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# South Bend Police Department 2015 Highlights and Accomplishments

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2015 heralded many challenges for the South Bend Police Department. The sworn and civilian staff worked with investigations, community outreach, promoted general public safety and went above and beyond for special events. Chief Ronald E. Teachman left the department midway through the year but left the department in good hands with Chief Scott Ruskowski. The South Bend Police Department is comprised of three divisions: Patrol, Investigative and Services. Below is listing some new initiatives as well as an update on our long standing programs, tasks, projects and units.

In an effort to bring together regional law enforcement resources for the purpose of sharing information and conducting unified crime analysis, the department continues with the *Crime Analysis Network* (CAN). This group meets weekly and is the central hub for dissemination of intelligence and crime updates in a multi-jurisdictional format. CAN is a blend of both face to face networking/discussion and scientifically based crime analytics. Its success has been in the contributions from varied participants that includes:

The US Attorney's Office, St. Joseph County Prosecutor, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Task Force, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) Task Force, US Marshals Task Force, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Indiana State Police, Mishawaka Police, Elkhart Police, St. Joseph County Police, Indiana University Police, Notre Dame Police, Memorial Hospital Police, St. Joseph County Metro Homicide, St. Joseph County Special Victims Unit, Metro Special Operations (MSOS), Indiana Excise Police, US Probation, Indiana State Parole St. Joseph County Probation, St. Joseph County Juvenile Probation, St. Joseph County Corrections, South Bend Fire/EMS, St. Joseph County Adult Protective Services, Department of Child Services, South Bend Animal Control, South Bend Code Enforcement, South Bend Legal Department, Downtown South Bend (DTSB), and various representatives from the South Bend PD, including our Patrol Division Chief, his regional Captains, Crime Prevention, Chronic Nuisance Officer, and Street Crimes. Also, our Investigation Division Captain, our Group Violence Intervention Operations Manager, the Crime-Stoppers liaison, and members of the Major Crimes, Burglary and Robbery units, and more.

The Crime Analysis Network has been so well received it has been attended by several criminal justice officials visiting from outside the county, and state for purposes of creating such a network in their communities-we're paying it forward. In addition to being a model of criminal justice information sharing, the program attracted the interest of crime analytics professionals, both practitioners as well as collegiate level researchers.

### Uniform Patrol/Specialty Units

- The Uniform Patrol Division is the largest division of the department. It is commanded by Division Chief Jeff Rynearson. Uniform patrol officers serviced nearly 100,000 calls, and is utilized in many functions. Not only do they respond to the tens of thousands of calls for service, but they also attend monthly neighborhood crime meetings, and work on nuisance property problems and other quality of life issues; while specifically involved with focused-deterrence concerning GVI strategies-utilizing rightful, legitimate, fair and impartial policing methods as you'll gauge below.

- SBPD-2014 vs 2015 Stats**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>+/- %</u>
Total number of calls for service	89, 428	96,674	+7.75%
Total number of cases	20,824	22,992	+10.41%
Total number of arrests	2,628	2,435	-7.95%
Uses of Force	88	79	-0.0011% (Ratio to arrests)
Complaints/UOF's	04	04	0%

**99.97% Uses of Force do not result in complaints or injury.**

- Neighborhood Patrols in 2015**

- Warning tickets 39
- Moving citations 44
- Parking Tickets 3
- Tracking reports 10
- Case generated 1
- Citizen Contact made 450

- SWAT Team:** In 2015 the SBPD SWAT team was activated 13 times, NOT including SWAT security details at ND football games. 11 of the call-ups were high risk state or federal search warrants; one of the call ups was a reported hostage situation and one was for a crowd control / event security. As mentioned, SWAT provides a specialized response and security element at all ND football games, per ND request. A SWAT element was also present at Norte Dame during Father Hesburgh's funeral and viewing. SWAT operations in 2015 resulted

in the apprehension of approximately 21 suspects and 11 firearms recovered, along with narcotics / contraband seizures.

- **K-9:** In 2015 SBPD K-9 Units were used on 310 occasions. These deployments were for missions ranging from tracking and area searching, to narcotics searches and bomb sweeps. These usages included 39 apprehensions of criminal suspects. The apprehensions resulted in arrests for crimes as varied as: aggravated assault, criminal confinement, domestic – strangulation, armed robbery, felony resisting, burglary, auto theft and narcotics violations. Narcotics seizures included, over 73lbs. of Marijuana, and 4.4 grams of methamphetamine.
- **Street Crimes:** 72 arrests, 133 citations, 5 search warrants, 20 guns recovered, 8 stolen vehicles recovered, 25 narcotics arrests and 502 calls for service. This does not include Crime Stoppers tips, Street Crime Hotline tips or hundreds of hours of surveillance with/for MHU/ATF/FVU.
- **Special Events/Traffic:** 327 events includes- SB 150,parades, runs, walks, protests/gatherings, funeral escorts, equipment and dignitary escorts. Does not include: downtown or Regional O/T assignments.  
Crash Investigations:  
4 Fatal Investigations  
597 Injury crash Investigations  
3217 Non-injury Investigations  
1523 Hit & Run Investigations
- **Crime Prevention:** In 2015 the Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) was very active with our community. The unit was entrusted with the responsibilities and administrative oversight of the enacted city ordinance; The Chronic Problem/Nuisance Property Ordinance.

Pfc. Lane is the department's Nuisance-Abatement Officer, with the assistance of an intern Nick Fields (fall semester). Pfc. Lane is responsible for the enforcement, and liaison to the property owners/tenants of the city of South Bend. He worked with owners /managers to resolve nuisance issues in an attempt to improve the quality of life for all city residents, and to reduce the number of police and Code dispatches to these properties. He also distributed police activity reports every two weeks to 45 apartment complex owners/managers. As a result, we believe the quality of life has improved for our residents who are living at/ near these properties. The communication and responses from property owners to address the problems at their properties have greatly improved. The data used to vet these properties are a combination of at least 2 police dispatches (740 per month) and Code Enforcement violation

citations (270 per week). Utilizing this data, we logged approximately 300 individual property complaints which were placed on a watch list. Nuisance warning letters were sent to 133 individual properties, resulting in just 7 properties being designated as "Nuisance Property". These property owners combined were assessed \$2,250.00. A few of the property owners appealed the decisions, and Pfc. Lane/Atty. Tasha Outlaw defended the city's position effectively.

- **Armadillo-** Is a renovated Brink's armored vehicle-painted to match our police vehicles. It's a fully equipped surveillance vehicle used to deter and ideally prevent illegal and various nuisance activities. CPU worked throughout the year deploying the vehicle at 44 locations based on analytics and neighborhood requests, in support of the effort to improve the "Quality of Life" by abating the nuisances in our neighborhoods.
- **Crisis Intervention Team:** Provide the oversight and training to officers who treat the mental illness as the priority instead of jailing the person on misdemeanor offenses such as public intoxication, disorderly conduct, trespassing or resisting law enforcement. Using the CIT training, officers try to de-escalate the person and take him/her to a local hospital or mental health facility in lieu of jail. Police record/document the incident and file it with the prosecutor, so that useful data exists should the person fail to stay in treatment. We communicate with Adult Protective Services (APS) utilizing this training to advocate for the elderly in need as well.
- **Chaplain Program:** Pfc. Burns is responsible the oversight of the program. Last year, several of the long standing chaplains retired. We recruited 3 new chaplains, for a total of 6. We are updating their uniforms, schedules and responsibilities and needs.
- **School Crossing Guards:** We assumed the daily responsibilities for the oversight of the guards this school year. We utilize 26 crossing guards daily at 15 of our primary and intermediate schools.
- **Volunteers in Policing (V.I.P.S.):** Supervise and partner with volunteers who assist with office assignments, patrol functions (eyes & ears), special events, and other functions as needed. There are 30 members who volunteered over 5,670 hours, valued at \$130,000. They also attend a monthly 2 hour training session in addition to volunteering a minimum of 4 hours each month.

- **Citizen's Police Academy:** we held our annual spring and fall session 9-week academies and our Summer Youth Academy. The academy begins with a presentation from the Chief on opening day and concludes with a graduation ceremony where certificates are presented to the attendees. The Mayor and Chief are present during the ceremonies. We had 55 citizens and 12 students graduate in 2015.
- **Bomb Squad:** Completed 184 training hours, and 3 Community demonstrations. We provided protective bomb sweeps for all ND games and commencement ceremony. All fireworks displays at Four-Winds field, and Sunburst Marathon. 28 incidents responded to, all successfully mitigated.
- **Rapid Response Team:** Stand-by notification and structure for SB150 potential responses. Bi-annual training.
- **Crime Scene Technicians:** Photographed/processed/documented/testified 974 crime scenes in 2015 and attended 21 hours training, beyond state mandate training of 24 hours. We also have 4-state of Indiana certified technicians.
- **Police Athletic League (PAL):** Football and Tennis program (8.5 weeks) had a total of 413 participants. PAL partnered with WorkOne and hired local kids to help work as counselors, instructors and coaches. The PAL boxing program moved to a new location at the old Beacon Bowl in 2015, and had 263 participants. PAL is also the source of the Hispanic Outreach programs overseen by Lt. Chris Voros. Two favorite activities that were very well attended and successful in 2015 were: El Dia de Los Reyes (Day of the Kings) celebration after the Christmas holiday held at Harrison Primary (over 200 children), and the Cinco de Mayo event held at Rum Village Park (over 1000 participants).

## **Investigative Division**

- The Investigative Division is led by Captain Scott D. Hanley, Lieutenant Eric Crittendon, Lieutenant Marcus Wright, Lieutenant Amy Bennett, Lieutenant Anthony Bontrager, and South Bend Group Violence Initiative Lieutenant Dominic Zultanski. The division is comprised of investigators and civilian technical personnel, major case, burglary unit, motor vehicle Theft unit, School Resource Officers, digital forensic units, the forensic services unit, including CSI, fingerprint analysis, ballistics and digital imaging. The division also houses the Crime Stoppers program and is where the South Bend detectives who participate in the Narcotics, Homicide (M.H.U.) and Special Victims Unit (S.V.U.) are assigned.
  
- The South Bend Police Department generated over 23,000 investigative cases in 2015. Some were vehicle accidents, some were initiated and referred to outside service agencies, but a majority are reports of criminal activity. Each case must be read and either assigned for further investigation, or forwarded to the Prosecutor for possible charges. In any case, it is the responsibility of the Investigative Division supervisors to make these determinations and case manage the detectives under their command.
  
- The 5-Major Crimes investigators investigated 69 shooting cases, 507 additional felony crimes, and interviewed hundreds of victims, witnesses, and suspects. From these 576 criminal investigations 36% were closed exceptional or arrest and 2.4% were unfounded. Not only did investigators work 2015 cases but they continued several 2014 cases which needed additional investigation for prosecution.
  
- The South Bend Group Violence Intervention Unit (SBGVI) unites community leaders around a common goal: to stop gun violence and keep South Bend's highest risk citizens alive and out of prison. SBGVI is a partnership among South Bend law enforcement, government, education, civil service, health-care and faith-based agencies. SBGVI advocates direct, sustained engagement with street groups which cause the majority of South Bend's gun violence. The strategy empowers community members to set clear moral standards against violence in our community and reclaim a voice in the way they want to live. It coordinates the efforts of local, state and federal law enforcement to focus crime prevention/intervention efforts on the groups most associated with gun violence.

SBGVI also draws on the expertise of social service providers to offer group members a path away from violence. The VCIU is organizationally positioned in the South Bend Police Department Investigative Divisions.

The following section represents the activities performed in 2015 (from 09/14/2015 to 12/31/2015) specifically addressed to the Investigative Division.

- 129 – Additional reports filed by VCIU members in assistance to investigations
- 189 – Field Interviews filed by VCIU members documenting intelligence gathered
- 18 – Cases assigned to the VCIU as either the 1st or 2nd Investigator
- 02 - Aggravated Assault / Firearm / Person Shot
- 02 - Home Invasions
- 02 – Other Assault
- 12 – Misc. cases of various classifications

VCIU members attend weekly South Bend Police Crime Analysis Network (CAN) meetings to assist in gathering and sharing intelligence pertaining to criminal activity in and around South Bend each week.

- In 2015 the Burglary Unit investigated 1,440 cases, were directly involved in 76 arrests, and were able to seek criminal charges in 138 of these cases. One particular highlight of the burglary unit in 2015 was the apprehension of Darrel Vaughn “the pillow case bandit”. This arrest occurred in 2016, but the investigation started in March of 2013 when the South Bend Police Department saw a dramatic increase in burglaries in the “Sunnymeade neighborhood”. Inv. Kelly Waite worked tirelessly to help solve the 60 burglaries in the Sunnymeade neighborhood. Over the course of time, Vaughn continued his crime spree in Saint Joseph and Elkhart Counties. Inv. Waite noticed the increase in burglaries in the county jurisdictions and began to collaborate with the St. Joseph County and Elkhart County investigators. Through their efforts they were able to obtain search warrants and utilize GPS location to aide in the investigations. In January 2016, Vaughn committed a burglary in the City of Elkhart, and due the diligence of Inv. Waite, St. Joseph County Investigators, Elkhart County Investigators, and Elkhart City Police Department, we were able to locate and arrest Vaughn. During this investigation the investigators also located numerous stolen items to include; jewelry, firearms, and other property. Vaughn has been charged with several felonies in Elkhart and Saint Joseph counties.
  
- **Digital Forensic Unit (DFU)**  
Inv. Chad Goblen was very busy in 2015 assisting in more than 175 criminal cases. There are numerous highlights for D.F.U. The involvement by Inv. Chad Goblen has been extremely challenging and a myriad of cases; Murder, Sexual Assaults, Narcotics Investigation, and Missing Person cases. One of many success stories for this unit was the recovery of Nick Sams and Chrystal Reyes, who were reported missing in late December 2014 and January 2015. Through

the efforts and expertise of Inv. Goben and the use of cell phone technology, he was able to determine the possible location of Sams' cell phone. This information sadly led to the recovery of Sams and Reyes in the St. Joseph River. Through the efforts of Inv. Goben, Inv. John Hall, and Inv. W. Johnson, they were able to give the families some sense of closure.

Total Cases: 175 (26.81% increase from 2014)  
171 - Cellphone / Tablet cases (36.8% increase from 2014)  
4 – Computers (42.86% decrease from 2014)  
2 – Cases using very detailed Cell Tower mapping and locating three missing persons (100% increase)

103 - Cases in House (Major Crimes, Burglary, MSOS, ATF, DEA and general) (19.77% increase from 2014)  
16 – Cases through MHU (77% increase from 2014)  
41 – Cases through Family Violence (46.43% increase from 2014)  
5 – Cases through MSOS (54.55% decrease from 2014)  
10 – Cases from Outside Agencies (Including assisting one Homicide case from Mass. State Patrol Boston Division) (50% increase from 2014)

Total Extractions: 372  
368 Extractions from Cellphones / Tablets / Gaming devices  
4 Computers

Total Data Acquired: 927.14 GB (166.38% INCREASE from 2014)

- **St. Joseph County Special Victim's Unit**

The Special Victim's Unit is a satellite investigative office that investigates some of the most heinous crimes; Rape, Sexual Assault against children and adults, child abuse/neglect, and domestic violence. The seven (7) investigators assigned to this unit not only investigate South Bend case but criminal incident within St. Joseph County. These investigators also work closely with The St. Joseph County Prosecutor's Office, Y.W.C.A., Indiana Department of Child Services, Casey Center, and the members of the St. Joseph County Family Justice Center.

In 2015, two thousand three hundred and one (2301) cases were referred to Special Victim's Unit by the South Bend Police Department. Of the 2301 cases, 875 were assigned for investigation.

Sex Offense (adult)	83
Sex Offense (juvenile)	240
Domestic Battery	365
OAFC Abuse/Neglect	146
Miscellaneous inv.	41



- **Narcotics seized during 2015:**

595.17 grams of Cocaine, estimated street value	\$119,000
91.5 grams of Crack cocaine, estimated street value	\$ 18,500
261.81 grams of heroin, estimated street value	\$105,000
3,321.56 grams of methamphetamine est. street value	\$607,000
49,893 grams of marijuana, estimated street value	<u>\$283,000</u>
The estimated street value of the narcotics seized in 2015	<b>\$1,132,500</b>

- **SBPD Ballistics Lab 2015 Highlights**

The Ballistics Lab implemented many new processes in the past year that proved to increase our efficiency; IBIS entry/correlations and services that we provide to other agencies, as well as "SBPD Ballistics" articles. In May, 8-Techs were trained to perform BrassTrax entries of evidence and in June, 4-Techs received additional training to review correlations. The results of this training has allowed the Lab to provide 24-hour entry of all evidence, and correlation results within a 48 hour period. In addition to the Tech's training, we also have our own "in-house" certified BrassTrax/ MatchPoint trainer, so we are able to train individuals as the need arises.

### SBPD Forensic Services

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
<b><u>NUMBER OF CASES:</u></b>		
Latent Print Section	584	640
Lab (Processing evidence, vehicles, etc.)	453	438
Firearms / Toolmark	122	253
Video Analysis / MVR / Photo	<u>1,743</u>	<u>2,122</u>
Total Cases/Requests	2,902	3,399

**LATENT PRINT SECTION:**

AFIS Fingerprint Hits (IDs)	87	94
Total Fingerprint IDs	172	198
AFIS Palm Print Hits (IDs)	34	30
Total Palm Print IDs	35	42
Finger and palm print IDs from lab processing	110	136

**LAB:**

Total cases evidence processed	453	384
Vehicles processed	27	30

Trace/DNA	83	75
Footwear/Tire	3	1
ISP Submittals	10	58
Latent print cases for processing	394	345

FIREARMS/TOOLMARK:

Cases	122	253
Total firearms test fired for IBIS	446	464
SBPD firearms test fired for IBIS	314	296
Total IBIS entries	1,194	1,768
IBIS Hits (IDs)	8	104
Total firearms traced	314	296
Total cases with identifications	111	194

VIDEO ANALYSIS / MVR

Total Requests	1,758	2,123
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
- Video Analysis	191	190
- MVR / Photo Requests	1,532	1,532
- Assist Inv – download at scene	35	43

**Services Division**

- The Services Division is commanded by Lt. Christopher Voros. Services handles a wide variety of duties and is the division in which the largest number of civilian employees are assigned. Records, book-keeping, budget and payroll, Public Service civilians, purchasing, research and development, training and recruiting are the primary focus of Services.
- In 2015 the Services Division procured and accounted for/reported on grant funds, one-notable: \$74,929 (SBPD share \$60,000) Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).
- Below is a statistical look at the Training Bureau. Training handles recruiting and hiring for the department among training our entire PD. The SBPD continues to operate the *Regional Training Academy*, which serves the Northern Indiana and Southwest Michigan area providing in-service and continuing education for law enforcement officers.



- Police Ethics
- Cultural Diversity
- Ongoing monthly training for: SWAT, K-9, Bomb Squad, Crime Scene Techs
- Continued Command Staff Training with Public Service Leadership Institute
- Partnership Training with the US Attorney's Office
- FTO Certification Training
- Firearms training sessions for our department as part of State Mandated Training  
In addition to the Transition Class Shoots
- 3 Emergency Vehicle Operations sessions (EVO) as part of our State Mandated Training
- 3 Defensive Tactics sessions as part of our State Mandated Training

### **2015 Hiring and Recruitment**

The South Bend Police Department continues its efforts to maintain a workforce of knowledgeable, educated and diverse officers. We also take the time and availability for questions from anyone who may call or come to the department in person inquiring about our hiring process. We also extend ourselves by being present in High Schools by doing class presentations and career day events.

We have updated our web site and will soon be working on a Department Recruitment Video with updated brochures; intent on getting our message out more aggressively.

On the college level, we make our presence known by attending career fairs and speaking with Criminal Justice classes. For the past few years we have started speaking with the academy classes at IU Bloomington and Northwest. This has been a tremendous benefit, as we have hired several officers from the respective academies. In 2015, we traveled to/visited Michigan State University, Ball State University, and Indiana University South Bend.

This year (2015) the department has sworn in 14 officers consisting of 10 male Whites, 1 male Black, and 2 female Whites and 1 female Hispanic. We currently have 6 civilian recruits in the academy who will be sworn in as officers after academy graduation in March 2016 consisting of 5 male whites, 1 female White.

### **Cadet Program**

The South Bend Police Department filled 2 of our three slots. We were joined by Bryce Peterson and Riley Bieglow. Bryce was an active member of our "Junior Cadet" Program. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen personal circumstances, both had to withdraw from the program and we wish them well. We are once again looking to fill 3 spots in our program.

