

LINO LAKES PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



***One Vision. One Mission.
Lino Lakes Public Safety***

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PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

In 2014, we started the process of integrating fire and rescue response into the Public Safety Department. The City Council directed staff to make this change June 2, 2014 and I am happy to report that we are on pace in our integration process to begin delivering fire services starting in January, 2016.

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One of the first steps in our integration process was to analyze all available data for the City of Lino Lakes related to fire / rescue services. This enabled staff to create a fire response plan that will ensure community safety in a manner that is effective and efficient. After careful analysis and engaging experts, staff created an organizational structure that consists of two divisions within the Public Safety Department, Police and Fire Divisions. Both Divisions are headed by a Deputy Public Safety Director and will provide leadership, oversight and management to the respective Divisions.

In order to leverage current resources and improve fire response times within the City, staff began the process of cross training police officers as firefighters to augment the paid on-call firefighters. This will provide our community with rapid response on-duty public safety professionals that are trained and certified as firefighters. Through the dedication of current and future staff we will be successful in this integration process.

Our police staff continues to do tremendous work in our community and as a result reduced the number of thefts from vehicles and burglaries for the second straight year. This was achieved through proactive measures focused on eliminating opportunities for crime to take place while remaining highly visible within the community to further deter those that would commit crimes in our community.

When crime does occur, our staff has proven that they will pursue those that break the law in an aggressive fashion and utilize all available resources to bring those individuals to justice as exhibited by the tremendous team effort investigating the bank robbery and liquor store robbery. Our staff rapidly identified suspects in both crimes and through strong investigative techniques made arrests in both cases which resulted in criminal convictions.

We continue to have incredible volunteer participation in the Public Safety Department through our Reserves, Explorers, Trail Watch, Chaplains, and front Office volunteers. The participation and generosity of our volunteers is a large part of why we are a successful public safety organization. I want to extend my heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers!

I am extremely proud of our public safety staff for all they have accomplished in 2014. It is an honor to work in such a great community, thank you for the opportunity!

John E. Swenson

The mission of the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department is to collaborate with the community to provide:

- *a healthy and safe community;*
- *a focus on prevention;*
- *a commitment to life safety;*
- *aggressive pursuit of criminals;*
- *respectful communication;*
- *encouragement for volunteerism.*

POLICE DIVISION

Patrol Section:

Through directed patrol and crime analysis, the Patrol Section was able to reduce thefts from motor vehicles and burglaries for the second straight year. In 2014, we achieved a 38% reduction in the thefts from motor vehicles and a 30% reduction in burglary.

Patrol Officers responded to 253 motor vehicle accidents, made 5,208 traffic stops, arrested 95 impaired drivers, and made 163 narcotics arrests. Patrol Officers also assisted the Investigation Section with a large fraud case by being the primary point of contact for over 300 victims.

K9 Section:

Officer Pete Noll and his canine partner Justice completed their second year as a canine team in 2014. This year the canine team was used 46 times to assist police officers. The team assisted with the tracking and apprehension of criminals, detection of illegal narcotics, and article searches for evidence.



Officer Noll and Justice are certified by the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA) in narcotics detection as well as police patrol activities. This year Officer Noll and Justice ranked 2nd place in canine trials out of 87 total canine teams.



In addition to criminal apprehensions and narcotic detection, Officer Noll and Justice provide community education and demonstrations at various events throughout the year.

Investigations Section:

- The Lino Lakes Public Safety Department's Investigations Unit worked with the patrol division to accomplish an overall criminal case clearance rate of 66% in 2014. A few of the most significant investigations conducted in 2014 include:
- A large scale investigation was conducted on the owner of a Lino Lakes based massage business who had committed financial transaction card fraud and identity theft against numerous customers of the business. This case resulted in a felony conviction for the business owner

- An investigation was conducted on a bank robbery in Lino Lakes. Based on investigative findings, an adult male was arrested from his home in Barnum, Minnesota. A search warrant was executed and the male was charged with 2nd degree aggravated robbery.
- An investigation was conducted on robbery of a liquor store in Lino Lakes. Based on the investigation findings, a suspect was identified. A search warrant was obtained for a cellular signal track of the suspect. Ultimately, the adult male suspect from Balsam Lake, Wisconsin, was located, arrested and charged with 1st degree aggravated robbery.

The investigations unit saw a staffing change in 2014. Investigator Chad Schirmers was promoted to Patrol Sergeant and Officer Mike Monson moved into the vacant investigator position. Investigators all spent time with the Anoka County Sheriff's Department's Criminal Investigations Division in 2014 learning various investigation techniques and gaining further experience in the areas of death investigation and assault.

Training:

2014 was a busy and exciting year for the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department's training program. 2014 marked the beginning of current staff members cross-training to become certified firefighters. The Department also continued to utilize in-house, external, and online training resources to ensure officer proficiency and the training's success.



The police division continued using the Peace Officer Accredited Training Online, or PATROL training courses. These courses aid department personnel with annual OSHA and POST mandated training. Additional elective training courses offered through PATROL allow officers to keep current with case law updates, officer safety concerns, emerging crime trends, and strategies for incident response.

The police division also continued using Century College's law enforcement continuing education program. This program allows officers to attend up-to-date training courses addressing the current needs of officers. In May, Captain Wegener received the program's supervisory management certificate.

Training Continued:

In 2014, the police division began training officers how to use the equipment for Project Lifesaver. Project Lifesaver is a program focused on individuals who wander and do not have the cognitive ability to ask for help, do not know they need help, or will not ask for help. Many individuals enrolled in Project Lifesaver live with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, Alzheimer's disease, or Down syndrome. Citizens enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small personal transmitter around their wrist or ankle, which emits an individualized signal. If an enrolled person goes missing, a caregiver notifies the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department and a trained officer will respond with specialized equipment to track and locate the individual. Recovery times for Project Lifesaver clients average 30 minutes — 95% less time than standard operations.

The following are some of the training topics and courses attended:

- MN Chiefs of Police Leadership Academy
- Identity Theft Summit
- Controlling Violent Combatants
- Social Media Investigations
- De-escalation Strategies for MN Veterans
- Anatomy of Force Incidents
- Threat Liaison Officer
- Emergency Medical Holds
- Crime Scene for MN Law Enforcement
- Pursuit Intervention Technique Instructor
- Criminal Investigations
- Internal Affairs Investigations
- Tactical Narcotics Debriefing
- Firearms Instructor Certification
- Advanced Leadership



FIRE DIVISION – 2014 City Council Action

- January 27, 2014 – approved Resolution 14-27 authorizing Lino Lakes withdrawal from Centennial Fire District (CFD)
- June, 2, 2014 – Passed Resolution 14-50 directing staff to incorporate fire services into the Public Safety Department
- June 23, 2014 – approved Resolution 14-61 creating a wage scale for POC firefighters
 - approved Resolution 14-62 creating incentive program for the recruitment of POC firefighters
 - authorized staff to move forward with the enrollment in the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Retirement Plan (SVFRP)
 - authorized staff to post Deputy Director – Fire, Deputy Director – Police, & Administrative Assistant positions
- July 7, 2014 – command staff from New Brighton Department of Public Safety provided a presentation on their public safety model
- July 14, 2014 – approved Resolution 14-73 hiring CNH Architects for the south fire station building project
- July 28, 2014 – authorized the hiring of Administrative Assistant LouAnn Snell
- August 11, 2014 – discussion and selection of Centerville Rd. and Birch as the site for the south fire station
- September 8, 2014 – authorized a financial stipend for current City staff to volunteer to be crossed trained as firefighters
- September 22, 2014 – authorized the hiring of Deputy Director – Fire Division Dan L’Allier and the promotion of Deputy Director – Police Division Kelly McCarthy
 - approved Resolution 14-110 authorizing the enrollment in SVFRP
- October 6, 2014 – south fire station preliminary design presentation
- October 13, 2014 – south fire station preliminary design presentation
- November 3, 2014 – south fire station preliminary design presentation
- November 10, 2014 – authorized the promotion of Public Safety Captain Wayne Wegener



- December 1, 2014 – discussion of the Anoka County Fire Protection Council (ACFPC) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)
- December 8, 2014 – discussion of the Anoka County Fire Protection Council (ACFPC) Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)
- December 15, 2014 – approved Resolution 14-155 joining the ACFPC JPA
 - approved Resolution 14-156 joining a fire mutual aid agreement with all Anoka County fire agencies
- December 29, 2014 – authorized the hiring of POC Firefighters Jonas Werpy, Paul Kartman, Jason Clampitt, Brian Finke

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Emergency Management:

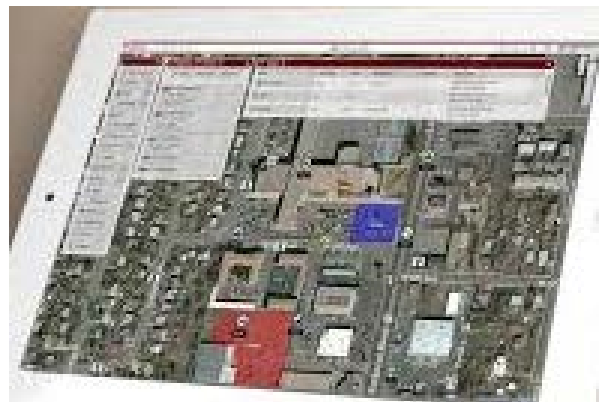
This year, the Public Safety Department began working with an incident management software system called Rhodium. This system utilizes electronic mapping functions, diagrams and other tools to assist incident



commanders with creating plans for incidents, events, or specific areas. Rhodium will benefit the Public Safety Department in a variety of ways: through day-to-day actions, major incidents, and pre-planning events.

Rhodium will aid incident commanders with the management of a variety of scenes. In the event of a damaging severe thunderstorm or tornado touch down, Rhodium will assist an incident commander with defining the areas most affected. This will allow them to deploy resources, such as police, fire, ambulance, and other emergency services, where there is the greatest need and define other areas where there are shortfalls. Additionally, when the incident commander makes changes, updates are automatically sent, in real-time, to others on scene. This gives everyone involved access to information and data, ensuring a greater understanding of the incident and its desired outcome.

Rhodium also allows for maps or building diagrams to be loaded to pre-plan events. This feature will allow the Public Safety Department to create plans for incidents such as commercial and retail building fires, missing persons, retail or bank robberies, and incidents involving hazardous materials. It will also help manage events like Blue Heron Days.



Records Section:

In 2014, the front office staff directed their attention to work flow and work process. Lori Hawkinson and Kristen Thorstad continued to work together to reduce the average time it takes to be entered in the records management system and they were able to improve the average time over last year's reduction. This success was attained while still performing the other tasks associated with their positions such as:

- Coordinating 350 ACE program participants
- Completing over 400 local records checks
- Processed 195 permit to purchase handgun applications
- Issued 147 dog licenses
- Processed over 500 criminal histories

The success of the front office was supported by the donation of over 590 hours of time by our dedicated front office volunteers. They assist in the processing of reports, transcribing statements, processing ACE participants and many other aspects in the delivery of service by the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department.

Reserves

In 2014, the Lino Lakes Police Reserve Unit was comprised of 17 volunteer officers who supported the functions of the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department. The Police Reserves participated in community events, provided traffic and pedestrian control, provided uniformed patrol, conducted home and business checks, assisted full time officers with community education and training events, and conducted prisoner transports. This effort helps fulfill the mission of the department by providing a safe community, assisting with aggressively pursuing criminals, promoting crime prevention partnerships, increasing communications, encouraging volunteerism and continuing to enhance and strengthen the agency's community oriented policing philosophy.

In 2014, the Lino Lakes Public Safety Department Reserve Officers were trained by LLPSD staff in vehicle operation, house and business checks, use of force, first aid, traffic direction, search and rescue, patrol tactics, public relations, report writing, leadership and officer assists. Reserve Officers handled 18 prisoner transports to the Anoka County Jail which enabled sworn officers to stay in the city. Throughout 2014, Lino Lakes Police Reserve Officers donated 2,679 hours of service to our community.



Reserves - Open House 2014

Chaplains:

The Chaplain Program is currently staffed by three volunteers, Cindy Lannon, James Chapman and Troy Fields. Each member has attended and completed training through the Minnesota Emergency Service Chaplain Association (MESCA). Chaplains are called upon for a variety of reasons but most often assist officers with death notifications or at scenes where someone has passed away.

Chaplains are also tasked with keeping tabs on the wellbeing of our officers. Our Chaplains accomplish this by either stopping by the department to chat and check in with the officers or by spending some time with them on a ride-along. Chaplains are on call 24-hours a day and often respond at a moment's notice to provide care and direction to the citizens of Lino Lakes.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT):

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) completed its seventh year serving the citizens of Lino Lakes. CERT members are trained to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize volunteers at disaster sites.

Lino Lakes CERT members have also served the community in non-emergency events. This year, the CERT group volunteered time at Feed my Starving Children, conducted training with North Memorial Air Care, participated in a full scale search and rescue exercise, assisted with the Lino Lakes 5K at the STEM school, and facilitated a community blood drive during Blue Heron Days. In total, our 54 CERT members donated 307 hours of service in 2014.



North Memorial Air Care Team Visit

This year, the Public Safety Department sent two officers through the CERT Train-the-Trainer course to join our existing team of trainers to prepare for an upcoming 2015 basic training class for new volunteers. The basic training class covers incident command structure, medical operations, fire suppression, search and rescue, and disaster preparedness.

Explorers:

Police Explorers is a program designed to educate youth (ages 14-21 years old) about a career in law enforcement. In 2014, the program provided an opportunity for 12 kids to learn about law enforcement procedures through a mix of classroom instruction and hands-on training. The hands-on training is scenario based training involving role players. The role players are typically LLPSD Reserves. The Explorers train to compete in regional competitions around the state in which they can win awards and scholarships.

In April of 2014, the Explorers went to Rochester MN to compete at the 39th Annual Minnesota Police Explorer Conference. Four teams competed in various events with hundreds of other Police Explorers from around the state. The explorers placed 5th in an academic exam on Minnesota stop and seizure laws, 4th place on the sample police exam, and 3rd place in emergency first aid.



In October, the Explorers went to Duluth MN to compete in the 19th Annual Duluth Conference. This conference helps prepare Explorers for the Rochester competition. This year's event was held at the Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College.

Volunteering in the community is also an important aspect of the Explorer program. This year Explorers volunteered 2275.5 of hours in various community activities. The Explorers assisted in the Hugo parade, St. Paul Bike Classic, Blue Heron Days parade and activities, 3M Golf Championship in Blaine, and Safety Camp.



The Explorers assisted in tobacco and alcohol compliance checks of businesses in Lino Lakes. The Explorers were role players for new Lino Lakes Public Safety CERT members during their final training incident as well as CERT's search and rescue training event.

Trail Watch:

In 2014, Trail Watch hours of patrol reached 1,124 hours, the second highest total since inception. There were three incidents that resulted in police reports and twelve safety/maintenance reports. There have been very few medical issues on the trails and this is due to the work of the Trail Watch volunteers.

The 2014 Trail Watch Volunteer of the Year was awarded to Bob Prouty. Bob was one of the first three volunteers when the Trail Watch program began. He was a proud and active representative of the program, always taking time to share with others what Trail Watchers do. In Bob's memory and because of his enjoyment of our trails, his family is donating a beautiful bench for all to use. This bench will be located between the YMCA and the Public Safety Department.

Personnel Changes

NEW HIRES:

Jake Swanson – Community Service Officer
 LouAnn Snell – Administrative Assistant
 Krissy Mabraten – Police Officer
 Dan L'Allier – Public Safety Deputy Director
 Tenzin Dongag – Police Officer
 Tyler Nelson – Police Officer

PROMOTIONS:

Kelly McCarthy – Public Safety Deputy Director
 Mitch DeMars – Sergeant
 Wayne Wegener – Captain
 Chad Schirmers - Sergeant

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

Jesse Clark – Police Officer
 Kent Strege - Captain
 Dale Hager - Sergeant



Polar Plunge 2014



Open House 2014