



The Guardian Annual Report 2013



Preventing Crime



with



Community Partnerships



Table Of Contents

Chief's Message - -----	3	VIPER Team -----	13
Mission Statement -----	4	Part I Crimes -----	15
Accreditation -----	5	Internal Affairs -----	17
Records & Court Services ---	7	Police Response Time --	19
Operations Division - -----	9	COPS Unit - -----	21
Patrol Team Commanders -	10	Training -----	22
Patrol Goals -----	11	Firearms Training -----	23
Accident reduction -----	12		



CHIEF OF POLICE

L. Dwayne Hobbs

Chief Hobbs is a native of Forest Park, where he attended grammar school, middle school and graduated Forest Park High School in 1972. He joined the police department in July 1973 as a patrol officer and worked his way through the ranks and was appointed Chief in April of 1996.

He obtained his Associates Degree from Clayton State University, his Bachelors and Masters Degree from Columbus State in Criminal Justice and Public Administration.

Chief Hobbs is also a graduate of the Georgia Chiefs Association's Class I - Command College; he graduated the 163rd Session of the FBI-National Academy; he was a member of the 13th Delegation of Georgia State University's Georgia-Israel Law Enforcement Exchange program; he is a POST certified instructor; the past chairman of the Region Seven All-Hazards Council; past District 10 Vice President of Georgia Chiefs Association; and an adjunct professor at Clayton State University.

Chief Hobbs has amassed over 10,000 training hours including advanced instruction from the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council in a multitude of law enforcement disciplines including emergency management, disaster planning, emergency response, and police and fire operations. He holds several law enforcement certifications including Basic, Intermediate, Advanced, Supervisory, Management, Executive, General Instructor, and Advanced Instructor.

The Forest Park Police Department, under his leadership, has been internationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies for twelve consecutive years and has been recognized by the Georgia Chiefs Association's Certification Program for the past fifteen years.

A message from the Chief...

It is with great pleasure we present to you the 2013 Annual Report, a short summary of activities and crime prevention efforts that occurred throughout the year. The police department strategies are a composite of contemporary law enforcement initiatives blended with practical, traditional methods of law enforcement. In trying to achieve multiple objectives, like crime control, traffic enforcement, accident reduction, and community outreach, we have at our disposal a variety of effective tactics and strategies.

Some think the way police achieve public safety objectives is solely through enforcement initiatives, when in reality the police do much more than enforce the laws. In fact, most police/civilian interactions do not involve an arrest or even a citation.

When viewing policing in light of the objectives and methods described, it becomes more sensible to acknowledge that enforcing the law is not the end in itself, but rather one means among several methods available to the police. We subscribe to Sir Robert Peel's philosophy of 1829 when he said "The police are the public and the public are the police." With citizen and business partnerships cultivated, we can help the public understand the capabilities and limitations of law enforcement.

Through our outreach programs and community policing philosophy we try to craft a balanced approach to enhance community knowledge and achieve citizen support and oversight to our police initiatives.

In 2013 we saw a slight 4% increase in crime; however, this was the first increase since 2008, and since the implementation of Community Policing in 1996, the city has enjoyed a 62% reduction in crime.

We believe with this philosophy we will demonstrate our accomplishments with a variety of safety initiatives and outreach programs. Of course, we can't provide everything in this report, but we think it is important to summarize the activities to give you some idea of what we are doing and how we do it.

It is our sincere desire to provide you with effective, efficient, and professional law enforcement services. In doing so, we strive to promote excellence in everything we do, and to encourage open communications while actively seeking your assistance in making Forest Park a safer city.

L. Dwayne Hobbs
Chief of Police

OUR MISSION



The Forest Park Police Department will deliver effective and responsive law enforcement services to all the citizens in a fair and equitable manner.

As an integral part of the community, we are committed to communicate with those we serve and to join with them in establishing priorities to enhance the quality of life for the entire city.

Accreditation & Certification



The Forest Park Police Department completed its assessment for International Accreditation in December of 2013 and will appear before the commission assessment panel in March of 2014 for further review.

The accreditation process is voluntary and on-going. We constantly evaluate policy and procedures to ensure best practices are performed. The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies recognizes the professional excellence of agencies internationally, and we have sustained this prestigious award for twelve consecutive years, by achieving the 462 standards of distinction.

Forest Park also participates in the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police State Certification program and will pursue its fifth recertification award in June of 2014.



Assistant Chief Tommy Orr



Colonel G. T. “Tommy” Orr is a graduate of Forest Park High School, class of 1983. He began his career with Forest Park Police Department in 1986. He has served in many positions with the department including thirteen years in Criminal Investigations and four as Chief of Detectives. He was promoted to Assistant Chief in 2006. Colonel Orr is also a graduate of the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville, (Kentucky) and is a POST certified instructor.

Colonel Orr’s current responsibilities as number two in the department include management of command and administrative functions. He works especially close with the majors in developing policy and procedures and managing the record’s functions, criminal investigations, crime scene investigators, property and evidence, training and accreditation, and police services.

Colonel Orr is a featured speaker for several citizen groups and community organizations, like Neighborhood Watch, Citizen’s Police Academy, Forest Park Business Coalition, and Kiwanis Club.

Colonel Orr is an active member of Glen Haven Baptist Church. He is married and has one son and two daughters.

Records & Court Services



Records and Court Services handles all documents, police reports, arrests records and citations, processing of payments of fines and forfeitures, and provides a clerk for municipal court.

Records personnel are responsible for providing assistance to other courts, investigators, probation officers, citizens' requests for open records, filing and maintenance of police reports, and are an integral part of the police administration.

Records currently has a staff of three office assistants and a supervisor, all of whom work tirelessly to keep the court and records function running smoothly and meet thousands of requests each year.

Major Chris Matson

Operations Division Commander



Major Chris Matson is the Operations Major and manages the patrol division which consists of four commanders, eight supervisors and fifty- six officers. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Masters Degree in Public Administration, both from Columbus State University.

A native of Ohio, he moved to Georgia after high school. He began his law enforcement career in 1987 with Peachtree City Police, and came to Forest Park in 1992. He has held a number of positions including communications operator, patrol officer, specialized traffic enforcement and accident investigation officer, detective, and motorcycle officer. He held the ranks of sergeant, lieutenant, and captain before his promotion to major in 2006. He also obtained his POST supervision and management certifications.

Major Matson is a state certified police instructor, and a firearms and Taser instructor. He coordinates the training and qualification of department personnel in the use of firearms and Tasers.

Major Matson is a featured speaker at civic group and community outreach meetings such as Neighborhood Watch, Citizen Police Academy, and Triad. Triad has over 100 members and he coordinates monthly meetings designed to help seniors become less vulnerable to crime, improve relations between seniors and the police, and enhance senior citizens' quality of life. He is also a member of the National Triad Senior Advisory Committee.

Community partnerships are a vital key to the success of a city's law enforcement agency. Major Matson emphasizes the importance of good customer service and communication skills to the officers to help create such partnerships.

Operations Division



The Operations Division performs field operations and promotes positive, proactive enforcement of State Laws and Local Ordinances within the boundaries of our jurisdiction.

Our goals are to protect life and property, to address neighborhood concerns, be alert to any unusual activity, and to enhance the quality of life in our city.

We aggressively apprehend criminals and identify suspects to prevent the commission of crime by reducing their opportunities. It is our mission to provide the order necessary for the individual pursuit of freedom, safety, and privacy.

The uniform patrol teams' mission is to be responsive to community and the geographical, and economic changes within our city. Through weekly COMSTAT meetings, we relentlessly analyze our tactics and strategies to ensure we are responding to issues in the most effective manner.

We promote collaborative partnerships with our community, as well as our businesses, through daily interactions with those partners.

We are committed to professionalism, quality community policing concepts, increased safety and security of our citizens, and the highest professional law enforcement standards under the guidelines of International Accreditation and State Certification.

Patrol Team Commanders



Captain Alex Skwira
Adam Team

Captain Jason Armstrong
Baker Team

Captain Daniel Podsiadly
Charlie Team

Captain Mark Harris
Delta Team

Patrol Goals 2013

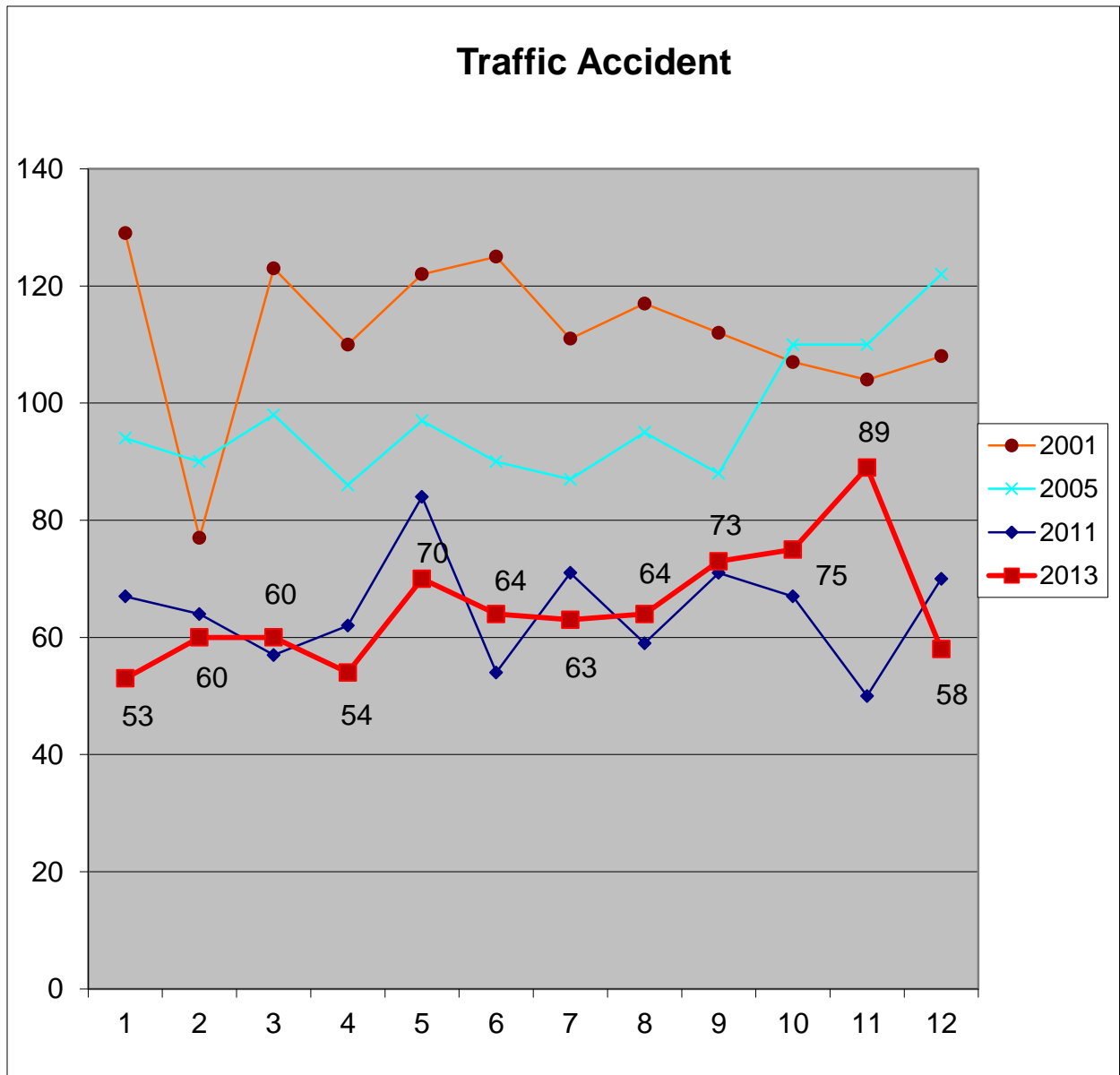


1. Conduct 300 map reviews to familiarize patrol officers with problem areas.
2. Reduce the backlog of outstanding warrants by serving 600 warrants .
3. Conduct 100 under cover operations in high crime areas to supplement routine patrols .
5. Conduct 400 alcohol compliance checks in all related businesses.
6. Facilitate 600 M.A.R.C. ID initiatives to ensure we have up to date contact information for all businesses.
7. Attend twelve Apartment Managers Coalition Meetings.
8. Attend 12 TRIAD Meetings.
9. Attend 32 Neighborhood Watch Meetings.
10. Reduce traffic collisions with 480 accident reduction patrols.
11. Conduct 120 Road Safety Checks in high crime areas to identify impaired or illegal drivers and increase patrol visibility.
12. Have patrol personnel complete the National Safety Council Defensive Driving course.
13. Address quality of life issues with 600 Forest Park P.R.I.D.E. contacts.
14. Ensure taxi operators are properly credentialed by conducting 120 random Taxi Cab inspections.

Accident Reduction



Officers constantly strive to reduce traffic accidents with accident reduction patrols and aggressive traffic enforcement, not only to reduce deaths, injuries and property damage, but also to help deter crime in the process.





V.I.P.E.R. Team

The Variable Intensive Patrol and Enforcement Response Team supplements regular patrol shifts and provides additional manpower in problem areas at peak volume hours.

This unit is instrumental in curbing gang and drug activity in the city.

In 2013 VIPER seized over \$4,705 worth of narcotics and \$32,452 in cash.

Captain Robert Cotrell

Chief of Detectives



Captain R. W. Cotrell is a 1972 graduate of Forest Park High School. He joined the Navy in 1973 and transferred to the Army in 1977 as a Cavalry Scout. After twenty years of service, he retired from the United States Army as a First Sergeant.

Captain Cotrell joined the FPPD in 1993 and assigned to Charlie Team in the Uniform Patrol Division. In 1996 he transferred to the Detective Bureau. During this time he aggressively participated in the department's education incentive program and achieved his Associates Degree from Georgia Military College.

Captain Cotrell holds POST Intermediate, Advanced, Supervision and Management Certifications. Over the course of his career worked his way through the ranks of Detective Sergeant, Detective Lieutenant and on December 17, 2003, was promoted to Chief of Detectives. In addition to leading the criminal investigations division, Capt. Cotrell is also responsible for Internal Affairs investigations.

Part I Crimes



Two-year crime/arrest comparison

Part 1 Crimes Reported

Crimes	2012	2013	% Difference
Murder	2	1	-50%
Rape	3	10	233%
Robbery	57	86	51%
Agg. Assault	65	38	-42%
Burglary	213	219	3%
Theft	620	637	3%
Auto Theft	99	119	20%
Arson	4	5	25%
TOTAL	1,063	1,115	5%

Part 1 Arrests

Crimes	2012	2013	% Difference
Murder	7	1	-86%
Rape	1	4	300%
Robbery	23	34	48%
Agg. Assault	30	21	-30%
Burglary	53	35	-34%
Theft	111	120	8%
Auto Theft	6	12	100%
Arson	2	1	-50%
TOTAL	233	228	-2%

Criminal Investigations



CID Case Assignment/Activity 2012 & 2013

	2012	2013
Cases Assigned	1,414	1,502
Ex-Cleared	152	156
Cleared by Arrest	413	439
Unfounded	80	78
Total Cleared	645	595
Inactive	685	778



Internal Affairs

2013 Level I & II Investigations

Internal Affairs Investigations (Level I)	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD
# Of cases Founded / Sustained	0	0	0	1	1
Not Sustained	0	0	0	0	0
# Of cases Unfounded	0	0	0	0	0
Exonerated / Cleared	0	0	0	0	0
Total # of IA	0	0	0	1	1

Citizen Complaints (Level II)	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	YTD
# Of cases Founded / Sustained	4	0	2	2	8
Not Sustained	1	0	1	0	2
# Of cases Unfounded	7	5	5	1	18
Exonerated / Cleared	0	0	1	0	1
Justified	0	0	2	0	2
Open Status	5	1	1	5	12
Total # of Citizen Complaints	17	6	12	8	43

Major Jamie Reynolds

Administration & Communications



Major Jamie Reynolds began his law enforcement career with the Forest Park Police Department in January 1995. He spent the next four years as a patrol officer before being transferred to the Community Oriented Police Services (C.O.P.S) unit.

Major Reynolds was promoted to sergeant and then later lieutenant in March 2001. He achieved POST Supervision and Management certifications and obtained his Associate Degree from Georgia Military College. In September 2002, he was promoted to captain.

Major Reynolds continued his professional development by attending Columbus State University's Professional Management Program and Command College and obtained his Bachelors Degree. While serving as a Watch Commander he not only maintained supervision control over his assigned team, but served on the North Georgia Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council and developed a Buffer Zone Protection Plan for Clorox. . He recently graduated from Columbus State University with a Master Degree in Public Administration and plans to continue his education through additional leadership training.

In February 2006, he was transferred from Operations to Administration where he currently supervises Communications, C.O.P.S., Emergency Preparedness, CALEA, Training, and other administrative assignments. In January 2012, he was promoted to Major.

Major Reynolds has played a vital role in the revitalization of the Neighborhood Watch Program, remodeling the 911 Center, re-banding of 800 MHz frequencies on city radios, obtaining over one million dollars in grants, development of Forest Park's CRI plan, implementation of OSSI CAD software, development and implementation of the Rapid ID pilot program, CALEA reaccreditations, and migration from a conventional to a trunked radio system.

Police Response Time



Response Time Report

From 01/01/2013-12/31/2013

Agency: FPPD District: All Day of Week: All

Time of day	Priority	# of Calls	Dispatch Delay (minutes)	Travel Time (minutes)	Response Time (minutes)	At Scene Time (minutes)	Service Time (minutes)
0700-1059	P, 1, 2	1329	1:17	3:31	4:47	30:31	34:02
1100-1459	P, 1, 2	1628	1:17	3:32	4:49	31:41	35:13
1500-1859	P, 1, 2	1698	1:45	3:37	5:23	31:11	34:48
1900-2259	P, 1, 2	1753	1:48	3:15	5:03	32:31	35:47
2300-0259	P, 1, 2	1636	1:14	3:00	4:14	38:53	41:53
0300-0659	P, 1, 2	894	1:15	2:58	4:13	27:48	30:45
Average	P, 1, 2	8938	1:26	3:19	4:45	32:06	35:25

Administrative Supervisor

Susan Ridling

- Ms. Ridling is a graduate of Forest Park Senior High School, class of 1983. She began her career with Forest Park in 1984 where she achieved the position of Executive Assistant to the Mayor and City Manager.
- In 1992 she transferred to the police department as the Senior Assistant to the Chief of Detectives and in 1996 was promoted to the Executive assistant to the Chief of Police.
- Ms. Ridling manages the administrative offices of the Chief of Police, overseeing payroll, purchasing, crime analysis and information technology.
- She has a staff of two administrative assistants and two senior assistants.



Community Oriented Policing



Crime Prevention Programs

- Apartment Managers Coalition
- Neighborhood Watch
- Citizen Police Academy
- Hispanic Citizen Police Academy
- THOR (target hardening opportunity reduction)
- MARC ID (merchant awareness reduces crime)
- Forest Park PRIDE
- LEEP (larceny education & enforcement program)
- TRIAD
- Operation ID

Neighborhood Watch

During 2013, the Department hosted two neighborhood watch groups per month. These meetings are for all the residents on the north side of Forest Park and the south side of Forest Park respectively. The south meeting is the first Tuesday of each month and north meeting is the third Thursday of the same month. Combining the neighborhood watch meetings has increased the number of participants. On average, 50 people are in attendance. Neighborhood Watch remains one of the most effective means of developing close contact between police officers and the public. During these meetings C.O.P.S. Officers provided crime prevention information, data on specific and receive feedback on citizens' perceptions of our police services.

Training



Training Topics in 2013 included:

- Basic Radar Certification
- Legal Updates
- Mobile Field Reporting
- Firearms Requalification
- Use of Force/Deadly Force
- Low-Light Firearms Training
- Dealing with Mentally Ill
- Radar Recertification
- Defensive Driving
- Crime Scene Photography
- TASER
- O.C. Re-certification
- Expandable Baton
- Report Writing
- Bias Based Profiling

Ongoing professional, development, and in-service training is provided at the Forest Park Police Department on a regular basis throughout the year. In addition to POST certification training provided at regional and state police academies, the staff of instructors at the Forest Park Police Department conduct training for both new and seasoned personnel.

There are twelve certified instructors with FPPD and many hold both general instructor certifications and specialized certifications in areas such as TASER, Firearms, and Defensive Tactics. Having personnel with these credentials allows us to conduct a great deal of needed training in-house. Training needs are constantly evaluated and programs developed in coordination with shift commanders, supervisors and Chief Hobbs.

In 2013 Forest Park Police Officers received 9,673 hours of POST approved training.

Firearms Training



Deadly force is the force an officer uses that would create a substantial risk of causing death, serious bodily harm or injury. The use of deadly force is justified only under conditions of extreme necessity as a last resort, when all lesser means have failed or cannot reasonably be employed. Firearms training helps to develop a conditioned response in officers as they obtain their sight picture and alignment, while meeting the departmental training standards. This response is critical in the first split-second of a deadly force situation.

Firearms Requalification and Use of Deadly Force training was held on September 23-27, 2013.

The awards presented are as follows:

Top Team- VIPER Average score of 263.1/300.

Top Gun- Officer Gray shot a 295.

Overall Department 1st Round Average- 248.4

Moorefield's Possible Award- Major Matson

Forest Park uses the state mandated 30 round Standard Qualification Course. The maximum points for the course is 300. Officers must score a minimum of 80%, or 240 points, to pass. Firearms Instructors must score 90%, or 270 points, to instruct for the department. Awards are given for "Top Team" and "Top Gun". "Moorefield's Possible" awards are given to anyone that shoots a perfect score at any point during qualification.