

# 2014 Annual Report



*This Report is dedicated to K9 "Ollie"*

## Corcoran Police Department

**Chief of Police**

**Reuben P. Shortnacy**

## **Mission Statement**

*To provide quality law enforcement services to the community while maintaining the trust of those we serve.*

## **Vision Statement**

*To effectively work with the community to provide safe and secure neighborhoods*

## **Values**

***Integrity** - Do what is right*

***Loyalty** - To the community and to CPD*

***Teamwork** - working together*

***Accountability** - Holding ourselves responsible*

It is my pleasure to present to you the Corcoran Police Department Annual Report for 2014. This report covers the calendar year of 2014 and contains statistical information from previous years for review and comparison. I hope you find the report informative and I invite any comments and/or questions.

### **PERSONNEL/STAFFING**

As of this report we are recruiting for 3 police officer positions.

### **INVESTIGATIONS**

#### **Narcotics Task Force (NTF):**



The Kings County Narcotics Task Force initially started in 1978 under a federal grant program. Following the termination of the grant, NTF continued to operate by a formal agreement between Corcoran, Hanford and Lemoore Police Departments, Kings County Sheriff's Office and the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement. In May of 1985, the California Highway Patrol (Hanford Office) joined NTF. In 1987, the Kings County Probation Department went to a full contribution with the assignment of a Deputy Probation Officer. In 2006 the Highway Patrol was forced to discontinue their participation with the task force, due to traffic responsibilities they needed to fulfill with their limited staffing. In February of 2012, the California Department of Justice Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, discontinued with NTF as a result of cuts at DOJ.

NTF continues to operate under the direction of a multi-agency Board of Directors, which is responsible for establishing investigative priorities, policy decisions and general operating procedures of the unit. The Board is comprised of the Chief Administrator from each participating agency, as well as the District Attorney of Kings County.

Our Narcotics Task Force representative continues to work diligently on long term drug related investigations. NTF, as a whole, seized a total of over 74 million dollars' worth of drugs in 2014. Approximately \$6,670,952 of that was from Corcoran. This increase is

due to the large number of marijuana grows. The primary problem continues to be meth and marijuana.

**Gang Task Force (GTF):**



The Gang Task Force was originally formed by local law enforcement agencies in November of 1993. This was an effort to combat increasing gang problems in communities throughout Kings County. GTF operates under the direction of a multi-agency Board of Directors, which is responsible for establishing investigative priorities, policy decisions and general operating procedures of the unit. The Board is comprised of the Chief Administrator from each participating agency, as well as the District Attorney of Kings County.

In 2014 our GTF investigator completed a total of 21 Gang Enhancements, 18 gang related investigations and 32 arrests behind those investigations. GTF continues to be a key component in addressing gang crimes.

**CPD Investigations Unit:**

Our local investigations unit continues to be extremely busy. Both Investigators maintained a significant caseload. We recently pulled one investigator back to patrol due to staffing levels. During 2014 there were 16 search warrants authored. Some of the cases they have worked include identity theft, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary, attempted homicide, child molestation and rape. Detectives carried a total of 127 cases during 2014, clearing 117, an approximate 92% clearance rate.

## **K-9 Unit:**



Our K9 program began April 16, 2002. “Ollie” is our third K9 and sadly he is coming to the end of his law enforcement career. He was diagnosed with arthritis late last year and as it has progressed it is becoming too difficult for him to continue. We will be bringing a formal proposal to council for consideration of replacement.

Along with his Handler, Officer McAlister, Ollie has conducted several presentations through the year and has been active with a variety of searches. Ollie was utilized for 49 searches of vehicles, buildings and areas. In the course of those searches he alerted to 16.1 grams of methamphetamine, 40 grams of marijuana and 0.2 grams of cocaine. Ollie also alerted to 33 syringes, 5 glass smoking pipes and two digital scales. During 2014 Ollie and his handler participated in over 115 hours of training and were also certified by the California Narcotics Canine Association and the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. During 2014 Ollie was also awarded a ballistic vest through Vested Interest for K9’s, a non-profit organization whose goal is protecting line of duty canines. Ollie has been a tremendous drug detection dog and the community of Corcoran is safer because of his contribution.

## **School Resource Officer:**



Most would agree that a community's most precious asset is its children. We believe that and make their safety a priority. The SRO's presence alone is a crime deterrent on campus to include sporting events. We continue to enjoy success with our School Resource Officer (SRO) program. So much of the success of an SRO program depends on the relationship between the police department and the school district. We have enjoyed an exceptional relationship with our school district and see them as a principal partner in our joint effort to keep our students safe and in an environment that is conducive to learning. During 2014 the SRO responded to 721 Calls for Service on school campuses. When the SRO is not handling incidents at the schools he spends time working with staff on campus safety, focusing on crime prevention/community relation efforts and interacting with students in a positive environment.

### **Police Explorer Program:**



Beginning in the early 1970's, the Corcoran Police Explorer Post 1500 is open to young men and women ages 14 through 21 years of age with an interest in learning more about careers in the law enforcement field. The program provides leadership and community service opportunities. Corcoran Police Explorers are provided a combination of classroom and practical training with Ride-Alongs in police vehicles and community policing activities. Explorers develop leadership skills, respect for community members, police officers and other explorers as well as learn law enforcement protocols. In 2014 Corcoran Police Explorers had an opportunity to participate in the Kings-Tulare Police

Academy Explorer Day, Corcoran Christmas Parade, Centennial Celebration, Animal Vaccination Clinic, CHS Career Day and Relay for Life. These are but a few of the events that they have participated in. Since the program was rejuvenated in 2009 the Explorers have invested more than 4,000 hours in training and community service. These young men and women have raised over \$3,000 during 2014 to offset competition costs and costs of uniforms etc. The Explorers have participated and placed in many competitions throughout the region but most recently brought home a 1<sup>st</sup> place trophy for the 5 person tug of war at the Paso Robles Competition. The Corcoran Police Explorer Post had 19 youth participating during 2014 led by their advisors; Cpl. Eric Essman, Sgt. Bill Smith, Ofcr. Yvette Galutira, Ofcr. Curt Haug, CSO Jimmy Roark and Records/Communications Mgr. Kathy Gibson.

### Community Oriented Policing:



Our dominant philosophy continues to be that of Community Oriented Policing (C.O.P). Our primary goal and commitment is to find long-term solutions to problems in our community. Our Community Relations and Community Policing efforts go a long way towards preventing crime and solidifying partnerships with community members and groups. We participate in many events throughout the year and take advantage of

opportunities to connect with people and find common goals to keep our community safe. Citizen Ride-Alongs is a part of this effort as well. In 2014 we had a total of 46 individuals that rode with various officers.

### **Chaplain Program:**



The Chaplain Program began April 3, 2001 as an approach to meeting needs in our community. Chaplains work with law enforcement personnel on a professional level by making themselves immediately available as trained and caring professionals who can assist in times of loss, confusion, depression, or grief to people in crisis situations. The Chaplains provide this service not only to the community, but also to all department employees and their families as well.

The Chaplain Program is coordinated by department personnel and the Chaplain must be ordained or commissioned. He or she must attend specialized training for law enforcement chaplaincy.

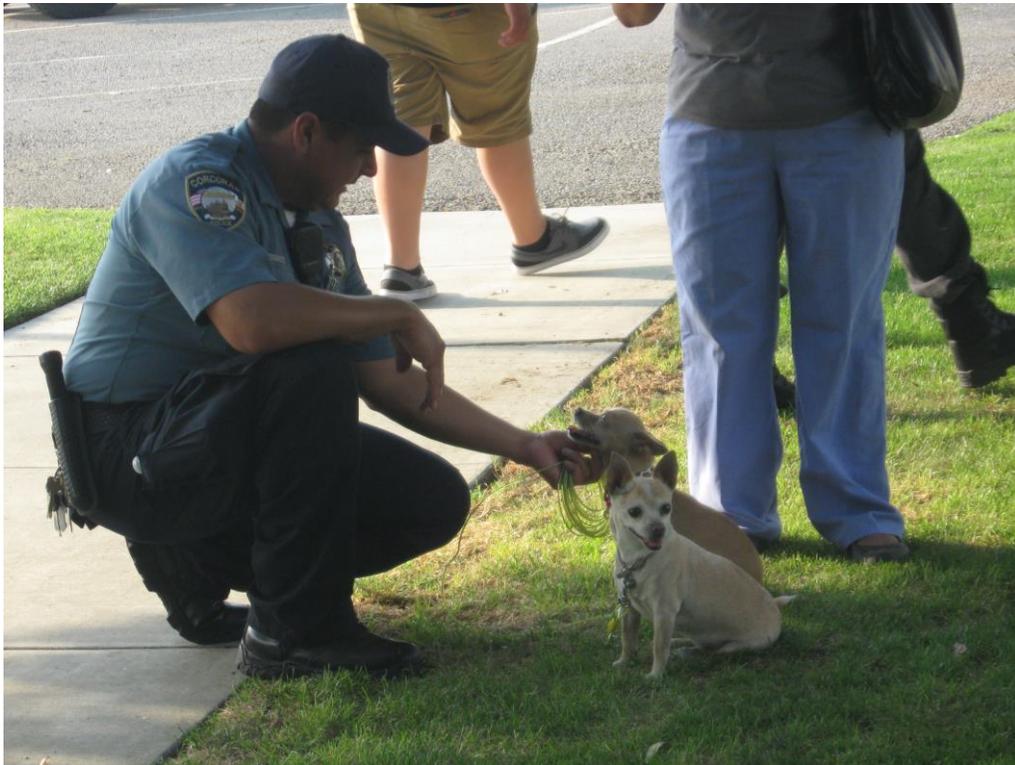
We have one volunteer Chaplain, Jason Mahill (Harvest Community Baptist Church), who participates in the program. He is provided with necessary training and resources in return for many hours of volunteer service.

The duties of the Police Chaplain may include, but are not limited to:

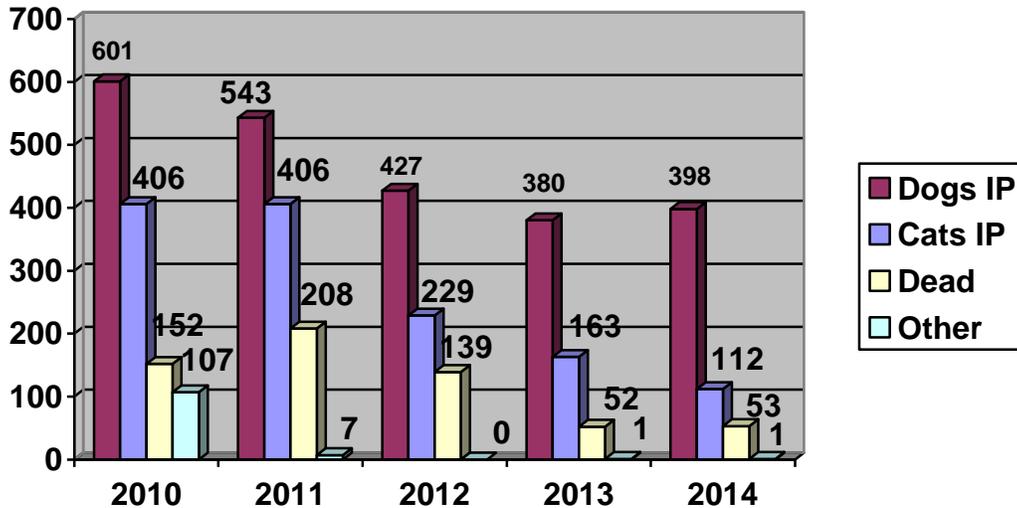
- Riding along with officers on routine patrol on various shifts.
- Accompanying a police officer to assist with notification of any death or serious injury.

- Working with police officers to assist in any kind of crisis situation where the presence of a trained chaplain might help.
- Counseling Department members in response to stress or family crisis problems.
- Visiting with sick or injured members of the Department at their home or in the hospital.
- Offering invocations at special occasions such as recruit graduations, award ceremonies and dedications of buildings, etc.
- Serving on appropriate committees.
- Act as liaison with local ministerial associations and on matters pertaining to the moral, spiritual, and religious welfare of community members and police personnel.
- Assisting the Police Department in the performance of appropriate ceremonial functions.
- Providing practical assistance to victims.

**Animal Control:**



Our Animal Control Officer continues to be very busy. He responded to 1,881 Calls for Service. He investigated 15 dog bites, issued 6 citations and issued 84 warnings. We have held clinics to make it convenient for the community to get their dogs licensed and vaccinated, one of which was held in 2014. We licensed a total of 119 dogs and many of those were vaccinated. We will continue to introduce more animal care education to the community in the coming years as well as host clinics for vaccination, licensing and “chipping.” The number of animals we impound has been significant. However, as we continue to address the problems we should continue to see an overall decline in that number. The “other” category represents animals such as coyotes, rabbits, snakes etc.



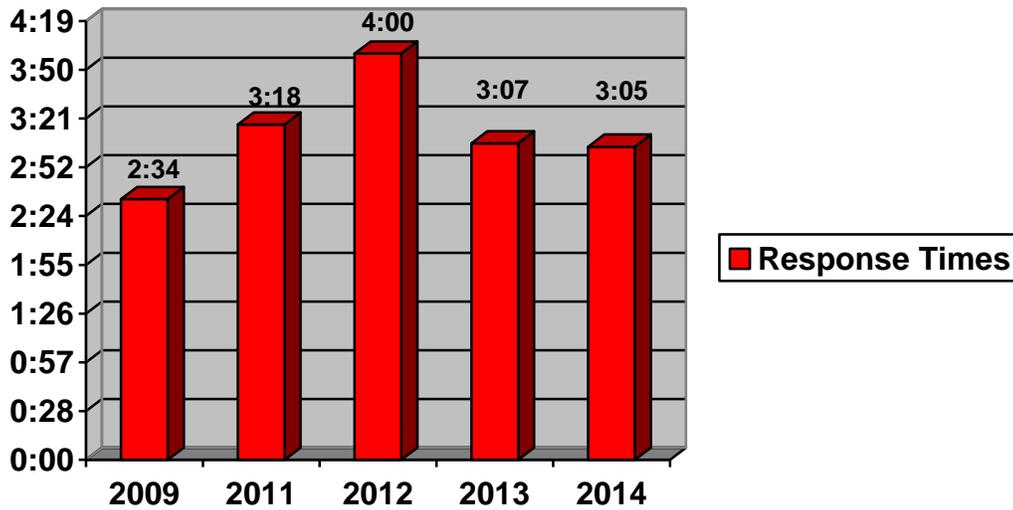
**Training:**



It is important for us to maintain our skill level and expertise in a variety of areas so that we are prepared to respond to and address any incident that may develop. The quality of the training that we receive directly impacts the quality of service that our community

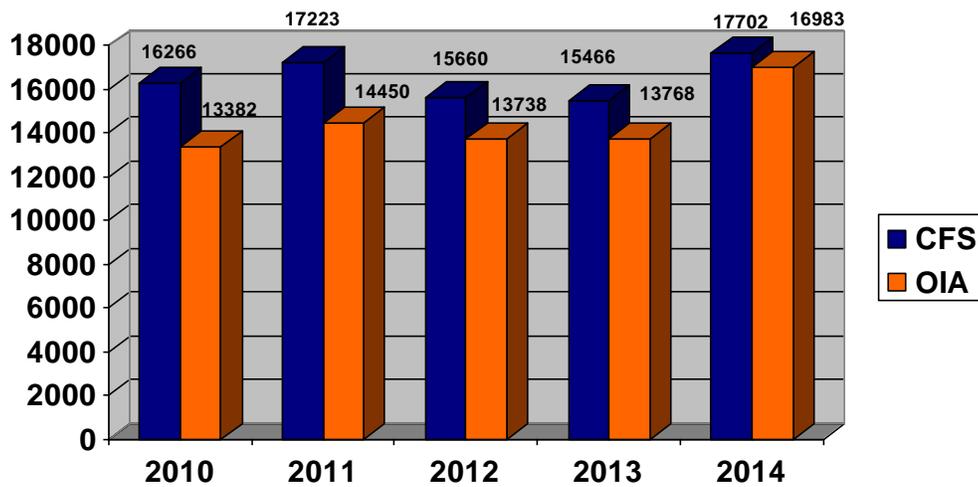
receives. During 2014 department personnel completed over 2,500 hours of training in various topics. Some of the training topics include: Interview & Interrogation, Public Records Act, Restraining & Protective Orders, Supervisory, Critical Incidents, Mental Illness Awareness, Firearms, Active Shooter, Gang Investigation and Perishable Skills.

**Response Times:**



These numbers represent an average response time for all priority-1 calls. There are a lot of things that impact this number such as staffing, call volume etc. However, we maintain a good average response time overall. Because of problems with our CAD /RMS software we were not able to collect this data for 2010.

**Calls for Service / Officer Initiated Activity:**

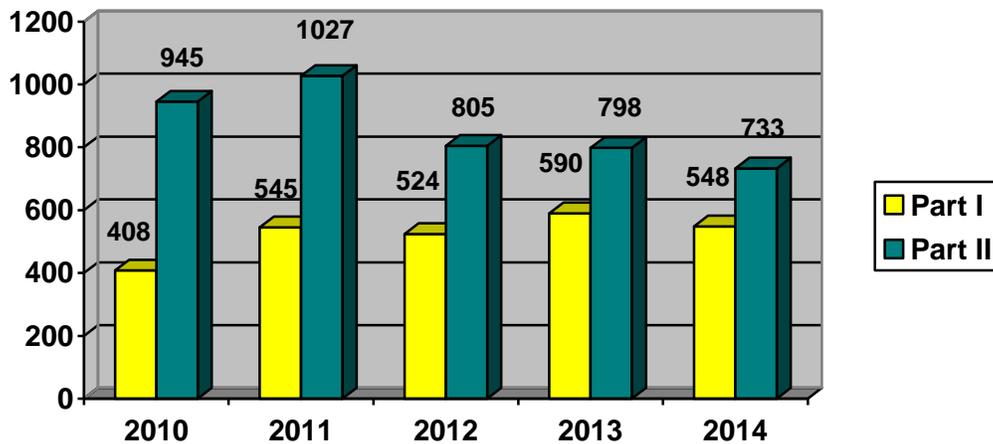


Calls for Service (CFS) over the past several years have increased steadily. Although there will be some fluctuation, these numbers will continue to increase with the impact of AB 109 and Prop 47.

### **CRIME STATS**

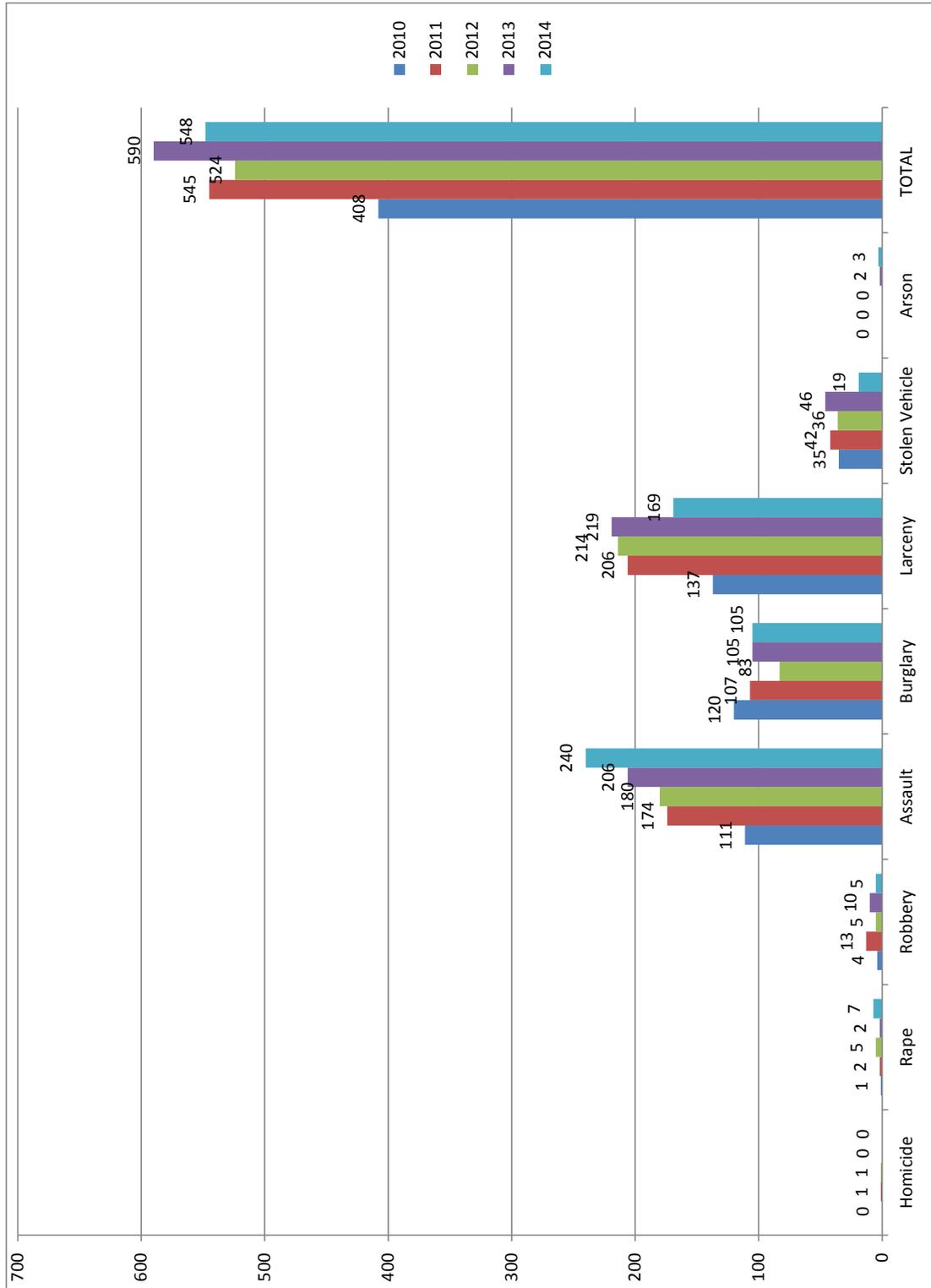
Much of our focus continues to be on Part I crimes. These are the more serious crimes and are represented in the following categories: homicide, rape, robbery, vehicle theft, burglary, assault, larceny and arson. Part II crimes are crimes such as embezzlement, vandalism etc. You can see in the illustration below that our Part I crimes have been consistent over the past few years. However, we have seen a slight drop compared to 2013. These numbers will fluctuate from time to time for a variety of reasons. There are many variables that affect this number to include staffing levels, trends etc. Although we have had much success in keeping Part I crime down overall, I anticipate that our Part I crimes and Part II crimes will increase. These categories are directly impacted by changes in the economy, AB 109 and now Prop 47. On the following page there is a chart that reflects a more detailed breakdown of Part I crime. Preventing and addressing Part I crimes will continue to be our priority, as these are the crimes that directly impact quality of life.

#### **Part I / Part II Crimes:**

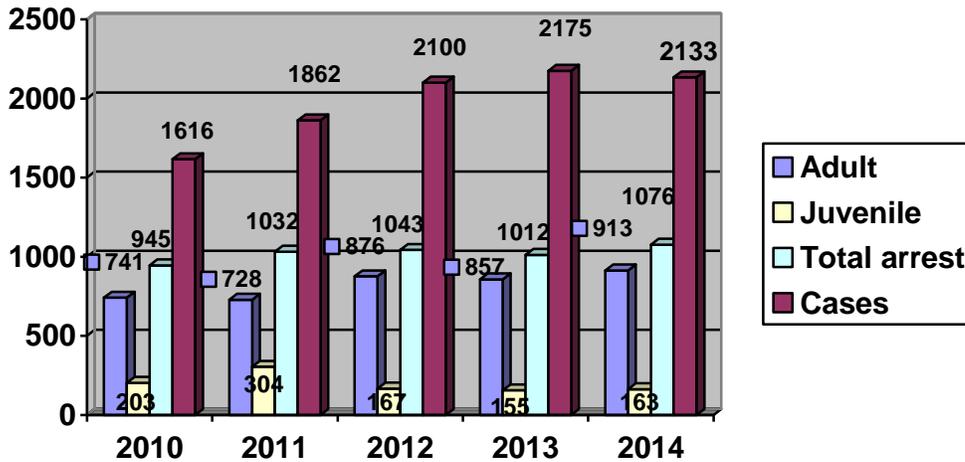


Part I crimes are the more serious crimes. These include homicide, rape, robbery, vehicle theft, burglary, serious assault, larceny and arson. Part II crimes are crimes such as embezzlement, vandalism etc. There is an 8.15% decrease in Part II crimes compared to last year. We have also been successful keeping serious crime down overall. There is a 7.12% decrease in Part I crimes compared to 2013. Although we are working hard to prevent it, I believe we will see Part I and Part II crimes increase with the impact of AB 109 and Prop 47.

**Part I Crimes detailed:**



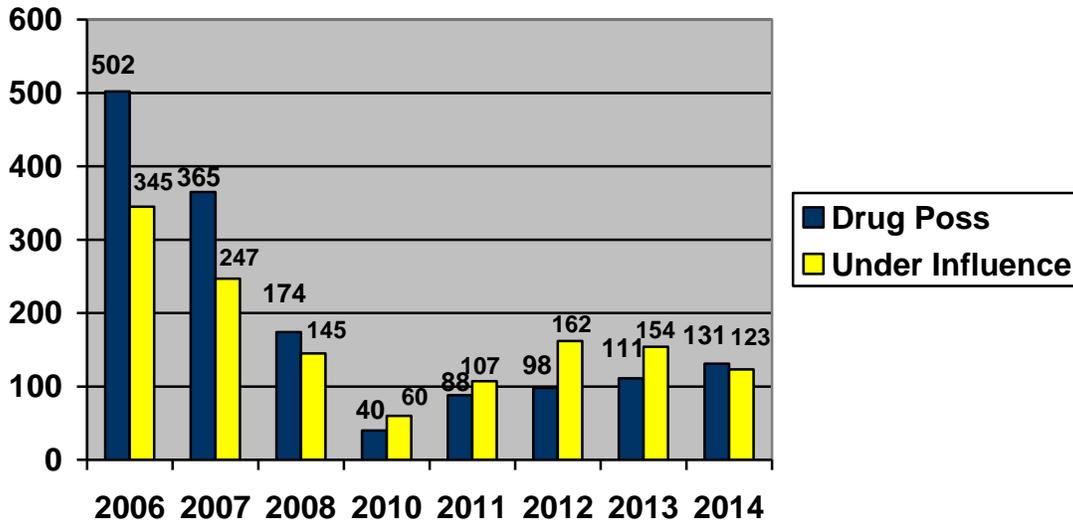
**Arrests / Cases:**



Arrests are up with a slight decrease in total cases. We will continue to see this due to AB 109 and Prop 47. A significant portion of our increase is due to a spike in assaults.

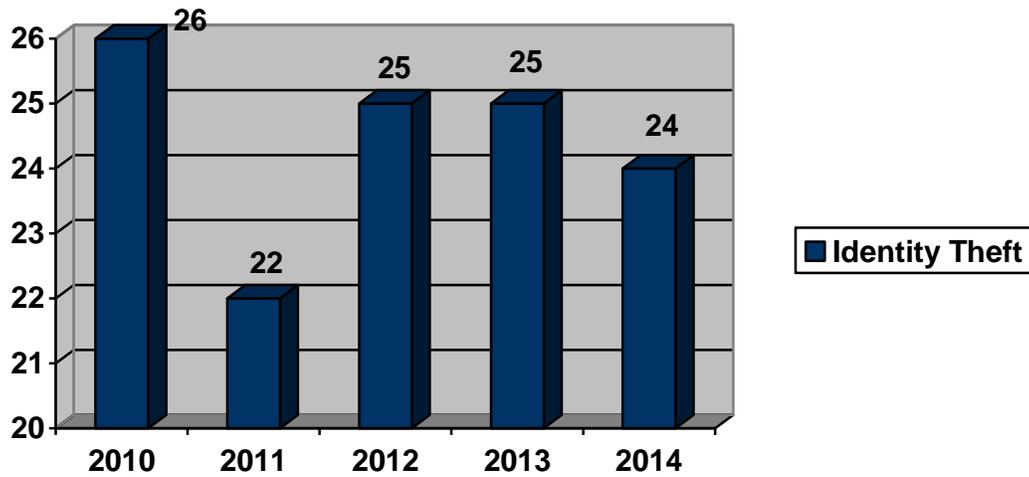
**DRUG ENFORCEMENT**

**Drug possession / under the influence of drug arrests:**



As you are aware drug interdiction has been a council and police priority. We have enjoyed a decline in drug arrests for several years. However, we have seen and will likely continue to see these cases increase over the next few years. The primary problem continues to be meth and marijuana. Prop 47 has changed the way we address some drug crimes. These changes will have an impact on our drug enforcement efforts.

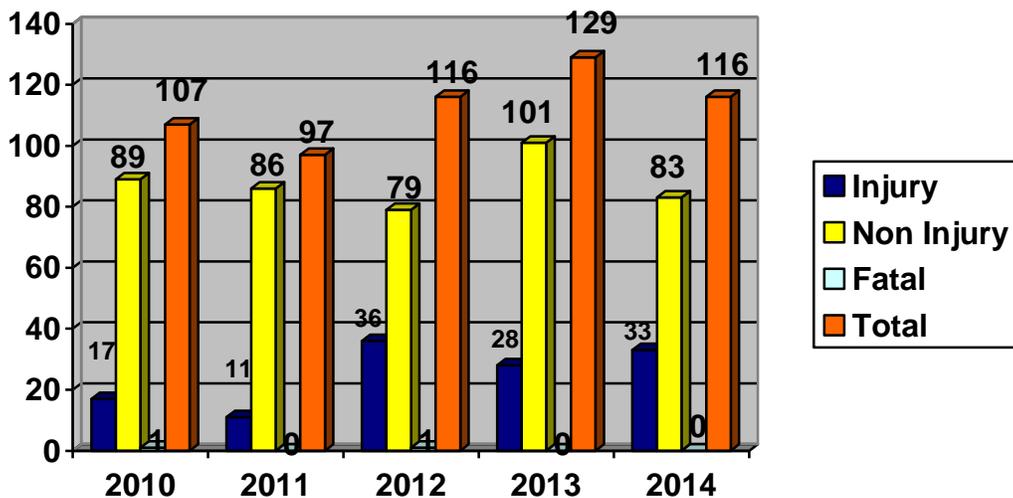
## Identity Theft



There hasn't been any significant change in the reporting of Identity Theft in the past few years. However, we will continue to track these cases separately considering the resources that are required to investigate these crimes. It isn't uncommon for detectives to work for months on these types of investigations. The impact of these crimes on victims can be significant.

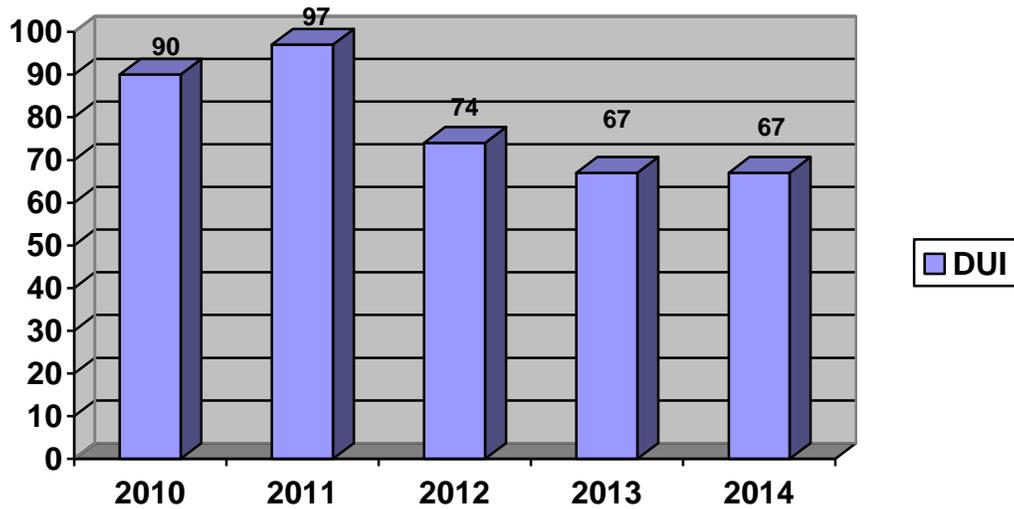
## TRAFFIC

### Traffic Accidents:



Traffic safety is consistently an area of public concern. We are sensitive to this, especially as it relates to our schools and business district and set it as a high priority. Right of Way violations are the primary cause for accidents and significant part of our enforcement efforts.

### Driving Under the Influence:



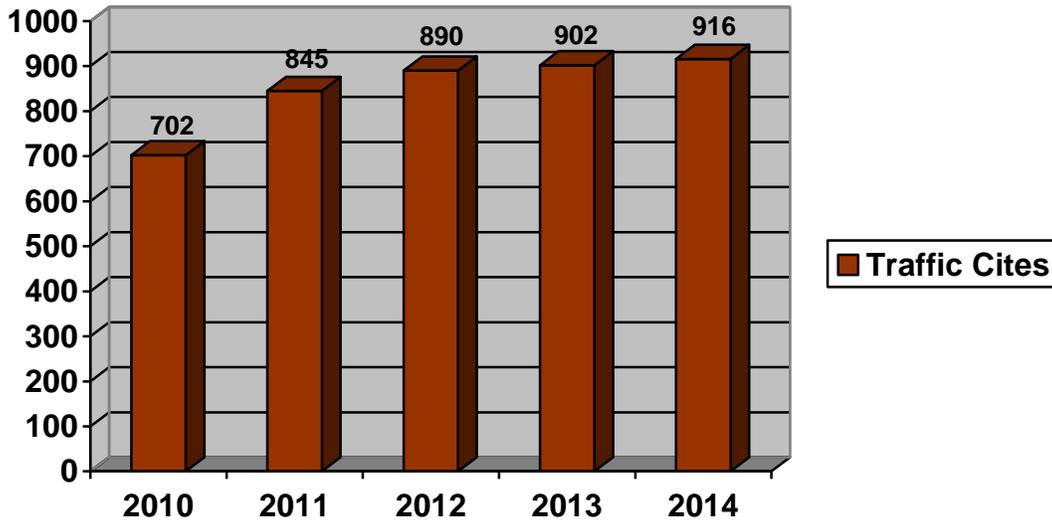
Our DUI arrests are fairly consistent. We have been a part of the “Avoid the 18 Task Force”, a DUI enforcement grant. We have conducted DUI Checkpoints and “saturation patrol” during this period and contribute the decline over the last few years to this effort. This grant will most likely be coming to an end in the next fiscal year.

#### Agencies Participating in the “Avoid the 18” Task Force

Visalia Police Department  
Porterville Police Department  
Farmersville Police Department  
Exeter Police Department  
Tulare County Sheriff’s Department  
Hanford Police Department  
Lemoore Police Department  
Avenal Police Department  
California Highway Patrol Hanford/Visalia

Tulare Police Department  
Dinuba Police Department  
Woodlake Police Department  
College of the Sequoias  
Tulare County Probation  
Kings County Sheriff’s Department  
Corcoran Police Department  
Kings County Probation

**Traffic Citations:**



We continue to address traffic issues and concerns. We are sensitive to complaints such as u-turns, speeding, loud music and right of way violations. Our goal is to keep our pedestrians and motorists safe while being responsive to traffic related complaints.

**FINAL COMMENTS**

We are facing many challenges as all law enforcement organizations are. AB 109, early prisoner release and Prop 47 are primarily the cause of these new challenges. While it is warranted to point to these things as significant contributors to changes in crime trends and public safety in general, we will not accept that we don't have options. We will continuously look at ways to be more effective and efficient, always monitoring our environment for changes and adapting to those changes. You have our commitment that we will continue to work hard to keep Corcoran safe while constantly challenging ourselves to be better.

I would like to thank the council and the community for their continued support. I would also like to thank each of the men and women of the Corcoran Police Department for all of their hard work during the past year. On behalf of all of us, it is a pleasure to serve you.