

Village of Lake Hallie Police Department 2011 Annual Report



The Lake Hallie Police Department provides 24 hour coverage for the Village. The department will also respond for emergencies into the Town of Hallie. The 2010 U.S. Census listed the village population at 6,486 people.

In 2011 the department staff was unchanged from the previous year with 7 full-time officers and 6 part-time officers. It is organized with 1 Police Chief, 1 Sergeant, 1 Corporal, 4 Full-Time Officers, 6 Part-Time Officers plus 2 Reserves, and 1 Full-Time Office Clerk with 1 Part-Time Office Clerk.

Current staffing allows the department to have one patrol officer on duty from 3:30am to 7:00pm and two patrol officers on duty from 7pm to 3:30am. Patrol officers are responsible for conducting their own investigations during regular scheduled shifts regardless of the type of crime investigated.

Training in Law Enforcement is very important. Each officer is required to have a minimum of 60 college credits or an Associate Degree and attend the basic Police Recruit Academy (currently 520 hours). Yearly in-service training and specialized training is also mandatory by Wisconsin Statutes. Lake Hallie Police staff completed 915 training hours in 2011.

2011-10 Annual Activity Comparisons

Complaints and Activities

<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>		<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	
314	342	Accidents	118	192	Alarms/911 Misdials
204	159	Animal Complaints	347	332	Assist Citizen/Motorist
157	100	Assist other Agencies	120	125	Battery/Disorderly Conduct
82	79	Bartender License/Background Cks	180	193	Burglary/Theft/Robbery
47	43	Damage to Property/Vandalism	119	73	Civil Dispute
60	38	Extra Attention Requests	130	107	Family Troubles
70	56	Fraud/Identity Theft	58	54	Juvenile Related Issues
123	109	Highway Hazards	64	60	Loud Noise/Music Com
18	17	Mental Commitments	172	161	Rescue/Fire Calls
34	41	Sexual Assaults/Abuse of Vulnerable	248	231	Suspicious Circumstances
199	230	Traffic Complaints	47	35	Unsecure Buildings
18	26	Court Order/Probation Complaint	28	21	Drug Related Complaints
25	37	Recreational Related Complaints	143	109	Neighborhood & Parking Issues

Total – 3,125 2,970

Total activity and complaints handled by the Police Department are not completely reflected by these numbers. Due to computer reporting software and ease of reading, these numbers and categories have been condensed.

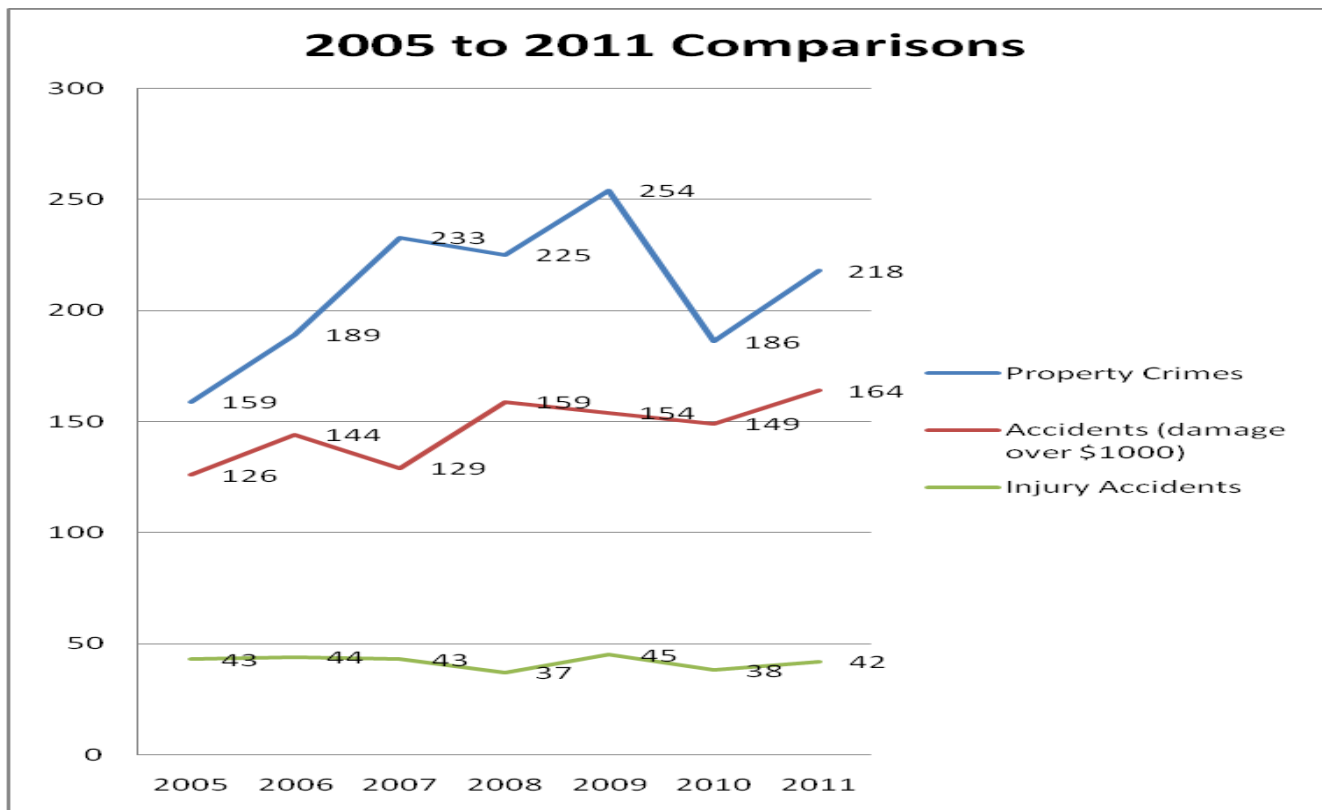


Chart Numbers obtained from the Department of Transportation and the Uniform Crime Reporting System.

The Village of Lake Hallie is a small police agency, yet very busy. The following are arrest and citation comparisons between 2010 and 2011. The below listed charges were made by members of the department. The criminal charges investigated and made were done so by uniformed patrol officers as the department does not have any plain clothes detectives.

It is noteworthy that the village participated in a Traffic Highway Safety Grant that reimbursed the Village \$9,740.88 in wages and an additional \$4,999.00 in equipment.

Arrests/Citations

<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>		<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	
133	171	Drivers Lic (Susp/Revoke/None)	65	54	Operate while Intoxicated
0	101	Insurance Related Violations	440	462	Speeding
16	8	Criminal Damage to Property	62	53	Vehicle Registrations
54	31	Drinking/Tavern (underage) Offenses	26	54	Warrant/Probation/Parole Arrest
78	54	Miscellaneous Traffic Citations	25	23	Other Ordinance Violations
135	118	Battery/Disorderly/Resisting/Obstruct	48	64	Theft of Property/Vehicle
11	8	Burglary/Robbery/Trespass	8	17	Financial Crimes
38	42	Drug Related Arrests	45	24	Too Fast/Inattentive/Too Close
60	72	Failure to Obey Sign/Signal	13	5	Sexual Assault/Child Crimes
70	108	Child/Seatbelt Violations	15	7	Reckless/Disorderly Driving
12	13	Hit and Run/ Failure to Notify	53	40	Other Criminal Violations
Total – 1,407			1,529		

<u>Written Traffic Warnings:</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>Issued Parking Citations:</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
	849	778		139	243

The village maintains a patrol fleet of 5 vehicles. The primary patrol vehicle currently used is the Ford Crown Victoria. Our marked patrol vehicles are Titanium Gray with red, white and blue reflective decals. We also have one unmarked Chevy Trail Blazer which is 4 wheel drive. While all 5 vehicles are rarely used at one time, quite often vehicles may be needed for multiple tasks at any given time. Those tasks in addition to patrol duties include, court, training, following up to investigations, and when vehicles break down.

<u>Squad Mileage</u>	<u>End of 2011</u>	<u>Miles in 2010</u>	<u>Miles in 2011</u>
2004 Trailblazer	102,435	5,913	6,819
2005 Marked Crown Vic (05)	143,920	6,798	Out of Service
2007 Marked Crown Vic (07)	102,590	17,082	21,245
2008 Marked Crown Vic (08)	81,694	27,063	21,030
2010 Marked Crown Vic (09)	61,285	27,273	34,012
2010 Marked Crown Vic (10)	31,006	12,174	18,832
Miles Patrolled Total		96,303	101,938

Noteworthy Activities during 2011

1. The Traffic Stop Data Collection started on January 1, 2011. It had been a requirement that data is collected on all traffic stops. Specific responsibilities were placed on Law Enforcement agencies. With our agency issuing 1,314 ordinance citations and 849 written warnings in 2010 we were anticipating 10 extra hours will need to be absorbed by clerical staff (Gina and Betty). The State cancelled the Collection Program in June 2011.
2. The department has ordered 400 uniform patches, anticipating a 2 to 3 year supply so as to save the Village .34 per patch or \$136.00 overall.
3. The department had the Digital Ally Squad Recorder “upgraded”. This was the squad recorder that was acquired free in September of 2009. The unit uses compact disks to record data. The “upgrade” of the unit cost \$200.00. The upgrade allowed more recorded time on fewer disks for a lower cost. We can now purchase two disks for what it cost for one disk and hold 4 times more information for the same original cost.
4. The State of Wisconsin annual reimbursement for Officer Training was in the amount of \$1,800.00.
5. Badges – The department has purchased 38 “Village of Lake Hallie” uniform badges replacing the “Town of Hallie” uniform badge. Many of the old “Hallie” badges were in poor shape. The total costs of the new badges were \$2,375.00 to be shared with the officers.
6. The lower ball joints and outer tie rods as well as other repairs on the 2004 Trailblazer needed to be repaired at a cost of \$626.92. The gas mileage has been averaging at 11.73mpg over the past 9 months. This makes the gas mileage cost to operate the Trailblazer very similar to that of a full size Crown Vic patrol vehicle.
7. E85 versus Regular gas mileage comparisons. For the past 9 months the department tracked the gas consumption of two identical squad cars. Both patrol squads are 2010 Ford Crown Victoria’s assigned primarily to night shifts. The comparisons are as follows.

	<u>Unit 9 (E85)</u>	<u>Unit 10 (Regular Gas)</u>
Miles driven	25,146 miles	15,231 miles
Gallons used	2,277.5 gallons	1,288.4 gallons
Miles per gallons	11.04 mpg (E85)	11.82 mpg (Reg)

At the time E85 Gasoline was priced on average about .50 to .61 cents per gallon less than regular gas. The Village saved an estimate of \$11.00 last month by running E85 in squad 09.

Since making the changes in our fuel accounts so as to receive the “Federal Gas Tax Credit” and contracting Holiday Station “rebates” the Village police department has achieved \$1,858.97 in savings over the past 12 months.

8. Body Armor vests were purchased by the department for full-time officers Dan Sokup and Travis Hakes. By contract agreement, the Village purchases a replacement vest every 5 years (guarantee life expectancy of vests). The vests purchased are as follows:
 - One Gator Hawk Lite X IIIa vest (model# 063AM5)
 - Two vest carriers for that vest.
 - One front pocket and one soft trauma plate.
 - Cost \$695.00 per package.

The department used a grant to cover 50% of the base cost of each vest for a total amount returned to the Village of \$1,392.00.

9. In November of 2010, the Village was approved for a grant to assist with the outfitting of two squad cars with computers. The Village received reimbursement for two Panasonic Toughbook lap tops, printers, vehicle docking stations and installation supplies in 2011. The reimbursement check was in the amount of \$6,969.00.
10. A new policy was enacted requiring the use of Body Armor by officers who received Grant funded Body Armor was put in place.
11. A traffic Laser was purchased from Pittsville Police for a total cost of \$1,739.00, retail cost is \$2,995.00. The total cost of the laser is reimbursed by a highway traffic enforcement grant that allows our department to purchase up to \$5,000.00 in equipment.
12. Letters of Commendation have been given to Officer Ryan Kringle and Officer Tim Bowman for professionally handling an arrest and subsequent trial. Officer Travis Hakes also received a letter for his involvement with a family who suffered a loss in a fire.
13. Police Department Office Survey – Number of visitors & Phone Calls that occurred during regular office hours (8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.)

<i>MONTH</i>	<i>VISITORS</i>	<i>PHONE CALLS</i>	<i>TOTAL CONTACTS</i>
January	168	518	686
February	117	392	509
March	226	489	715
April	185	406	591
<i>FOUR MONTH</i>			
<i>TOTAL</i>	<u>696</u>	<u>1805</u>	<u>2501</u>
<i>AVERAGE MONTH</i>	<u>174</u>	<u>451.25</u>	<u>625.25</u>

14. The Village Police Department received a Body Armor donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 from an anonymous source. The donors indicated that the funds “cannot be used as substitute/replacement for other monies already budgeted or planned”.

15. The Police Commission has hired two Reserve Officers. Hired was William Pech, Firefighter/Paramedic with the Chippewa Fire District and Miranda Jerdee of Cameron. Both have 60 + credits of schooling.
16. Gas Prices – The department obtained a reduced rate of 4.5 cents per gallon when purchasing gas at the Holiday gas stations and 3 cents a gallon from Kwik Trip.
17. As part of the Highway Safety Grant, the department purchased and has received our third new “Moving” RADAR unit. The unit’s purchased price was \$2,312.50 and was paid for entirely with grant money.
18. A second “Stationary” RADAR unit was ordered (cost \$970.00) through the Highway Safety Grant. When that RADAR was delivered we received an upgraded model that was in fact a “Moving” RADAR unit. I contacted the company and explained the mistake. They in turn informed me that according to the company policy of delivery promises our department was to keep the upgraded unit valued at \$1,700.00.
19. Patrol Rifle Project – The acquiring of the two patrol rifles and related equipment and supplies as approved is complete. Lauer Manufacturing finalized the process with the \$1,420.00 donation to the department for a rifle, sighting system, mounts, and sling as well as ammo.
20. Part-time Officer Dave Peck resigned on Monday August 29, 2011. Officer Peck was first employed on February 17, 2010. He is currently a deputy working full-time in the Eau Claire County Jail.
21. Wal-Mart Grant – The department received a \$500.00 grant from Wal-Mart for the purchase of evidence supplies. Sgt. Taylor applied for and received this grant so that the department may upgrade evidence packaging supplies. The single most significant improvement will be the acquiring of “Heat Sealing” equipment and supplies.
22. On August 26, 2011, Officer Dan Sokup was assigned to a temporary (one month) position created to investigate burglaries that had occurred in the Village. The Police Department does not normally have a dedicated detective position. This position was created with the support of the Village Board after 36 reported burglaries occurred since the first of the year. Part-time officers were used to fill Officer Sokup’s regular patrol shifts. Officer Sokup worked primarily focusing on the investigations of those burglaries. A total of six persons were charged from those investigations. According to the Uniform Crime Report, the 5 year nationwide burglary clearance average is 13% while the State of Wisconsin has a 16% clearance rate. Lake Hallie despite having a temporary recent upsurge in burglaries has a 2011 current clearance rate of 27%.
23. Evidence Room Updates – Sgt Taylor and Dick Pahl were able to update the functionality of our evidence room for a relatively low cost. The work space was reorganized and used cabinets and a used freezer were purchased. A counter top was purchased on sale and installed. The larger freezer was necessary due to the retention requirements of keeping DNA evidence. While the Evidence Room is still tight the more efficient use of space allows better access to supplies. Smaller evidence items will now be able to be packaged and processed in the evidence room as opposed to the conference room and interview room. The cost of the upgrading was about \$300.00.

24. On Friday October 7, 2011 Officer Ryan Kringle age 34, resigned from the Lake Hallie Police Department. Officer Kringle was first employed on 12-17-98 as a part-time officer when Lake Hallie was the Town of Hallie. He was promoted to a full-time officer on 03-11-01.
25. In March 2011 Jacob A. Whitehorn, age 19 was arrested by the Lake Hallie Police for drug related violations. It was determined that Mr. Whitehorn used his van for the sale of drugs. The Chippewa County Court awarded Mr. Whitehorn's 1998 Ford Windstar Van to the lake Hallie Police Department. The vehicle has been used primarily for Animal Enforcement by the department.
26. Drug Money Seized – Honorable Judge Roderick A. Cameron ordered on November 1, 2011 that the amount of \$1,017.00 was to be forfeited and retained by the Lake Hallie Police. This money was originally seized from Casey M. Vokal age 22 when he was arrested by the Police Department for drug related violations. Originally \$2,183.00 was seized from Mr. Vokal however it was ordered that Court Cost (\$730.00) and money paid to the school fund (\$436.00) be distributed first.
27. Evidence Room - The evidence room project was completed by Sgt Ken Taylor and Officer Jeremiah Rathke. Both officers, along with assistance of Dick Pahl and Clerk Gina Stokke were tasked with utilizing existing space to accomplish department goals. The large stockpile of evidence, new requirements on the retention of evidence (including electronic and DNA) were some of the major obstacles to be overcome. While our evidence storage and processing is still in need of a larger area, we now have a superior system established that can address our current needs. The time that was taken to accomplish this task was a direct result of the officers only being able to devote limited amount of time, due to other daily responsibilities. In the end the purchase of used items, a Wal-Mart grant, and even a donation were used to be able to organize the evidence room.
28. On November 3, 2011 Police Clerk Betty Colins was on duty and remotely monitoring a person who was being detained at the police department as part of a medical commitment. Upon doing so Betty observed the subject in the interview room starting to cause harm to their forearm with the use of a pen that they had obtained. Betty immediately notified the officer and ran down to the interview room and made contact with the subject for the purpose of intervening before any real injury could take place. The incident was recorded by the digital monitoring system that had been purchased by the Village Board and installed in early 2011. Betty has received a letter of Commendation.
29. The Village had been chosen for the third year in a row to receive a traffic safety grant in the amount of \$15,000. The intention is to encourage seat-belt enforcement over as much of the state as possible.

The Police Commission approved the employment of the following officers in 2011.

Part-time Officers

Adam Meyers (Since 10/2008)
 Michael Hudson (Since 2/2010)
 Timothy Bowman (Since 2/2010)
 Dave Peck (2/2010 to 8/20011)
 Shannon Becker (Since 5/2010)
 Samuel Eaton (Part-time 12/10, Reserve Officer 2/2010)
 Miranda Jerdee (Part-time 10/11, Reserve Officer 7/2011)

Reserve Officers Nick Gray (12/10) William Pech (8/11)

Auxiliary Officer Mitch Bowe (2010 summer intern, made Auxiliary 10/10)

Intern Spencer Prestebak (2011 Summer Intern)

Current Full-time Staffing in 2011 of the Village of Lake Hallie Police Department

Chief Cal Smokowicz
 Sergeant Ken Taylor
 Corporal David Prokopinski
 Officer Ryan Kringle
 Officer Jeremiah Rathke
 Officer Dan Sokup
 Officer Travis Hakes

The following chart have been provided by the Lake Hallie Village Clerk’s Office to assist in explaining how property taxes paid are distributed.

**Out of \$1.00 of tax money
 This is how the money is distributed**



State of Wisconsin	\$0.01
Chippewa Valley Technical College	\$0.10
Village of Lake Hallie	\$0.19
Chippewa County	\$0.20
School District	\$0.50