Mission Statement

We dedicate ourselves to work in partnership with the community to fight crime, reduce fear and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Our Mission is Community Policing.
Boston Police Department

At A Glance • 2009

Sworn Officers 2174
Civilian Personnel 787
Budget $281,936,006
Median Age 45.14
Mean Years of Service 15.5
Facilities 26
Marked Vehicles 416
Specialty/Support Vehicles 90
Motorcycles 80
Water Craft 6
Canines 22
10 Patrol
12 Explosive Ordinance Division

E-911 Calls 66,921
Call Screening (Non-Emergency) 10,208
Total Calls Recorded 508,690
Wireless 911 Calls 12,901
Calls in Foreign Languages 5,019
Crime Stoppers Tips
360 Phone Tips
369 Text A Tips

Number of Languages Used 29
Dear Friends:

As you will read in this Boston Police Department (BPD) Annual Report, 2009 was another successful year for the City of Boston. Despite the difficult economic climate, the BPD was able to make remarkable strides in combating violence in Boston.

In 2009, Boston’s homicide rate decreased by 22% and our overall Part I crime rate was down by 8%. The BPD also made encouraging progress in our efforts to stem firearm violence. The BPD made 828 illegal gun arrests and took 560 illegal guns off the streets. These numbers are a true testament to the men and women of the Boston Police Department who are dedicated to making our streets safer for those who live, work, and visit this great city.

Through community policing, Boston Police officers are out on the streets cultivating partnerships with residents and local business owners. They are working closely with city organizations and other law enforcement agencies to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in Boston. These partnerships foster an environment that encourages positive change.

All of these efforts are important to stemming the violence in our City. I also believe, however, that prevention and intervention are equally vital. As a community, we need to work together to maintain Boston’s reputation as one of America’s most livable cities. You and your neighbors are our strongest partners in reducing crime and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Lastly, I want to commend the Boston Police Department for their daily professionalism and courage on behalf of all of us. Our Boston Police officers are truly a fundamental part of what makes Boston the great city that it is.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston
Dear Fellow Bostonians:

In 2009, the Boston Police Department like many other police agencies throughout the United States faced considerable budgetary challenges. We were forced to do more with less. However, the men and women of the Boston Police Department took on these challenges as an opportunity to change the way that we do business and to become even more proactive in the community that we are sworn to protect and serve.

With existing resources, we instituted innovative approaches to community outreach and crime reduction strategies. Our RA Project, implemented in every district throughout the city, focuses on officer and community engagement and problem solving. And, the Real Time Crime Center, a powerful technological resource, allows officers in the Boston Regional Intelligence Center to monitor ongoing police incidents and events in real time. These efforts, coupled with the hard work of our officers and civilian staff, have contributed to yet another year of decreases in Part I Crime (8%) and violent crimes such as homicide (22%).

In the coming year, we will continue to improve our relationship with our community partners as we rely on these relationships as an integral part of our crime prevention and intervention strategies throughout Boston. Additionally, the Boston Police Department will remain vigilant in reducing crime, enhance our technological capacities, provide the gold standard of training for our officers and work closely with Boston residents to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

As you will see in this report, 2009 was an eventful year. I look forward to working with you again this year and make Boston the safest city of its size in the nation.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Davis
Police Commissioner
The Office of the Police Commissioner includes:

- Office of Administrative Hearings
- Office of Labor Relations
- Office of the Legal Advisor
- Office of Research & Development

Working in concert with one another throughout the Department, personnel from the Office of the Police Commissioner continue to focus their efforts on reducing violent crime, increasing community trust, and improving customer satisfaction with police services.

In each of these areas, new policies, procedures, technologies, and planning techniques were implemented in 2009. These focused efforts will support the long-term vision of the Boston Police Department (BPD) for years to come.
2009

New & Noteworthy

Safe Street Teams Expansion

On March 18, 2009, Mayor Thomas Menino and Police Commissioner Ed Davis announced the expansion of the highly successful Safe Street Team Initiative to the Upham’s Corner neighborhood. This newly added Safe Street Team marks the 14th walking beat team in the City of Boston.

Implemented in 2007, Safe Street Teams allow officers to have sustained, meaningful contact with business owners and families and provide a valuable opportunity to address quality of life issues affecting local residents. In addition to the Upham’s Corner walking beat team, Safe Street Teams are located in the following geographic areas: Egleston Square, South End/Lower Roxbury, Franklin Field, Eagle Hill/Maverick, Orchard Park/Dudley, Codman Square (C-11), Codman Square (B-3), Downtown Crossing, Tremont & Stuart, Blue Hill Ave./Morton St., Bowdoin-Geneva, and Grove Hall.

Opening of the Franklin Field Center

After being closed for eight years due to financial constraints, the Franklin Field Teen Center celebrated a re-opening on January 31, 2009. Located at 70 Ames Street in the Franklin Field Development, the Teen Center provides a safe environment for kids to learn, mature and have fun. Led by the efforts of Boston Police Captain James Claiborne (Retired) and B-3 officers, this initiative could not have been completed without the support of Mayor Thomas Menino, the Boston Housing Authority, the North American Family Institute, Kennedy Carpets, Home Depot, and the Suffolk County House of Corrections. The Center has been a valuable resource for youth not only in the housing development but also in the surrounding Dorchester neighborhoods.
The BPD partnered with Citizens for Safety’s Traffick Jams to inform, educate and engage the community to reduce illegal gun trafficking. In 2009, there were four Traffick Jams in Boston – at Northeastern University in March, at New Academy Estates in Roxbury in May, at The City School in Dorchester in July, and at the Massachusetts State House in November. There were also Traffick Jam workshops in New Bedford and Lowell, which spread the education and awareness message regionally, since illegal gun trafficking is not an isolated problem.

The first annual Target & Blue Shop with a Cop Event was held on December 17, 2009. Together, Target and the BPD celebrated the holiday season by providing gift cards to 110 children in need. During this event, youth were paired with law enforcement officers, and together they went shopping at Target using the gift cards. This event fostered private-public partnerships between Target, the BPD, and the communities of Boston. In addition, this effort helped to rebuild trust between youth and law enforcement. Officers from all ranks participated in the event. Youth expressed their excitement in being able to buy holiday gifts for their friends and family.
A highly visible event in Boston during 2009 was the funeral for Senator Edward M. Kennedy. The funeral was held on August 20, 2009, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Basilica—commonly known as the Mission Church—in the Mission Hill neighborhood of Boston. Masses of people gathered, both within the 1,300-seat basilica and outside to pay their final respects.

President Obama, along with several past presidents and vice presidents, international heads of state, senators and dignitaries attended the funeral, requiring the BPD—along with its Federal and State law enforcement partners—to provide the highest possible level of security.
Reporting Area Project

In 2009, as part of its commitment to community policing, the BPD expanded its walk-and-talk assignments, in a concerted effort known as the RA Project. In all eleven of the City’s Districts, beat officers spend at least one hour of their shifts walking the streets in an assigned RA, talking with residents, and addressing their most pressing concerns. The goal of this project is to team up officers with local residents and business owners to solve problems and improve public safety while building trust and relationships to help with future investigations. As the walking tours respond to locally determined needs, their results have been as varied as the neighborhoods of Boston itself. Some highlights include:

- During a walking tour near Codman Square, two officers heard four gunshots coming from the direction of Talbot Avenue and Washington Street. As the officers were en route to respond, they were stopped by a witness who told them the details of the victim’s car, which led to a quick identification of the victim and the retrieval of ballistic evidence from the scene.

- In Mission Hill, officers on all three shifts used walking tours to increase monitoring of an area experiencing an uptick in car breaks. Combined with increased vigilance from directed patrols, officers on walk-and-talk patrols received information and communicated with various security agencies, which led to the identification of a short list of suspects in the area for various crimes and associated arrests. Officers also used their walking tours for educational awareness, teaching local residents and business owners how to protect their property.

- Near Upham’s Corner, an officer on a walking tour noticed a persistent problem of loitering and public drunkenness occurring on a bench in a small neighborhood park in Dudley Terrace. The officer met with residents living near the park and determined that the bench was more of a detriment than an asset to the neighborhood, as its only use had become to attract loiterers and disturbances. The officer worked with the City to remove the bench, thereby removing the associated problems.
Stimulus & Grant Funds

The economic downturn has impacted the Department and the City as a whole, but BPD and the City of Boston have continued to prioritize and protect the public safety of Boston’s residents and visitors. In January 2009, State aid—Boston’s second largest source of revenue—was reduced by $22.9 million. With the resulting budget constraints, BPD had to make difficult concessions, such as decentralizing the mountain bike and eliminating the mounted units. Fortunately, BPD received American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding in 2009, which allowed us to retain 100 sworn and 10 civilian positions that were otherwise slated for layoff. Despite the year’s financial difficulties, the City saw annual decreases in Violent, Property, and total Part 1 crime for 2009.

In 2009, the BPD Office of Research and Development developed over 70 proposals for funding and was awarded over 23 million dollars in grant funds (an historical high) for the BPD from federal, state and private sources. The majority of these grants were awarded in a highly competitive environment. Some notable successes include:

- ARRA funding to support 100 police officers’ jobs – both through Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and Edward J. Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds;
- ARRA funding to support over 21 civilian positions including analysts in the Boston Regional Intelligence Center and the development of its Real Time Crime Center, distance learning at the Academy, and graphic arts for BPD, as well as funds to support our Community Service Officers (civilian community liaisons located throughout our police districts);
- Forensic functions to support the newly accredited Latent Print Section and the Firearms Analysis Section;
- Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative Grant funds to support community and police efforts around gang prevention, intervention and enforcement;
- Support for the Homicide Unit and Crime Laboratory to solve cold cases using DNA analysis;
- Enhancements for police programs such as Safe Street Teams and Operation Ceasefire;
- Innovation in crime statistics and analysis through “predictive policing”—developing a statistical model to assist the department with identifying trends and predicting residential and commercial burglaries;
- Support for the Target & Blue “Shop with a Cop” event; and
- Ongoing support for advocacy in the areas of human trafficking, sexual exploitation and domestic violence.

Ground Breaking in B-2

In October 2009, the City of Boston broke ground at the new site of the B-2...
Roxbury Neighborhood Police Station. Upon completion, this new facility will enhance neighborhood-police relations and help to facilitate crime prevention and intervention strategies. Residents will have direct access to police services as well as a new community room that will be available for hosting community and other departmental meetings.

Diversity Advisory Council

The BPD is committed to diversity within the Department and to better relationships with all our communities. Towards this end, we created a Diversity Advisory Council in 2009, bringing together many high-level community leaders, department personnel and political officials to share their expertise and provide assistance in any improvements that can be made. The Department supplies any information necessary and strongly believes each Council member will be greatly helpful in addressing diversity issues and identifying improvements we can make to support our recruitment, hiring and promotional processes.

Micro Facial Presentation

On September 24, 2009, The Paul Ekman Group provided a brief overview on the recognition of “micro” facial expressions to the BPD Command Staff.

Micro expressions are the flash of emotion across a person’s face that reveals what they are really feeling. According to The Paul Ekman Group, the recognition of micros is a learnable skill that improves even after a basic introduction to the concept. Learning how to recognize micro expressions can be an effective interviewing tool for police investigators.

During this three-hour presentation, topics such as Recognizing Truth, Detecting Deception, and 5 Channels of Observation/Active Listening were discussed.

Text-A-Tip Poster – In June 2007, with the assistance of Hill Holliday, the BPD launched the Text-A-Tip Program—an anonymous text messaging tip initiative. In 2009, we received 369 tips via text. These tips have led to drug, gang and violent crime arrests.
The Office of Media Relations fielded thousands of inquiries in 2009 from local citizens and media outlets all over the world. These included phone, e-mail and written requests for statistics, Freedom of Information Act documents, and other BPD-related information. During this past year, Media Relations hosted numerous press conferences, generated various press releases, and continued to host the “Call the Cops” television show on the Boston Neighborhood Network. In addition, CrimeReports.com, an online crime mapping system, is now featured on www.bpdnews.com—BPD’s #1 online source for public safety news.

The Office of the Superintendent-in-Chief oversees various functions of the Department. For instance, the Family Assistance Unit provides support to the spouses, parents, children and other family members of active and retired BPD personnel who are injured, disabled, or deceased. It also acts as the Commissioner’s liaison to groups such as the Boston Retired Police Officers Association and the Massachusetts Chapter of Concerns of Police Survivors.
2009 Violent Crime totals are 26% less than the 20-year average for citywide violent crimes (8,522 incidents).

This includes: 28% lower than the average total for robberies and 26% lower than the average total for aggravated assaults.

Figures 1 & 2 reflect the downward trend of Violent and Part One crime within the City of Boston over the past 20 years.
As 2009 approached, the incidence of homicide increased and the Department saw this increase continue in 2006 and begin its decline in 2007.

Figure 3 reflects the 6% decrease in Part One crime comparing 2008 and 2009.

Figure 4 represents the trends in the occurrence of homicide, from the highs of the early 90’s and the gradual decrease at the end of the decade.
Internal Affairs

The Internal Affairs Division (I.A.D.) investigates alleged violations of Department Rules and Procedures, recommending necessary changes and monitoring officers via the Early Intervention System. In addition, I.A.D. personnel seek to identify situations that could adversely affect the quality of potentially troubled officers’ work and personal lives.

After investigating a complaint against an officer, an I.A.D. investigator prepares a report and submits it with his/her recommendation to the I.A.D. Team Leader. After further review, the reports are forwarded through the chain of command to the Chief of Bureau of Professional Standards. After the Bureau Chief reviews and accepts the reports, the completed report is forwarded, along with a recommendation, to the Legal Advisor of the BPD, and ultimately to the Boston Police Commissioner.

There could be multiple allegations within one case, with varied dispositions. The hierarchy for how a decision or finding is categorized is:

- **Sustained:** Sufficient evidence supports the complainant’s allegations and the offending officer is subject to disciplinary action. This finding reflects a need for some action.

- **Exonerated:** Action complained of did occur. However, the action was reasonable, proper, and legal. This may require no action, or may reflect a need for training or a change/creation of a policy.

- **Unfounded:** Investigation reveals action complained of did not occur.

- **Not Sustained:** Investigation failed to prove or disprove the allegations.

If a citizen is not satisfied with the investigative process, he/she may make an appeal to the Community Ombudsman Oversight Panel (CO-OP). The CO-OP is an independent civilian board created in 2007 to review internal investigations cases appealed by complainants. Appointed by Mayor Thomas M. Menino, the CO-OP also reviews a random sample (up to 10%) of all I.A.D. cases that have findings of “unfounded,” “exonerated” or “not sustained.” This important check upon case processing and investigation allows the BPD to constantly review its practices and find ways for continued improvement. In this way, the CO-OP exemplifies the BPD’s ongoing commitment to transparency and its effort to promote integrity throughout the Department.
In 2009, I.A.D. received a total of 213 complaint allegations against the BPD. Half of these allegations were for respectful treatment, unreasonable judgment, or use of force. Nearly 76% of all internal allegations were sustained, while only 20% of external allegations were sustained. In total, there were 182 I.A.D. complaints in 2009, which represents a downward trend over the past several years.

**Allegations Against Department Personnel: 2009**

- **17.4%** .... Respectful Treatment
- **20.2%** .... Negligent Duty/Unreasonable Judgment
- **16.4%** .... Conduct Unbecoming an officer
- **19.2%** .... Use of Force
- **11.3%** .... Conformance to Laws
- **5.2%** .... Directives/Orders (failure to follow)
- **6.1%** .... Reporting for Duty
- **4.2%** .... Untruthfulness
- **0.0%** .... Authorized Details
- **0.0%** .... Handling of Accident Victims and Emergency Cases

**External Allegations**

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Bureau of Professional Development

- Academy Division
- Student Officers Group
- Firearms Training Unit

The Bureau of Professional Development is the central hub for training and professional development throughout the BPD. Community policing is woven into all aspects of training throughout the entire length of the academy and continuing with each subsequent level of training within the Department.

In 2009, the Bureau of Professional Development focused on enhancing training at all levels of the Department, improving our facilities and strengthening our partnerships with academic institutions and corporations.

Recruit Class 48-08 Graduation Program

On June 16, 2009, Recruit Class 48-08 graduated from the Boston Police Academy. The BPD welcomed 25 new recruits to our ranks.

Distance Learning

In November 2009, the BPD Training Academy kicked off our Distance Learning Program in two pilot sites. Distance Learning allows officers to take many in-service courses on-line instead of in a classroom. This initiative has significantly reduced the time officers are off of the street and decreased the cost of overtime to fill those positions while ensuring quality instruction.
Fitness Challenge

On September 27, 2009, the Boston Police Academy hosted the first Fitness Challenge in which over 90 of the BPD’s finest athletes competed in everything from a “foot chase” where individuals ran up to one mile, to the “always on the third floor” stair climb challenging participants to race up to nine flights of stairs, and finally wrapping it up with the “O.T.”- a series of exercises including push-ups, burpees, and a ten-yard bear crawl. This friendly competition promoted the BPD’s emphasis on health and wellness.

Executive Speaker Series


Dedication of the BPD Police Officer Ed Smith Fitness Center & Strongman Challenge

On November 15, 2009, the Boston Police Academy opened its brand new, state-of-the-art Police Officer Ed Smith Fitness Center. This large and modern fitness arena boasts over 4,000 feet of strength training and cardio equipment, including over 2.25 tons of iron grip Olympic weight plates as well as ellipticals, treadmills, and multifunctional trainers. Also, areas specifically designated for boxing, wrestling, and activities such as yoga and Pilates were added. The Police Officer Ed Smith Fitness Center is open to all BPD employees (both sworn and civilian) and recruits.
In the wake of a tragic stabbing that occurred at Massachusetts General Hospital in October 2009, the BPD provided training to security personnel in area hospitals in order to better prepare them in the event of a major incident. Participants included Security Directors from Boston Medical Center, Tufts Medical Center, Children’s Hospital, Saint Elizabeth’s Medical Center, New England Baptist, and Beth Israel Hospital. The training covered topics such as proper protocol, tips on being a good witness and how to keep witnesses on the scene to help with police questioning.

To mark the dedication of the new fitness center and BPD’s commitment to health and wellness, the Boston Police Academy organized a Strongman Challenge on the center’s opening day, which included events such as bench press, squat, tire flip, farmer’s walk, and atlas stone. Twenty-five police officers participated in the event, which was a lot of fun and helped to build camaraderie among the ranks.
Bureau of Investigative Services

- Community Disorders Unit
- Investigative Planning Unit
- Major Case Division
- Family Justice Group
- Criminal Investigations Division
- Homicide Unit
- Fugitive Section
- District Detectives
- Forensics Group

The Bureau of Investigative Services (B.I.S.) continues to support community policing through their problem solving efforts and partnerships. By improving its already impressive abilities in gathering, processing and documenting evidence and identifying suspects, B.I.S. detectives, ballisticians, criminalists and other specialized personnel have underscored the increasing utility of cutting-edge forensic technologies and techniques in closing previously unsolved cases.

Latent Prints Unit Accreditation

In October 2009, the BPD’s Latent Prints Unit was granted accreditation through the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board. This accomplishment was the result of extensive commitment of resources and much preparation by the management and personnel of this Unit. Accreditation provides the assurance that a quality product is being delivered and the residents of the City of Boston are being adequately served.

CopLink

In February 2009, the BPD, in partnership with the Massachusetts State Police, launched CopLink—an innovative tool that allows investigators to search various databases in a more extensive way. With CopLink, we can now link our various databases and we can also tap into databases maintained by MA State Police and other cities and towns. BPD detectives can conduct detailed searches based upon physical characteristics, such as tattoos, as well as learn about similar crimes that are occurring in other districts around Boston or other cities in the State. Eventually this technology will go national, allowing police law enforcement organizations to share information back and forth and resulting in more expedient investigations as well as crime prevention.
Reinvigorated in 2008, the Unsolved Case Unit has solved dozens of unsolved murder mysteries—some dating back decades. This elite homicide unit reviews unsolved homicide cases going back several years and focuses on the cases with the highest probability of being solved with new forensic technologies. For example, in December 2009, the Unsolved Case Squad closed a 1972 homicide through DNA evidence.

The BPD’s Fugitive Unit works closely with the Massachusetts State Police, United States Marshalls, MBTA Police, Massachusetts Parole, Department of Youth Services, Suffolk County Sheriff’s Department and other federal law enforcement agencies to fulfill their obligation in returning and/or investigating Boston fugitives as part of the rendition and extradition process.

In 2009, the BPD Fugitive Unit made 363 arrests, cleared 672 warrants, executed 11 search warrants and recovered 6 firearms. In collaboration with our law enforcement partners, many of these extraordinary arrests were for crimes of homicide, robbery, and kidnapping.
As a major urban area fusion center, the mission of the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) is to reduce crime and prevent acts of terrorism throughout the Metropolitan Boston Homeland Security Region by serving as the central point for the collection, synthesis, analysis and dissemination of strategic and tactical intelligence information.

The BRIC was established in 2005 in order to coordinate efforts of the nine communities in the Metro Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR) and the Boston Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) in their work to reduce crime and prevent terrorism. Since its inception, the BRIC has become a hub for public and private stakeholders in and around Boston for the collection and analysis of intelligence information. The BRIC, which is managed and operated by the BPD, disseminates actionable intelligence to local law enforcement agencies, other first responders, and the private sector throughout these participating municipalities in real time with the goal of reducing criminal activity and preventing terrorism.

Drawing upon information sharing and analytic techniques such as crime pattern analysis, hot spot analysis, and association/link analysis, the BRIC currently provides an array of all-crimes, all-threats intelligence products to its customers,
including daily briefs, maps demonstrating geographical distribution analysis, and a variety of different statistical compilations of crime data.

**Real Time Crime Center**

Created in 2009, the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) is a division within the Bureau of Intelligence & Analysis that is responsible for monitoring ongoing police incidents and providing relevant information to field units in a “real time” manner.

The RTCC was created to support and guide field officers, investigators, supervisors and command level personnel during emergent and developing incidents. The RTCC monitors active events and utilizes all technology, resources and databases available to ascertain information related to an incident. Analysts can expeditiously communicate relevant information to the appropriate field units as part of the police response to an ongoing incident.

**Open Storage Area for Classified Information**

During 2009, the BRIC began constructing work areas tailored to meet federal standards, specifications, and procedures to store, use, discuss and process classified information. This enhancement creates a capability for the City of Boston and the Metro-Boston Homeland Security Region to receive information regarding immediate or emerging threat-related circumstances and events. Additionally, it strengthens information-sharing capabilities with other fusion centers, including the BRIC’s state counterpart—the Commonwealth Fusion Center (CFC)—and federal counterparts that have the ability to operate and share information in a classified environment.
The Operations Division has the critical role of 911 call intake and police dispatch for the BPD, as well as 911 call intakes for fire and EMS. In 2009, Operations received 81,155 priority-one 911 calls. This division is also responsible for notifications, warrants, missing persons’ notifications, teletype communications, telephone police reports and switchboard.

Changes in Hackney

Revisions to the Hackney Carriage Rules resulted in two major efforts in 2009 with respect to vehicles and credit card systems.

Police Commissioner Davis implemented changes to Rule 403, requiring older vehicles used as taxis to be replaced in a timely manner with new vehicles. There are now over 550 hybrid taxis in use citywide.

The Police Commissioner also required that all 1,825 Licensed Boston Taxicabs be equipped with Credit Card Processors. This rule resulted in 100% implementation of processors in all cabs. The public response for this initiative has been positive and measurable. In 2009, of the $300,000 collected, $100,000 was paid with credit cards.

The Bureau of Administration & Technology (B.A.T.) provides a diverse range of technical, financial and communications assistance and expertise throughout the Department. B.A.T. staff members are responsible for the Department’s information technology infrastructure, facilities and vehicles. They manage the annual budget, as well as all of the Department’s business transactions with vendors, other city agencies and the general public.
Boston Police Department

2009

Boston Police Department 2009

police stations and its award-winning Neighborhood Crime Watch Program.

The Bureau’s primary responsibility is to translate the Department’s community policing philosophy into practical strategies for the delivery of efficient, effective police services to citizens throughout Boston. To meet the diverse and changing needs of each neighborhood, B.F.S. personnel work closely with community partners to develop shared problem-solving skills and crime prevention measures.

Youth Violence Strike Force

Youth Violence Strike Force (YVSF) is a coordinated effort between the BPD, the Massachusetts State Police, Department of Youth Services, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office, the US Attorney’s Office and Department of Probation.

Officers assigned to the YVSF work in close collaboration with District personnel to monitor identified hot spots and impact players throughout the neighborhoods that are most affected by youth and gang violence.

In 2009, the YVSF began attending community meetings and giving presentations on understanding gang violence. Participation was well received and YVSF officers continue to attend several community meetings per month.

As the largest division in the BPD, the Bureau of Field Services (B.F.S.) consists of approximately 2,000 sworn officers. Organized into patrol staff and a variety of specialized units, B.F.S. provides key links to the community via the Department’s 11 full-service neighborhood

Youth Violence Strike Force

Tactical Operations
Environmental Safety Group
Special Events Management
Special Operations Division
Field Support Division
Support Services Group
Youth Violence Strike Force
School Police Unit
Zone Patrol Division 1
Zone Patrol Division 2
Zone Patrol Division 3

Bureau of Field Services

Community meeting at the Baker House with Officer Vance Mills, YVSF
Officer Vance Mills, the Community Liaison of the YVSF, spends much of his time giving presentations to community groups as well as to at-risk kids to curb youth violence. The YVSF, along with Safe Street Teams, has teamed up with neighborhood kids for activities such as basketball and dodgeball to help build relationships and improve trust between police and youth.

School Police Unit

The School Police Unit (SPU) runs multiple initiatives to prevent youth violence, including home visits with parents of identified at-risk children through Operation Homefront, presenting anti-bullying and anti-violence information through Operation STAT, and proactively monitoring inflammatory situations through Operation SCRIPT. In 2009, the SPU conducted numerous school presentations on a variety of topics, including gang activity, “sexting,” bullying, and sexual harassment. These presentations are ongoing at all grade levels and are designed to provide students with information on acceptable conduct and consequences for violations. SPU officers have presented to thousands of students since 2008.

Sidekick Contest

After an uptick in Sidekick messaging phone thefts, the SPU worked closely with students on an educational awareness campaign. A group of tenth grade students in a Digital Arts class at Boston Arts Academy created posters to encourage others to be careful when using personal electronic devices and to bring attention to the increasing number of thefts of these devices. Students designed individual posters over the course of several classes as one of their assignments. Their final designs were then shared with and reviewed by the Boston School Police, who chose the winning poster to be displayed in Boston schools and in the public transit system.
Boston Police

Districts

Boston Police Districts

The City of Boston, distinguished by its vibrant neighborhoods, is rich in culture and diversity. Police officers in every District strive to tailor their efforts to the specific needs of their communities. In 2009, officers demonstrated their strong connection with residents and business owners. The following section highlights just a few examples of the tremendous work being done at the district level.

District A-1

Covering a variety of diverse residential and commercial areas, the police officers of District A-1 dedicate themselves to providing the highest quality of police services to the neighborhoods of Charlestown, the North End, Beacon Hill, the West End, the Bulfinch Triangle, the Waterfront, the Financial District, Downtown Crossing, Chinatown, the Leather District, Bay Village and the Public Gardens/Boston Common.

The involvement of community residents and business owners through the District Advisory Board is a tremendous help to the District Captain and police officers. Paula O’Keefe is one of the many committed members of the District A-1 Advisory Board. She recently revitalized the Beacon Hill Public Safety Committee, which is now meeting quarterly with District officers. Paula has been the unofficial liaison for the Beacon Hill community when there are questions about crime incidents, police resources and contact information. She has worked diligently with the Beacon Hill constituents to inform them of current crime patterns such as street robberies and shoplifting in stores.

Partnership and problem solving with the community are a major focus of the Safe Street Teams. Officer Matthew Spillane is a Safe Street Team member whose area includes Chinatown. In 2009, relationships he formed with local business owners led to a discussion regarding issues with parking in the area. Specifically, customers at a local restaurant were not able to find parking because the vehicles that were parked around the establishment had handicapped (HP) placards on their rear view
Year. One officer in particular—Officer Donald Stone—has made a tremendous impact on youth related violence in East Boston. Working for the past 15 years as A-7’s Juvenile Officer and liaison to East Boston High School, Officer Stone has first-hand knowledge of the issues and individuals involved in juvenile crime. As an East Boston native, he has taken a personal interest in his community and has spent countless hours working directly with neighborhood youth, providing positive alternatives to crime and gang involvement.

Dearuajo. Mr. Dearuajo works closely with District 7 officers to address social and neighborhood issues. He has facilitated police outreach to the Hispanic community on topics such as personal safety and property crime and has helped residents to access government services. As a life-long resident of East Boston, he takes a personal interest in the many issues impacting the community and has been a strong supporter of the BPD’s efforts in the District.

In conjunction with the efforts of the community, District officers are credited for the great work they have done to impact crime and improve the quality of life in East Boston over the past year. One officer in particular—Officer Donald Stone—has made a tremendous impact on youth related violence in East Boston. Working for the past 15 years as A-7’s Juvenile Officer and liaison to East Boston High School, Officer Stone has first-hand knowledge of the issues and individuals involved in juvenile crime. As an East Boston native, he has taken a personal interest in his community and has spent countless hours working directly with neighborhood youth, providing positive alternatives to crime and gang involvement.

District A-7

In 2009, District A-7 personnel continued their close working relationship with East Boston residents to address quality of life issues and concerns. While their primary goal was to reduce crime, especially crimes of violence and street crimes, officers remained committed to engaging with the community. In addition, many of the activities supported by police in A-7 were geared toward strengthening relationships with neighborhood youth to improve communication and trust.

These efforts were particularly successful thanks to the help of the community and were highlighted through the work of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services’ East Boston Coordinator, Ernani 30

Mirrors. In the City of Boston, motor vehicle operators with an HP placard can park their vehicles at meters with no time limit and also do not have to pay the meter. Officer Spillane was able to determine that most of the operators of these vehicles did not match the pictures on the placard. Some placards belonged to elderly relatives who no longer lived in the area, were not present in the vehicle or were deceased. Operators were then cited, and the placards were seized and returned to the Registry of Motor Vehicles. There is now a noticeable reduction in the abuse of HP placards on the streets of Chinatown.

District A-7

In 2009, District A-7 personnel continued their close working relationship with East Boston residents to address quality of life issues and concerns. While their primary goal was to reduce crime, especially crimes of violence and street crimes, officers remained committed to engaging with the community. In addition, many of the activities supported by police in A-7 were geared toward strengthening relationships with neighborhood youth to improve communication and trust.

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District B-2

During 2009, the officers of District B-2 continued their commitment to reducing crime and improving the quality of life for the residents of Roxbury and Dorchester. While maintaining a focus on reducing gun violence, the officers of B-2 also work closely with the community to address any issues and concerns.

One of the many great examples of problem-solving partnerships that exist between District B-2 police and residents is highlighted in the efforts of Neighborhood Services Coordinator Estaphania “Stephanie” Alves. Ms. Alves is a liaison to the Cape Verdean community and works side by side with various community groups, City of Boston agencies, and the B-2 Community Service Office to improve the quality of life for Dorchester residents. In 2009, when the area was experiencing a spike in store robberies, Ms. Alves teamed up with the Upham’s Corner Safe Neighborhood Initiative Taskforce and the BPD to provide outreach to the business community. Her efforts helped to bring the business community together, provided educational awareness and encouraged the organization of a Crime Watch group.

Community Service Officers throughout the Department play a significant role in police/community partnerships. CSO’s in District B-2 work closely with local youth to provide positive alternatives to crime. In 2009, an officer from the CSO was involved with the “Youth & Police Partnership,” an entity of the Children’s Services of Roxbury. This is a program that has proven to be effective in discussing and restoring relationships between youth and police officers. Also, B-2 CSO’s continued programs such as the B-2 Youth and Family Safety Day and Junior Police Academy, as well as fishing trips and outings to amusement parks and the New England Aquarium to help build a safer, healthier community.

The men and women assigned to District B-2 demonstrate courage on a daily basis and are dedicated to protecting and serving the residents of Roxbury and Dorchester. In 2009, Detective Paul Martin was recognized as an exemplary officer of the BPD. Detective Martin spent his entire career in B-2, and during his many years there, he displayed many admirable qualities. However, it is mostly his level of fairness for which he is best remembered. He treated all persons fairly and equally and was a role model for many. Unfortunately, in 2010, Detective Martin passed away but his legacy to the Department and the neighborhoods of Roxbury and Dorchester will live on.
District B-3

Building productive partnerships with our youth, neighborhood crime watch groups, non-profits and government agencies and community organizations continue to be a major focus of the community policing efforts in District B-3, which covers the neighborhood of Mattapan. To sustain District B-3 as a viable and healthy community, police officers concentrate on four areas of activities: public schools, public housing, neighborhood shopping centers and public open space.

The commitment by residents to public safety and quality of life in their communities is a tremendous asset to police. Myrtle Huggins is one such Mattapan resident who has served her community admirably for many years. Mrs. Huggins is a retired teacher with the Boston Public School System who has worked with the BPD to improve the relationship between students, parents and police officers. Mrs. Huggins is the Chairperson of the Apple Grove Civic Association (a Community Crime Watch Group) and the President of the Mattapan/Dorchester Neighborhood Council and is also a member of the Charles St. A.M.E. Church Choir. Residents like Myrtle Huggins are critical to the quality of life in Mattapan and throughout the City of Boston.

Annie Wilcox is a civilian Community Service Officer in B-3. In this role, Annie is recognized for her efforts in working with residents such as Mrs. Huggins and other community leaders and organizations to improve the quality of life in Mattapan. Annie works with the Neighborhood Response Team (NRT) from the Mayor’s Office to ensure that graffiti is removed, foreclosure property is secured, and community complaints are addressed. She also works with various criminal justice and social service agencies (e.g., DYS, Dorchester Court, W. Roxbury Court, YouthConnect Program and Streetworkers) to ensure that court-involved youth who need to perform community service as a term of probation get the support they need to complete the required hours. And she organizes and coordinates a variety of youth and senior programs and community events in the district.

District C-6

In 2009, District C-6 personnel continued to work diligently and professionally to ensure that the community remained one of the safest in the City, as well as provided many opportunities for the community to come together. Throughout the summer of 2009, the District was filled with a number of exciting and innovative programs and events such as the C-6 Fishing Program, the Great Summer Program, the Junior Police Academy, community/youth dances and the CYO/C-6 Basketball Program.

While officers throughout the District demonstrate a commitment to community policing, Officer George Billotte is being highlighted for his efforts in 2009.
Officer Billotte has worked in South Boston for nearly 20 years and is known for his dedication to the community and his commitment to community policing. Officer Billotte worked in many units prior to working in the CSO office, where he currently is assigned. His efforts have led to a stronger relationship between police and community members. One of the many individuals proactively improving the quality of life in South Boston is Harry Duvall, Director of the South Boston Boys and Girls Club. When he started in his role as Director, Harry made the Club available to the community, hosting various community events and meetings. Harry has demonstrated his ability to take the helm when called upon, whether it is a neighborhood issue or working closely with veterans’ groups. Harry is host to one of South Boston’s biggest fundraisers—the annual St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon. He also serves as the Director for the annual St. Patrick’s Day Road Race, which has grown from 600 hundred participants to over 1,300. On a daily basis, Harry brings integrity, humility and leadership to the South Boston Community.

District C-11

District C-11 serves the residents of Dorchester and is one of the largest police districts in the City in terms of both geographical size and population. C-11 officers are dedicated to working with the community to reduce crime and improve quality of life throughout the many diverse neighborhoods in the District. One such community member is Philomin Laptiste, the Manager of Community Health at the Bowdoin Street Health Center. She participates in the Norton Street Crime Watch, Bowdoin & Geneva Main Streets and the Bowdoin Street VIP program. She is responsible for hosting the Youth/Police Dialogue and has been very active in the community. Ms. Laptiste is an example of the many committed community partners in C-11.

Officers Michael Keaney and Dennis Rorie have served in the Community Service Office for over ten years. They meet with seniors, community residents and the business leaders of Dorchester. The meetings are a great way for the C-11 officers to provide residents with crime prevention and safety tips. These meetings also provide an opportunity to open up dialogue between the BPD and neighborhood residents on any issues and concerns. Officers Keaney and Rorie attend 2-3 meetings nightly, keeping the community informed as to what is happening around them. They also set up and run programs throughout the summer months such as bike rodeos, field hundreds of phone calls from members of the community and address quality of life concerns.

District D-4

District D-4 covers four of Boston’s most diverse neighborhoods: the South End, Lower Roxbury, Back Bay, and The Fenway. Within the boundaries of the District are the Boston Medical Center, The Boston Herald, The Pine
District D-14

The officers of D-14 are committed to preventing crime, addressing issues affecting quality of life, and ensuring around-the-clock public safety. These goals cannot be achieved without the many partnerships that have been formed with the greater community. The many partners of the Boston Police in Allston-Brighton include the business community, landlords and property managers, major universities, and St. Elizabeth Medical Center, as well as a long list of active citizens groups that have been instrumental. Together, D-14 and these stakeholders are committed to keeping Allston and Brighton a safe and vibrant community.

Street Inn, Copley Place shopping mall, Boston Public Library Main Branch, the Museum of Fine Arts, Fenway Park, Boston University and Northeastern University.

BPD personnel assigned to the D-4 station house are committed to providing excellent customer service to the community that they serve. This commitment is displayed through the efforts of Carlos Mejia. Mr. Mejia is recognized for his hard work in helping to make the station house at D-4 clean and comfortable for employees and the public. His thoroughness and attention to detail has been noticed by many who visit the station.

D-4 officers and detectives respond to and investigate crimes that range from quality of life issues such as panhandling to serious felonies such as robbery and burglary. To tackle these problems at the community level, D-4 has continued to strengthen its presence on the street through walking beats and bike officers. For example in 2009, Officer Darrell Vinson was assigned to a permanent walking beat in the Ramsay Park/Lenox Street area. A large part of Officer Vinson’s responsibility is to help rid this area of gang violence as well as to address the quality of life issues in and around the park (such as alcohol, drugs, and vagrancy). Through his dedication and professionalism, Officer Vinson has proven that he is up to the task.

Community relations are a top priority in D-4, where police work closely with residents to identify areas of concern and come up with viable solutions. In 2009, community member Jose Caesar Roman was recognized for his commitment to youth in D-4’s neighborhoods. Mr. Roman oversees the educational program at Inquilinos Boriquas en Accion, an organization that promotes the advancement of youth mostly from the Villa Victoria area. In addition to this core effort, Jose assisted with placing local youth into summer employment opportunities.

These few examples along with the many educational, vocational, and other programming provided in District 4 help to reduce violence and create safer neighborhoods for those who live, work and visit the City of Boston.
In December of 2009, Officer Charlie Moore coordinated a basketball tournament for the youth of the Allston-Brighton Community. Officer Moore got the idea to create this positive opportunity while he was doing a walking tour. He coordinated the games, generated funding and secured the necessary adults needed to pull off the event. This tournament helped to bridge the gap between police and local youth. It was a huge success and was even attended by representatives from the Boston Celtics.

**District E-5**

Building relationships enables District E-5 officers to work collectively with community organizations, youth, neighborhood crime watch groups, local businesses and the elderly to protect the neighborhoods of West Roxbury and Roslindale. One of the objectives of E-5 is to promote information sharing and relationship building. When the stakeholders of the community share concerns with police, a level of trust is created and buttressed by effective issue resolution or minimization. E-5 works hard to develop an environment that allows these partnerships to flourish.

E-5 is rich in community involvement with police. An example of this is Tom Dougherty, a life-long West Roxbury resident. Tom serves as the E-5 Advisory Council president, and is a community partner for both West Roxbury and Roslindale. In 2009, one of the Neighborhood Advisory’s goals was to develop better lines of communication with the community. As president, Tom proved to be a valuable asset in achieving this goal and furthering the District’s agenda within the community. Most recently, Tom took on the project of obtaining and installing delineators in the crosswalks of District 5 to help alleviate a continual neighborhood issue—speeding. He worked with businesses and local politicians to purchase and install a total of ten delineators. Tom is a strong supporter of the efforts made by the BPD to host youth and elderly programs, and he regularly makes himself available to volunteer and participate in community events.
Residents of Jamaica Plain are very committed to working with E-13 on a variety of issues. Michael Reiskind is emblematic of Jamaica Plain residents. He has participated in many task forces, committees, organizations and boards throughout Jamaica Plain, working to address graffiti and public safety issues in the Egleston and Jackson Square areas. In addition, he advocates for youth programs, supports police/youth and police/community partnerships and assists in creating new programs and searching for new techniques to fight crime. During the past year, he continued to be a member of the Jamaica Plain Citizens Police Alliance—a non-profit organization he co-founded to assist District 13 personnel with funding certain activities for community advancement.

Officer Carlos Lara has worked for many years with residents such as Michael Reiskind through his role as E-13 Community Service Officer. His involvement in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood for over twenty years has made a difference in the lives of countless residents, young and old. From supervising crossing guards and mediating disputes, teaching teenagers conflict resolution skills and working with seniors in a variety of programs including Meals on Wheels, Officer Lara has proven himself to be a dedicated public servant.

Sergeant Detective Donald Wightman personifies the District’s ideals of commitment, dedication and cooperation. His ability to work with superiors and subordinates with the same level of respect has allowed him to flourish in his career. His work ethic sets the standard for those who work with and for him. He creates a professional and positive atmosphere that is reflected in the work of his employees. Sgt. Det. Wightman’s knowledge of the neighborhoods in which he works and the concern he has exhibited for victims of crime has allowed him to respond to problems with resolve and effectiveness, but most importantly with compassion. This, in turn, has helped District 5 detectives to solve crimes that might have otherwise been unsolvable.

District E-13

Covering the Jamaica Plain neighborhood, District E-13 is a community-oriented police station committed to improving the quality of life and ensuring the safety of the neighborhoods it serves. E-13 aspires to create strong and vibrant partnerships with residents and businesses and to address the public safety issues in all of its neighborhoods. They continue to seek innovative ways to identify and establish the best practices available to work together with the community to create a safer environment for all residents and visitors.

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District E-18

District E-18 is home to a widely diverse population, reflected in its single and multi-family dwellings, small businesses, playgrounds and open spaces. In 2009, with their commitment to professionalism, timely response, open communication and community partnerships, District E-18 personnel continued to provide effective police services to the residents of Hyde Park.

Sergeant Kevin McGoldrick provides an outstanding example of the good work being done in E-18. Sergeant McGoldrick has worked tirelessly to gather information from various sources, including the BRIC, incident reports, and individual officers, in order to prepare daily District-specific intelligence briefings. This information and the ongoing efforts of the rest of the E-18 team resulted in a 16% annual drop in Part 1 crime for 2009.

E-18 benefits greatly from its engaged residents, who participate in over 50 Neighborhood and Crime Watch Groups. One of the most energetic of the District’s community volunteers is Barbara Baxter, who was voted President of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association in 2009. Barbara is an active member of the Neponset Greenway Council and the Hyde Park Presbyterian Church, through which she sponsored a program to provide diapers and other material support to young families in need. Working closely with active community members like Barbara, the sworn and civilian members of E-18 continue their work to prevent violence and maintain a positive, secure environment throughout the District.
2009

Active Military Leave

The Boston Police Department has several officers and civilian employees who not only dedicate their time to serving our community, but who are also dedicated to serving our country in the military reserves. The following BPD personnel were on Active Military Leave during 2009:

Tlaloc Cutroneo
Bryan Dickson
John F. Elwood
Ciro Feliciano
Jackson Hernandez
Edward F. McMabon
Robert M. Mulbern
Robert F. Miller
Andrew C. Powers
David L. Santosuosso

2009

Active Duty Deaths

In Memoriam

Police Officer John Ridlon
Mobile Operations Unit
November 29, 2009
Boston Police Department retirees continue to play an active role in our community and in others across the nation. By utilizing their years of law enforcement expertise in second careers, teaching endeavors and many other community service opportunities, they continue to exemplify the finest ideals of Community Policing. In 2009, the following BPD personnel retired:

Superintendent in Chief
Robert Dunford

Deputy Superintendent
Marie Donahue

Captain James Claiborne

Captain Christine Michalosky

Captain Edward C. Wallace

Lieutenant Frederick Conley

Lieutenant Roy Hechavarria

Lieutenant Richard Sullivan

Sergeant Detective Daniel Downey

Sergeant Detective Grady Durden

Sergeant Detective James O’Shea

Sergeant Detective Maureen Parolin

Sergeant Detective Matthew Whalen

Sergeant James Fitzgerald

Sergeant Frederick Gottwald

Sergeant William Kennedy

Sergeant Dennis Morson

Sergeant Charles O’NeiI

Sergeant Sheryl Pichon

Sergeant Robert Silva

Sergeant Michael Wosny

Detective Manuel Barros

Detective John Hamm

Detective John Honen

Detective Lisa Lehane

Detective Benjamin Leong

Detective Joseph Magee

Detective Paul Martin

Detective Paul Mahoney

Detective James Moy

Detective John Parlon

Detective O. Marie Rice

Detective Wayne Rock

Detective Joseph Sirignano

Police Officer Deborah Auzenne

Police Officer Charles Bogues

Police Officer Robert F. Butler
Police Officer John Connors
Police Officer Daniel Daley
Police Officer Charles Dickerson
Police Officer Robert Gill
Police Officer Richard Gonsalves
Police Officer Francis Griffiths
Police Officer Brian Guilfoyle
Police Officer George Higgins
Police Officer Christopher Hill
Police Officer William Hogan
Police Officer William Kennedy
Police Officer Richard Laham
Police Officer William Malaguti
Police Officer Wayne McNamara

Police Officer Robert Minton
Police Officer Albert Montgomery
Police Officer Ronald Myers
Police Officer Arthur O’Neill
Police Officer Sheila O’Shea
Police Officer Antonio Rotger
Police Officer Robert Saitta
Police Officer Leonard Shand
Police Officer Mario Simons
Police Officer George Thomas
Police Officer John J. Walker
Police Officer David Walter
Police Officer Karen Wilson