2004. For the year, The Canine Unit responded to two percent (+2%) more calls for service and participated twenty-eight percent (+28%) more searches compared to 2004, resulting in an increase of four hundred twenty-five percent (+425%) increase in evidence recovered.

The Narcotics Unit recorded a four percent (+4%) increase in felony drug arrests during the fourth quarter 2005. There were significant increases in seizures of cocaine, marijuana, and methamphetamines during this period. Seizures normally vary greatly during any reporting period. For the entire year, total felony arrests increased by six percent (+6%).

The Gang Unit reports total gang activity declined this quarter by thirty-five percent (-35%) compared to the same quarter last year. For the year, total gang activity increased by four percent (+4%) while the suspected number of gang members increased by twelve percent (+12%) and the suspected number of gangs remained unchanged compared to 2004.

The Mounted Patrol Unit responded to forty-seven percent (+47%) more calls for service and sixteen percent (+16%) more assignments during the fourth quarter of 2005. For the calendar year 2005, the Mounted Patrol Unit responded to four-percent (+4%) more calls for service and seventeen percent (+17%) more assignments compared to 2004.