

2008 Annual Report

by Nancy Taralson, Community Policing Coordinator



National Night Out 2008

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY POLICING/CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITIES - 2008

Below is a summary of some of my community policing and crime prevention activities for 2008:

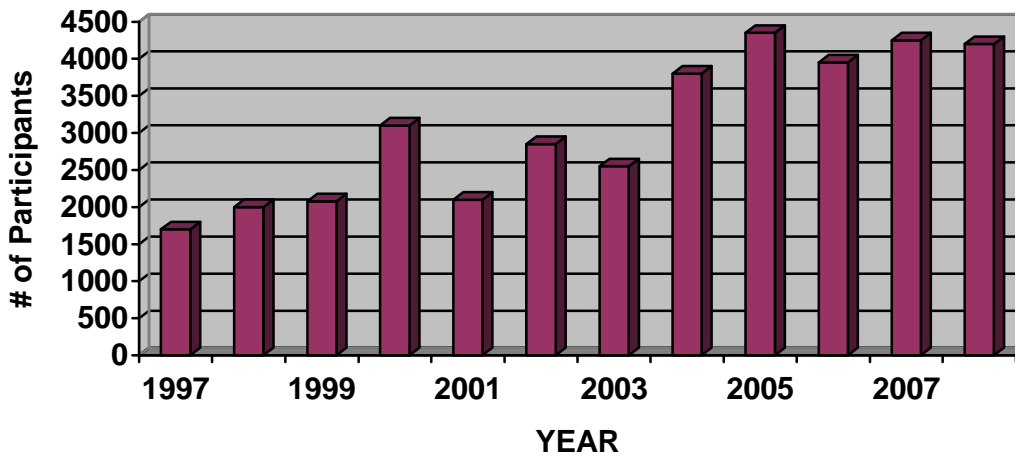
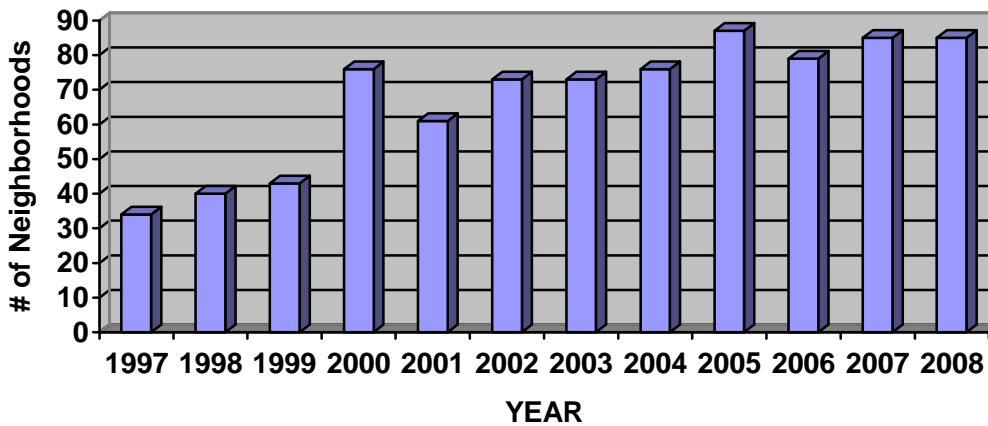
- Hosted and taught two Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program sessions on 3/4 and 10/16. 40 landlords completed the trainings.
- Participated in new officer interviews on 5/27-28/08
- Trained four new officers in community policing concepts on 1/25/08 and five new officers on 9/26/08.
- Crime Free Housing training to low risk offenders on 1/16/08 and 2/11/08.
- Co-sponsored and facilitated Fair Housing Training along with Minnesota Multi-Housing Association on 2/21/08.
- Completed 30 hours mediation training at Hamline University on 3/17-20/08
- Co-facilitated with Restorative Justice Program Neighborhood Conferencing training for community representatives on 2/12/08.
- Scored in-box tests for sergeant promotions on 5/16/08 and 5/29/08.
- Recruited and trained three volunteers.

- Worked with Restorative Justice to develop Neighborhood Conferencing option for underage alcohol offenders.
- Spoke about Neighborhood Conferencing at Restorative Justice Marketplace on 6/11/08
- Facilitated the organization and first meeting of Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association on 5/15/08
- Assisted MSUM (Susanne Williams) in writing a \$3,000,000 alcohol grant during 6/08 (no funding received).
- Taught two hours of community policing concepts to MSCTC students on 9/4/08.
- Met with Felton City Council to discuss Crime Free Housing and problem-solve tenant issues in their community on 9/4/08
- Spoke to SCORE about volunteer opportunities with the MPD on 11/13/08.
- Coordinated the celebration of National Night Out. Approximately 4,200 people participated in 85 neighborhood parties.
- Developed and delivered 5 Crime Emails to an electronic mailing list of approximately 277 e-mail addresses.
- Developed and delivered two Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program newsletters to a landlord mailing list of approximately 655.
- Developed and delivered four Block Club Beat newsletters to a mailing list of approximately 385.
- Coordinated a day-long Senior Safety Seminar with the Moorhead TRIAD Committee on 8/7/08.
- Facilitated a collaborative effort with MSUM to develop a recruitment video.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2008 AND BLOCK CLUB SUMMARY

National Night Out 2008 involved approximately 4,200 Moorhead residents in 85 different neighborhoods. The cost for this event was \$3,632 (without OT) which is approximately \$.86 per participant. This does not include personnel costs. Personnel costs (OT) were approximately \$1,500 making the cost per participant \$1.22. Participation in National Night Out over the years is outlined below.



The Minnesota Crime Prevention Association has voted to discontinue its relationship with the National Association of Town Watch, the national sponsor for National Night Out and in 2009 will begin its own state-wide event called Minnesota's Night to Unite on the same night as always – the first Tuesday in August.



MINNESOTA CRIME FREE MULTI-HOUSING PROGRAM SUMMARY

We just completed the 14th year of implementation of the Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. 582 individuals have received landlord training from the police department since the program's inception. There were two landlord-training sessions offered in 2008.

In 2008, Robin performed 6,871 criminal background checks for 35 different landlords. Of this 6,871 only 11 prospective tenants were denied on their criminal background check solely because of their criminal background. In addition to landlord training through the Minnesota Crime Free Multi-Housing Program, the City of Moorhead continues to financially support the Tenant Education program offered through The Village. Information about the Tenant Education program:

- This training is available to anybody, but is specifically geared for those tenants who may have difficulty finding housing because of their credit, criminal history, or landlord references. 396 people attended training in 2008. There were 18 classes offered and interpreters for two different languages were provided (Bosnia and Somali).
- This year, there was an increase in the number of students who could not read or write. The presenters adapted the class to ensure all participants were able to complete key components of the class, were treated respectfully and were able to understand the information presented.
- There was also an increase in the number of participants who identified themselves as currently homeless. This may be a result of the Fargo Housing Authority expanding their requirement of class completion to programs beyond Section 8 housing (based on measurable success with clients they are working with who have completed the program).

DISORDERLY TENANT ORDINANCE SUMMARY

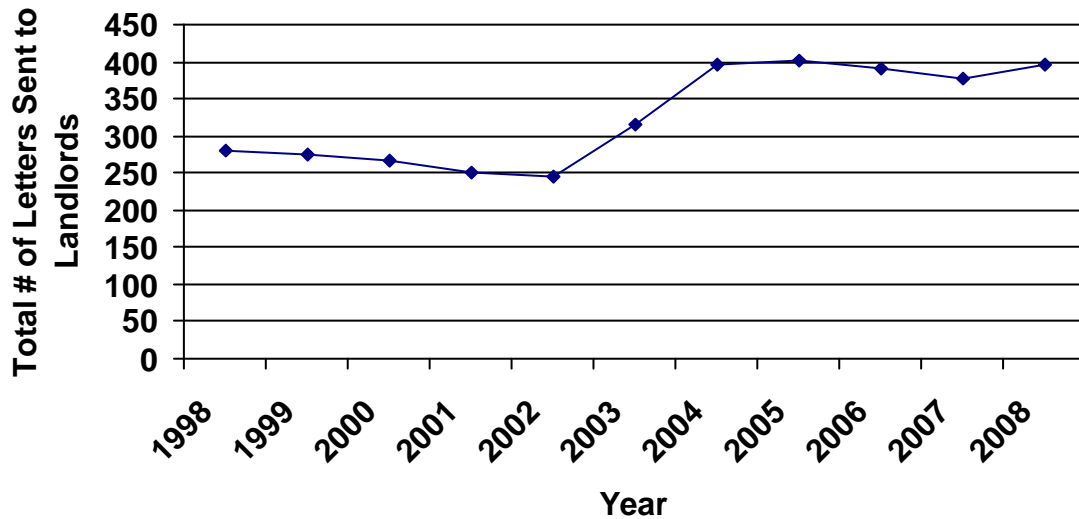
In 2008, I sent 387 letters to landlords to inform them of their tenants' disorderly behavior. The majority of those letters was for noise and parties (159). This is an 11% increase over last year.

In 2008, I recommended the suspension of two rental properties due to non-compliance with the disorderly tenant ordinance. Agreements and/or arrangements were reached with both landlords nullifying the suspensions. Below are the suspension numbers by year:

2005:	7
2006	4
2007	2
2008	2

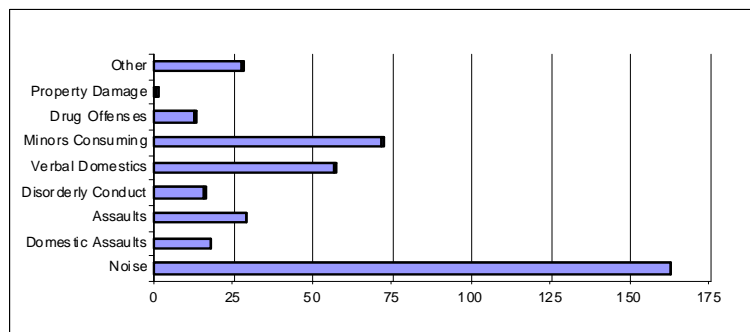
Minnesota law requires immediate action by landlords when they are notified that, as a result of a search warrant, over \$100 in drugs or contraband was seized from their tenants. Even before conviction, landlords have 15 days to begin the eviction process or assign that right to the County Attorney's office. In 2008, I initiated the mandatory eviction process for drug activity on 13 properties in Moorhead.

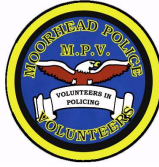
TEN-YEAR REVIEW (1998-2008) DISORDERLY TENANT ORDINANCE



2008 DISORDERLY TENANT ORDINANCE

OFFENSE	TOTAL
Noise	163
Domestic Assaults	18
Assaults	29
Disorderly Conduct	16
Verbal Domestic	57
Minor Consuming	72
Drug Offenses	13
Property Damage	1
Other	28
TOTAL	397

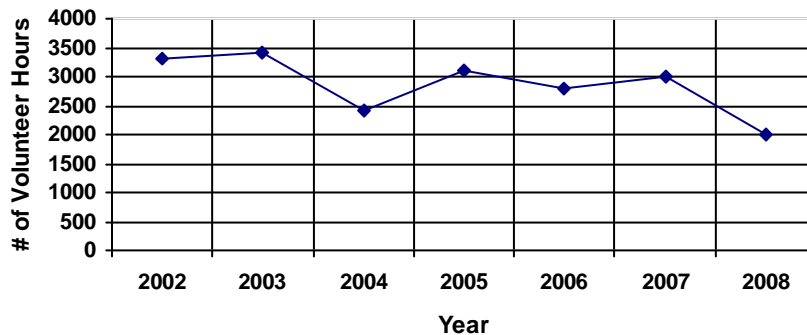




VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

2008 Volunteers

Cliff Harrison, Corrie Bennett, Dale Mitchell, Brian Klinnert, Ruthie Johnson, Jeffrey Lee, Vivian Wensel, Donnelle Pogorzelski, Roger Buscher, Jill Ulrich, Nancy Lund, Linda Laske, Beverly Olson, Arden Pearson, Sharon Adair, Terri Schwartz, Earl Felland, Eileen Hastad, Judi Brown, Helen Kuehl, Douglas Morey, Joanne Pounds



YEAR	HOURS
2002	3302
2003	3421
2004	2418
2005	3107
2006	2794
2007	3014
2008	1988

Number of volunteers: 22
Retirements: 2

Measurable outcomes for the Volunteer Program are as follows:

- **17** outstanding warrants cleared in 2008 after telephone calls from volunteers with bail/bond amounts totaling **\$21,082**.
- **6982** tickets written in 2008 valued at **\$38,791**
- **1988** volunteer hours contributed in **2008** for a total contributed value of **\$38,786** calculated using a nationally recognized hourly rate.

Hours contributed by volunteers decreased by **33%** this year. Many of our seasoned volunteers have cut back significantly on their hours donated. We are exploring other recruitment methods as well as offering short term as well as long term volunteering opportunities to increase this number.