

COMMUNITY SAFETY

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Throughout 2008, the Police Department has continued to take on more challenges in an effort to meet the service demands of the citizens of Arlington. Our mission statement of "Proactive and Proud" requires that all members of the Department promote, preserve, and deliver quality services and to ensure the safety of all members of our community. The Department operates under a community policing philosophy that encourages citizen participation in solving problems of crime, fear of crime, and quality of life issues.

Organizationally, the department is divided into operational and support functions. A Command staff of three captains assists the police chief in strategic planning, budgeting, and operation. The captains administer the Community Services Division, the Support Services Division and the Professional Standards /Accreditation Office.

The Community Services Division is responsible for Patrol operations. This division is tasked with effectively deploying all uniformed patrol personnel, including the patrol division, community services officer, traffic unit, canine unit, bicycle unit, and animal control. The patrol division's primary responsibility is to provide quality uniformed law enforcement services to the community. Not only does the patrol division answer calls for service to the community but it also performs other specific assignments. Assignments include wide-ranging quality of life issues in Arlington. Proactive assignments vary between enforcing traffic and parking laws, preserving the peace, protecting life and property, school safety, special event planning, and grants coordination. Through the analysis of crime trends and partnerships with the community, patrol officers are deployed to specific locations to maximize police resources.

The Support Services Division is responsible for supporting the Community Services Division as well as overseeing the administrative functions of the entire police department. The Division is responsible for the criminal investigation bureau, training, new officer recruitment and hiring, information systems management, firearm/hackney licensing, police scheduling, departmental fleet, building maintenance, issuance of departmental records, and E-911 dispatch functions.

The Professional Standards/ Accreditation Office is tasked with developing policies and procedures, working to maintain State Accreditation and Certification, investigating citizen complaints, and proactively addressing issues of professional standards and accountability within the department.

Like all departments in Arlington, the Police Department has been challenged by the recent reductions in resources. The department has been unable to proactively staff assignments to meet the needs of the community. As a result, it may necessitate a reassignment of and probable reduction in services provided by the

department. These reductions have already been realized in the criminal investigation bureau, traffic unit, and patrol division. These reductions will not deter the department from its core mission of providing quality policing to the citizens of Arlington.

Crime

The Arlington Police Department collects incident information using a system called the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS is an improvement over the system known as the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, (UCR). Since 1930, the FBI has administered the UCR Program using statistics supplied by law enforcement agencies across the country. At the present time, the FBI is encouraging law enforcement agencies to switch to NIBRS, which provides a more accurate reflection of crime in any given community.

The following is a summary of Part A Crimes in Arlington in 2008. Part A Crimes are crimes designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to be the most serious crimes affecting a community, they include: murder/manslaughter (and attempted murder), rape (and attempted rape), robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, arson, and motor vehicle theft. In 2008, there were at a total of 785 Part A Crimes reported in Arlington, up 1.5% from 773 reported in 2007. The increase is mainly attributed to a 293% increase in motor vehicle crimes. All other crimes, except arson, were at same levels or less than 2007.

There were no murders in Arlington in 2008. There was one murder in 2007. The perpetrator stabbed his stepfather to death. There was also an attempted murder in 2007.

Three less rapes were reported this year.

Of the fifteen robberies reported three were while the suspect(s) were masked, five were armed robberies, and seven were unarmed robberies.

Of the thirty-seven reported aggravated assaults in 2008, further investigation, found eleven of the reported assaults were to be offenses that were less serious than aggravated assault. Twelve of the assaults involved domestic violence. Weapons were used in twenty of the assaults. The most common weapon used was a shod foot.

Arlington had 165 reported burglaries in 2008, a 33% drop from last year.

Three less motor vehicles were stolen and one more incident of arson was reported. Most of the arson incidents were out door brush fires.

In 2008, there were 513 reported larcenies. The chart on the next page detail the Part A crimes for 2007 and 2008.

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Part A Crimes

Crime	2007	2008	Change
Murder/Manslaughter	1	0	-100%
Rape	6	3	-50%
Robbery	15	15	0%
Aggravated Assault	50	37	-26%
Burglary	248	165	-33.5%
Arson	15	16	6.7%
Larcenies (all)	428	513	%
Totals	763*	749	-203%

Calls for Service

The Police Department responded to 27,004 calls for service during 2008, an increase of 1,247 calls (5%) as compared to 2007. Officers filed 3,516 reports as compared to 3,448 in 2007 an increase of sixty-four reports (2%). In 2008, 269 people were arrested, a decrease of ten. Thirty-nine people were taken into protective custody. Protective custody is a statute that allows police officers to take into custody a person who, due to ingestion of alcohol, is incapacitated or a danger to himself or others. Although authority gives the police the option of taking a person to his residence or a treatment facility, the police station is often the most viable option. In 2008, 4,487 motor vehicle citations and 14,477 parking tickets were issued. Motor vehicle citations increased by 1,442 (47%) and parking tickets by 2,559 (21%) over the previous year. The Department continues increased traffic and parking enforcement to meet the growing concerns of citizens. Traffic issues continue to be one of the greatest areas of complaints to the Department.

Community Services Patrol

The Community Services (Patrol) Division responds to all emergency calls. The large portion of these calls involve services other than responding to crimes.

Emergency Calls	
Residential, Business & Municipal Alarms	1,188
Disturbance Calls	1,164
Suspicious Activity	840
Traffic Complaints	182
Animal Complaints	160

The Community Services Division also responded to 287 reports of missing persons.

Traffic

During 2008, the Police Department responded to 854 motor vehicle crashes. This is thirty-six more than 2007. Of that number, 135 involved hit and run crashes, 114 were crashes with injury, and 605 were without injury. The intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Park Avenue recorded the most crashes in 2008: fifteen crashes. Although citations and parking tickets increased, the traffic unit was hampered this year by a reduction in force in the patrol division that required the frequent re-assignment of traffic personnel to regular patrol duties. Many programs and initiatives remain incomplete due to a lack of resources to staff the traffic unit.

Activity	Activities By Month												Totals
	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Emergency Calls	2,202	1,908	1,925	2,253	2,599	2,609	2,526	2,440	2,226	2,200	2,031	2,085	27,004
Police Reports	292	237	253	290	349	346	296	364	279	288	263	260	3,516
Arrests	30	21	23	29	24	26	16	32	18	18	15	17	269
Protective Custody	7	3	1	7	4	3	1	2	2	3	4	2	39
Summons	21	14	10	23	34	27	15	27	15	14	18	12	230
Motor Vehicle Citations	279	252	232	415	508	442	395	411	407	379	473	294	4,487
Totals	2,831	2,435	2,444	3,017	3,517	3,452	3,249	3,276	2,947	2,902	2,804	2,670	35,545

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Motor Vehicle Crash Hotspots in Arlington

Location	# of Crashes
Massachusetts Avenue at Park Avenue	15
Massachusetts Avenue at Mystic Street	12
Massachusetts Avenue at Pleasant Street	9
905 Massachusetts Avenue	8
Medford Street at Mystic Valley Parkway	8
Massachusetts Avenue at Orvis Road	8
Massachusetts Avenue at Medford Street	7
1427 Massachusetts Avenue	7
Massachusetts Avenue at Mill Street	7
Massachusetts Avenue at Lake Street	7

Community Policing

The Arlington Police Department is committed to the philosophy of community policing. Community Policing is a mind set every officer in the department embraces. This philosophy involves partnering with the community to solve problems of crime, fear of crime, and quality of life issues. During 2008 the Department offered a number of community policing programs to the public designed to provide citizens with tools, information, and skills useful in solving those problems.

The summer saw the continuation of the Police Department's highly successful Youth Basketball League. Arlington Police officers volunteered their time to coach and mentor the youth in Town while providing them with a successful athletic program. Reaching out to the youth in Town has always been a goal of the Department's community policing efforts. The Department hopes that programs like this leave the youth with a positive image of police and a spirit of cooperation and friendship. Sergeant Ronald Kerr continues to run the Basketball league with assistance from Lieutenant Paul Dooley, Lieutenant Kenneth Hughes, Sergeant Daniel Kelly, Sergeant Brendon Kiernan, Officer Chad Brown, Officer Greg Flavin, Officer Bryan Gallagher, Officer Dennis Mahoney, Officer Robert Pedrini, and Officer James Smith.

Also during the summer, the Arlington Police Department in partnership with the Middlesex Sheriff's Department, and the Arlington Boys and Girls Club conducted a new program called Badges for Baseball. Badges for Baseball brings law enforcement together with youth serving organizations to help bridge the gap between officers and youths. Officers use the game of Quickball to reach the children. Quickball is an innovative program designed by the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation. Quickball is a fast paced, indoor game of baseball. The program is designed so children, regardless of degree of skill, level, can play together as a team. Captain Richard Kennefick was the representative from the Arlington Police Department in this highly successful program. This program expanded the reach of our youth and athletic program

and provided the same opportunity as the basketball league for positive interaction between police and Arlington youth.

The Department still operates its Guardian Program, which is a collaborative effort between the Police Department, the Council on Aging, and the Housing Authority. The Guardian Program is an assurance program that offers subscribers daily well being phone calls. It is designed to accommodate elders, shut-ins, and those who require well-being checks. Another program that runs throughout the year is RAD, (Rape Aggression Defense). This is a free program offered exclusively to woman that provides them with skills and self- assurance vital to surviving and escaping from physical attack. The program is coordinated by Sergeant Richard Pedrini and staffed by Officer Jennifer McGurl, Officer Gina Bassett, Officer Brandon Kindle, and Officer Michael Hogan. The Department will continue with its Summer Shape up Program, Citizens Police Academy, Public Safety Day, and partner with community groups in Town to facilitate open dialogue to address issues and challenges that affect them. For the year 2009, the Department looks to assign a police officer to the Community Services Unit to advance the Department's community policing philosophy, expand and create new programs in the community, create a Town wide neighborhood network, seek out grant opportunities, create crime prevention programs, and develop a long term strategic plan to continue to meet the needs of the community for years to come.

Animal Control

The Animal Control Officer (ACO) is responsible for enforcing the Town's By-laws relative to animals. The ACO is also responsible for inspecting and quarantining of animals. The ACO is an active member of the Metro-West Animal Control Officer Consortium. In 2008, the Town issued 1,411 dog licenses, an increase of 188 from 2007. Thirty citations for Town-By law violations were also issued.

Canine

In 2008, Officer Hogan and our K9 dog Dasty responded to almost 70 calls for service. During the year 2008, K9 Dasty was responsible for 9 felony arrests. Three of those suspects were armed and had violent encounters with officers. Another large part of K9 Dasty's job is to locate narcotics. K9 Dasty was responsible for approximately 20 narcotic and evidence recovery incidents, including locating a 357-caliber revolver used in a shooting. K9 Dasty has assisted numerous area police departments in detecting narcotics, search for missing persons, and tracking violent criminals. K9 Dasty has also conducted demonstrations for students in Arlington schools and participated in over twenty demonstrations including Town Day, where over 400 residents attended the demonstration. In May, K9 Dasty competed in the United States Police Canine Association Drug Certifica-

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tion Competition. Out of thirty-nine K9 Teams from three different states, Officer Hogan and K9 Dasty finished in first place. The team was also featured on Animal Planet's new television show, Dogs 101.



Officer Michael Hogan and K9 Dasty

Support Services

Criminal Investigation Bureau

The Arlington Detective Bureau was busy again in 2008. One of the more significant cases occurred in late April when a man kidnapped his infant son, triggering a nationwide Amber Alert. Through an exhaustive investigation, the suspect was apprehended in a hotel in Burlington. North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC), Special Weapons & Tactics Unit (SWAT) was activated and Whalen was arrested without incident. His son was safely taken by the Department of Social Services. This was a complicated investigation, which involved several local and state agencies.

Several narcotic investigations were commenced and concluded successfully during 2008. Detective Connerney and the regional drug task force arrested two illegal aliens with multiple identifications and lengthy criminal records connected with each alias. In this case, more than 50 grams of heroin were seized and, in coordination with the Arlington arrest, at the same time in Everett, a search warrant was served and more than \$10,000 in cash was recovered. Detective Connerney also developed a case where a search warrant in Menotomy Manor was served and large quantities of drugs were seized, thus shutting down a major distributor to the East Arlington community.

Arlington was plagued with numerous incidents of tagging all along the Mass. Ave. corridor during the first half of 2008. Through investigation, Detective Gallagher traced the tags to two juveniles. A search warrant was served and since the conclusion of this investigation tagging has dropped significantly.

Along with regular undercover alcohol compliance checks of licensed establishments, the Detective Bureau has conducted several undercover sting operations of massage parlors. One arrest occurred as a result of these operations and we are happy to report that all

licensed alcohol establishments are in compliance with state and local laws, rules, and regulations.

The School Resource Officer Program is in its third year, and has been a tremendous success due to the efforts of Detective Gallagher and the school administration. The Department's longtime Domestic Violence Officer, Detective Wilson, retired last year, and Detective Karen Kelley has filled that position. Detective Kelley is moving forward with a High Risk Assessment Team for Domestic Violence victims, a Teen Dating Violence program at the High School, and complete and thorough investigations into instances of Domestic Violence.

152 Firearms Permits were issued in 2008, which generated \$12,900 in fees, of which the Town received \$3,375.00.

Records

The following is a chart outlining activity in the Records Room for 2008.

Month	Citations	Parking Violations	Crashes	Hackney Licenses
January	279	1,264	50	5
February	252	1,300	53	1
March	232	1,210	42	6
April	415	1,418	48	4
May	508	1,416	76	8
June	442	1,164	52	3
July	395	1,160	34	4
August	411	995	43	3
September	407	1,117	52	5
October	379	1,278	49	3
November	473	1,036	56	3
December	294	1,119	62	4
Totals	4,487	14,477	*617	49

*The crash totals above reflect crash reports filed by police officers. The Arlington Police responded to 854 crashes in 2008.

In addition, the Records Room processes all requests for public records and police reports.

Accreditation/ Professional Standards

In March, The Massachusetts Police Accreditation voted to award state certification to the Arlington Police Department. Arlington is only the thirty-second department in Massachusetts to achieve this prestigious distinction. The achievement of this award demonstrates the department's commitment to delivering an exemplary level of police services to the community. Captain Richard Kennefick led the complex task of achieving compliance with more than 151 national law enforcement standards.

Awards

In March the Department held its annual Employee Recognition Award's Ceremony. Officer James Smith was selected as the Police Officer of the year for 2007. Smith consistently conducts himself in a professional manner and is a true leader among his peers. Always a

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team player, he is quick to volunteer whenever needed. Smith serves as a positive role model for the youth of Arlington and spends a great deal of time on and off the job in diverse mentoring and coaching roles. Chief Frederick Ryan said of him, "Officer Smith has been one of this department's greatest assets for many years. He truly epitomizes the community-policing ideal. I cannot think of any officer in the department who is more loved and respected by his peers and his community."



Officer James Smith and Chief Frederick Ryan at the Employee Recognition Award's Ceremony.

The Department also awarded six Meritorious Service Ribbons and twelve Certificate of Commendations at its Ceremony. Those officers receiving ribbons were: Sergeant Richard Pedrini, Officer Chadwick Brown, Officer Julie Brydges, Officer Chris Gallagher, and Officer Robert Pedrini. Certificates of Commendation were awarded to the following: Sergeant Richard Pedrini, Sergeant Juliann Flaherty, Sergeant Ronald Kerr, Sergeant Brandon Kiernan, Inspector James Fitzpatrick, Officer Robert Gamez, Officer Michael Flynn, Officer Chadwick Brown, Officer Gregory Flavin, Officer Michael Hogan, Officer Stephen Krepelka, and K9 Dasty.

Also awarded at the Ceremony were Civilian Awards to Dr. Kevin Fallon of the Mill Brook Animal Hospital, for his assistance in the implementation of the K9 Program. Mr. Scott Eiseman and Mr. David Hingston for their commitment to the youth in the Summer Shape Up program and to Mr. Michael McCabe, for service to the Town and its youth after thirty-six years of dedicated service to the Arlington Public School System. All were recognized for their lengthy and highly successful partnerships with the Arlington Police Department.

Retirements/Promotions/Appointments

During the past year the Arlington Police Department had several employees retire. Lieutenant Francis McKenna, a Patrol Night Commander with forty years of service, Sergeant David McNamee, a Patrol Supervisor with thirty-eight years of service, Inspector Joyce Wilson, Domestic Violence Officer with thirty-two years of service, and Dispatcher John Greeley, Lead Dispatcher

with thirty-five years of service.

In October, the Arlington Police Department made five promotions. Lieutenant Thomas Diozzi was promoted to the rank of captain and became the Commander of Support Services. Sergeant Richard Flynn was promoted to the rank of lieutenant and became the Training and Support Services Officer. Sergeant Robert Lake was promoted to lieutenant and became Officer-in-Charge of Traffic and Parking Management Unit. Both Officer Ronald Kerr and Officer Brandon Kiernan were promoted to the rank of sergeant and they were assigned as night Supervisors.



From left to right: Lt. Richard Flynn, Capt. Thomas Diozzi, Lt. Robert Lake, Sgt. Ronald Kerr, and Sgt. Brendan Kiernan

During 2008, seven recruits were appointed to the Department. Brad Chella, Bret Balnciforti, and Neil Sirmard completed twenty-two weeks of rigorous training at the MBTA Transit Police Academy. Anthony Bongiorno, Brandon Wenz, Nicholas Stotic and Michael Foley completed twenty-seven weeks at the Boston Police Academy, nationally known for its excellence. After all the recruits completed their basic training, they were given the oath of office, becoming duly sworn members of the Arlington Police Department.



Left to right: Chief Frederick Ryan, Sgt. Robert Murphy, Off. Anthony Bongiorno, Boston Police Commissioner Edward Davis, Mayor Thomas Menino, City of Boston. Boston Police Academy Graduation Ceremony November 25, 2008.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

The Arlington Fire Department will strive for excellence in the performance of duty and service to the community and the customers it serves. The Department is committed to find better ways to protect the lives and property of its citizens from the ravages of fire and other disasters and to contribute to the physical wellness of the community through emergency medical service.

Ethics and Values

Knowing that firefighters are held to a higher standard of conduct, the firefighters of the Arlington Fire Department will make every effort to uphold those standards that are entrusted to us and to take an active role in maintaining a professional image of the Fire Service through promptness, efficiency, and dedication to duty.

Communicating with the Public

The Department will serve the public with courtesy and respect, providing assistance wherever professional skills and talents are needed, and be ever vigilant in promoting awareness of fire hazards and in educating citizens of all ages.

Fire Department Role

The Arlington Fire Department continued its evolution from a strictly fire prevention and suppression organization to incorporate all hazards mitigation into its service to the community. A significant portion of time and training is spent on preparation for disasters, both man made and natural.

Through the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), which has been adopted by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the fire department is able to work seamlessly with other departments in Town to respond to and mitigate any disaster, manmade or natural. The CEMP was developed originally to respond to hazardous emergency incidents as a result of the Somerville rail yard incident in 1979, but has evolved into the all hazards plan it is today. The CEMP allows the fire department to share resources with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In 2007 the LEPC began to collaborate with other

regional communities to coordinate resources to respond to emergencies in Arlington and the surrounding communities. The Battleroad Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) was formed. The REPC consists of various representatives across a broad range of disciplines from Arlington, Lexington, Bedford, Belmont, Burlington, Brookline, and Watertown. The goal of the REPC is to get our communities working together in situations like a flood, major natural gas leak, or pandemic emergency. The REPC held its first regional exercise in January 2008. The multi-agency drill was held at BAE Systems in Lexington. The drill was a tabletop exercise with appropriate expanding scenarios used to focus the participants on specific objectives and issues related to a chemical release associated with an improvised device with mass casualties.

The Fire Department also provides pre-hospital emergency medical services (EMS), building inspections on a regular basis for code enforcement and familiarization, public education projects, training, and performs a number of related tasks including annual hose testing and hydrant inspections.

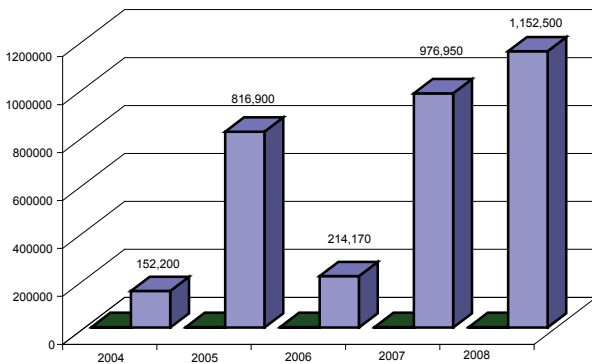
Over 60% of the calls by the fire department are for medical emergencies. Maintaining Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) status for the majority of the department is the responsibility of Deputy Chief Kevin Shaw. New equipment and techniques are consistently introduced requiring hours of additional training. Between training officer Captain James Bailey and EMS officer Deputy Chief Shaw, the challenge to maintain these services are done in house, minimizing the expense to the Arlington taxpayers.

During the year 2008 the fire department responded to 4,743 calls for assistance. This is an increase of 148 calls from 2007. Of these calls 2,416 were for medical emergencies. Reported Dollar loss for 2008 totaled \$1,152,500.

Fire Call Type	Responses		
	2006	2007	2008
Fire	111	113	98
Carbon Monoxide Activations	83	154	170
Water Hazards	75	85	77
Mutual Aid	67	54	53
Lock Out/In	93	91	104
Electrical Hazards/Down Lines	151	162	219
Motor Vehicle Accidents	107	100	100
Smoke Scares	26	144	155
Natural Gas Emergencies	131	75	60
Flammable Liquid Hazards	30	27	21
Hazardous Conditions	157	124	106
Other	170	228	246
Emergency Medicals	2,189	2,316	2,416
Medical Assists	398	354	232
Alarms Sounding	610	566	686
Total Calls for Assistance	4,398	4,593	4,743

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Estimated Dollar Loss: 2000 - 2008



Fire Prevention / Fire Investigation Unit (FIU)

Fire prevention continues to be a major focus of the Arlington Fire Department. Deputy Chief Shaw oversees that inspections by our well-trained officers and firefighters continue to make Arlington one of the most fire-safe communities in the metro Boston area. Fire prevention, combined with an aggressive interior attack by its suppression teams when necessary, accounts for these positive statistics. The amount of money saved by building owners and insurance companies through fire prevention initiatives and aggressive firefighting are impossible to calculate, but important for the Fire Prevention Division of the Arlington Fire Department issued 364 permits in the year 2008 totaling \$32,787

	Fire Permits		
	2006	2007	2008
Permits	1,062	997	364
Revenue	\$ 30,957	\$ 35,051	\$ 32,787

The Fire Investigation Unit (FIU) responds to all fires within the Town and is responsible for determining their cause and origin. A thorough investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of how a fire occurred will often prevent similar incidents from happening again.

The experience, knowledge, and continuous training of the members of the FIU, working in conjunction with the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Attorney General's Office allows for numerous resources to successfully investigate and prosecute all fire related crimes. The FIU consist of Lt Brian Gera (Team Coordinator), Lt. Robert Largenton (Training Coordinator), Capt. Michael Tierney, Lt. Ryan Melly, and Lt. Robert Paone.

The FIU was activated forty-one times this past year to investigate various incidents including, structure fires, vehicle fires, dumpster fires, and grass fires.

FIU Fire Investigations		Number	
Type	Cause	2007	2008
Structures	Accidental	8	8
Structures	Intentional	0	1
Open Field Grass	Intentional	10	10
Dumpsters	Undetermined	2	1
Motor Vehicle	Mechanical Malfunction	3	12
Appliances	Malfunction	2	3
Personal Belongings	Intentional	1	2
High School	Bath/Hall Intentional	3	4



In terms of fire prevention for the Town of Arlington public education is a key component. Without question the most influential group of citizens reached are children. The program *Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE)*, has been an extremely successful curriculum that has been presented to grammar school children since 1996. This year SAFE instructors visited middle school students as well. The theme of Fire Prevention Week in 2008 was *Prevent Home Fires!* This theme stressed the importance of the homeowner / occupant taking initiative in identifying and correcting of fire hazards in their dwelling.

The Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program (JFIP) counseled young, potential fire setters in the dangers of playing with fire. The JFIP, partnering for the sixth consecutive year with the Germaine Lawrence School, educated students who were identified as firesetters.

SAFE and JFIP are the only two programs that Arlington Firefighters volunteer to be trained in to protect and educate their community.

Training

The Training Officer is responsible for managing a comprehensive training program designed to meet the needs of all members of the Department. The primary focus of the Training Division is to promote training necessary to allow firefighters to achieve specific career goals. Firefighters are constantly evaluated and tested by the division to ensure proficiency in skills and retention of knowledge. This training includes inspections, classroom sessions, practical applications, and actual calls for service.

Every firefighter's career with the Arlington Fire Dept. begins at the Mass Fire Academy (MFA). The MFA's fire instructors hone their knowledge, ability, and instincts during a rigorous schedule of training evolutions and a challenging curriculum. All firefighters graduate with the NFPA certification of Firefighter I/II. The final result is a group of highly trained individuals prepared

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to work as firefighters in one of 3 fire stations, on one of four 24-hour shifts. This year nine Arlington firefighters graduated from the Mass Fire Academy.

The Training Division strives to offer fire service personnel complete and progressive training required to perform the job to which they are trusted; the protection of the lives and property of the citizens of Arlington. Courses have been hosted internally, bringing in Mass. Fire Academy professionals as instructors. Private sector representatives delivered training to all members of the Department. The Department EMS coordinator delivered all emergency medical service training in house.

The Training Division handles the development and delivery of all company-level drills, department-level training initiatives, as well as new recruit indoctrination and training. The Training Division is also responsible for continuing education and re-certification of EMT's. Of the nine graduates of the Mass Firefighting Academy six have successfully completed the emergency medical technician basic course. The remaining three graduates completed the emergency medical technician basic course prior to being hired by the Town.

In 2008, AFD members received regularly scheduled annual training in such areas as Cold Water / Ice Rescue, CPR, Laddering, and the Department of Transportation's EMT refresher course. Instructors, as part of the MFA's Impact series, came to Arlington and instructed members on elevator emergencies. In addition all members received certification for completing the statewide Rapid Intervention Team training module created by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council. These intensive skills based training curriculum focused on "firefighters saving firefighters". Additionally all members were trained in Autism Awareness for Firefighters. This program focused on how firefighters can recognize, respond to, and treat autistic and developmentally delayed patients. In 2008, the Department was able to obtain hands on training when its members were allowed access to 4 homes that were scheduled for demolition. The firefighters were able to practice apparatus placement, hose line advancement, forcible entry, roof ventilation, and roof operations.

EMS

The Arlington Fire Department staffs a Class 1 Rescue/Ambulance with two EMT-Basics, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Department currently has sixty-five EMT's and eleven first responders. Five of those first responders have successfully completed EMT school and are in the process of being licensed by the Department of Public Health, pending a written and practical exam.

EMS Staff			
	2006	2007	2008
EMTS	61	63	65
First Responders	13	12	11

The Department's EMS coordinator is responsible for all in house medical training, recertifications, medical supplies and keeping all EMT's and first responders updated with the latest information from the Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) and Department of Public Health. All Department EMT's have an obligation to provide pre-hospital patient care in accordance to statewide treatment protocols, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH).

The Department responded to 2416 medical emergencies. Of those emergencies, 1,129 were for advanced life support in nature and transported to the appropriate facility. Many basic life support emergencies were transported to the Departments six-area point of entry hospitals for further medical care.

Recently purchased rescue and medical equip-

Ambulance Response		
	2007	2008
Advance Life	819	1129
Basic Life	668	660
Patient Refused Assistance	641	585
Total	2,128	2,374

ment includes spinal immobilization equipment, a portable suction unit, ice rescue suits, life jackets, and reflective safety vests. The Department is still exploring the possibility of upgrading our level of medical care to Advanced Life Support.

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Accomplishments and Highlights

- A Seagrave Fire Engine was delivered in July of 2008, designated as Engine 1, and assigned to Fire Headquarters.
- In the third year of a three-year program to provide new Personal Protective Gear, 21 Firefighters were fitted for and received new personal protective equipment.
- Firehouse Software, a software package specifically geared to Fire Department report writing and record keeping was installed and the NFIRS report writing module was implemented.
- Through Capital Funding purchased and implemented 43 portable radios and 2 thermal imaging cameras for the safety of firefighters and civilians. Purchased and implemented new carbon monoxide monitors, lighter, more flexible fire hose and nozzles, and forcible entry tools to replace older, heavier equipment.
- Evaluated street fire alarm system and began plan to upgrade to a more robust wireless system for master boxes, and phasing out street boxes that are dated and expensive to maintain.

Hires / Promotions / Retirements

The Arlington Fire Department hired a total of six Firefighters in 2008. In March, Firefighters Christopher Gibbons, Terrance Hogan, and Shelley Terrizzi graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. In June, Brendan Gormley, John Shea, Brian Caggiano, James Tirico, Brian Kennedy, and Daniel Kerr were hired. The six new hires successfully completed the MFA's 12-week recruit program in September 2008. Robert Jefferson was appointed Chief of the Department

in March. In April, Firefighters Brendan Carey, James Lawson, and Alfred Sharpe were promoted to fire lieutenant, Lieutenant James Bailey was promoted to fire captain, and Captains Bernard Ryan and Kevin Shaw were promoted to deputy chief. Firefighter Richard Paolillo, Lt Robert Dustin, Lt John Norris, and Fire Chief Allen McEwen retired after years of dedicated service to the Town of Arlington. Firefighter Martin Conroy, a USMC communications specialist, was mobilized and deployed to Al Anbar Province, Iraq in September. He is expected to return in May 2009.

2009 Goals

- Continue the infrastructure improvements to Fire Headquarters and Highland stations and work with the architect and the PTBC for the rebuilding of the stations.
- Continue to provide ancillary programs such as the FIU, JFIP, Vial of Life, and SAFE within the limited resources and funding available.
- Formulate a 5 – 10 year plan related to the reorganization and structure of the Fire Department.
- Receive delivery of new fire apparatus.
- Continue to implement mandatory, standardized yearly training program for all firefighters.
- Write a comprehensive needs assessment of emergency medical service for the Town, including the feasibility of running a second ambulance and implementing Advanced Life Support units.
- Continue communication and education of residents about emergency management plans, emergency medical services, and fire suppression and prevention objectives.



Engine 1

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INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

The Inspectional Services Department is responsible for enforcement of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Building, Electrical, and Plumbing & Gas Codes, as well as all related regulations, standards and Town Bylaws. Additionally, the Inspectional Services Department implements strategic projects as assigned by the Town Manager.

Highlights and Major Projects 2008 were:

- Oversight of Menotomy Manor renovation project.
- Hawthorn Suite renovation project.
- Stop & Shop renovation project.
- Mirak Properties solar panel installation project.
- Implementation of new Massachusetts State Building Code 780 CMR 7th Edition.
- Permits were issued for 13 new single-family homes and 7 new two family homes.

In 2008, the Inspectional Services Department issued a total of 4,826 permits of which 1,415 were Building permits, 995 were Plumbing permits, 956 were Gas permits and 1,350 were Wiring permits. Total fees collected by the Inspectional Services Department in 2008 were \$ 1,027,913.79 with an estimated construction value of \$59,440,853

Permits Issued	2006	2007	2008
Building	1125	1162	1415
Plumbing	886	795	995
Gas	727	700	956
Wiring	982	1087	1350
Single Family Homes	11	5	13
2 Family Homes	1	2	7
Total Permits	3720	3744	4828
Fees Collected	647,981	714,047	1,027,913