



Police Department

2015 Annual Report

Presented to: Mayor Pingalore, Belle Plaine City Council members, City Administrator Holly Kreft and the citizens of Belle Plaine.

Mayor
Mike Pingalore

2015 Council Members

Cary Coop

Gary Trost

Henry Pressley Jr.

Paul Chard

City Administrator
Holly Kreft

Index

Chief's Message	Page 3
Operational Chart	Page 4
Personnel Roster	Page 5
Calendar of Events	Page 6
Programs Update	Page 7
Calls for Service	Page 10
Calls for Service-Location	Page 11
Crime Statistics	Page 13
Non-Criminal Activity /	Page 14
Traffic Statistics	Page 15
Community Notification Programs	Page 16
Calls for Service Trends / Conclusion	Page 17

Chief's Message

I started my employment as your Chief of Police on February 11th, 2010. I looked forward to working in the City of Belle Plaine as this is a community that I can proudly call my home. Although I have several years left in my career, after 25+ years in law enforcement, I appreciate the opportunity to serve and protect my "home town".

Notable changes were made in response to calls and investigations. Officers were told on Day 1 that we, as a Police Department, would treat people as we would want to be treated, and provide a professional level of service that Belle Plaine deserves. I believe we have succeeded in our mission to keep the City of Belle Plaine a safe place in which to work and live and to contribute to the high quality of life that our residents enjoy. We continue to strive for excellence in performance of our duties while serving the citizens of Belle Plaine.

Police Officers are called upon to do many things. Responding to medical emergencies, investigating crime, traffic enforcement, providing traffic control and security at local events and engaging with the citizens to solve problems are all important functions of the police department. But, we do many things that go unnoticed. I have been contacted by many citizens this year to thank the Police Department for response to their needs on a call, or spending the extra time with them during difficult times. This is the type of service that we pride ourselves on. Taking the time to listen to concerns and addressing safety issues of the community is paramount to the way we do business in a professional manner.

Burglary calls showed a marked decrease in 2015 compared to prior years. Successful investigation and prosecution resulted in clearance of these crimes. I also am a firm believer that successful follow up investigation, charging and prosecution of our criminal cases is important in preventing future criminal activity. If goals are measured, this is one we are very proud of. We were pleased to be named the 4th safest community in the State of Minnesota. Sitting as Executive Director of the South West Metro Drug Task Force for 2015, attending monthly Chiefs of Police meetings, promoting safety messages in person and on our Facebook page, along with volunteering to worthy causes will continue to be important aspects of building a professional brand and image.

The Police Department again wrote more warnings versus citations in 2015, as was the case in 2014, 2013 and 2012. Traffic enforcement is an important aspect of Law Enforcement. Besides handling numerous calls for service, Officers continue to actively patrol and enforce laws and ordinances to keep the roadways safe.

All events, including St. Patrick's Day, German Days, Bar-B-Q Days, Belle Plaine Chamber Half-Marathon, National Night Out and others, went well this year. Calls for service always increase during the public events, but no major problems or issues arose during any event.

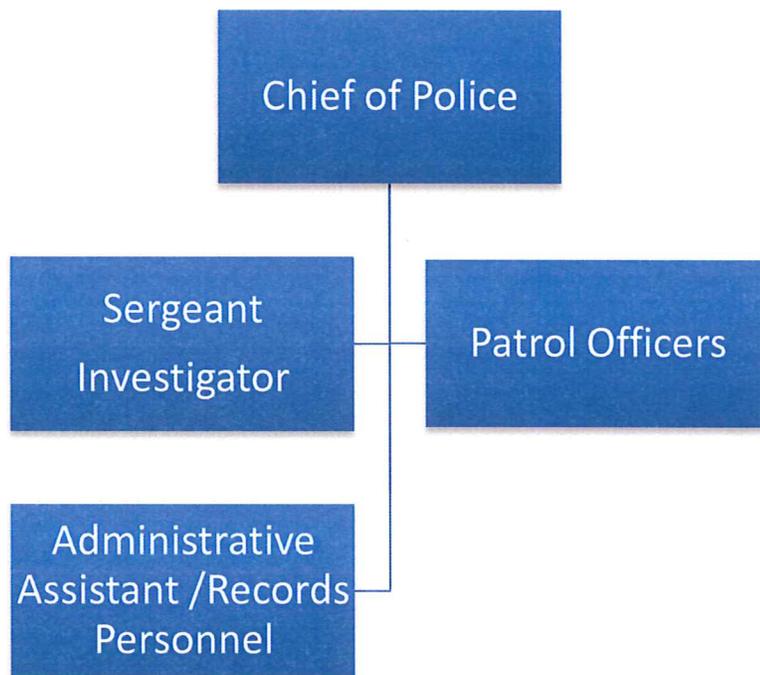
We look forward to serving our residents and providing a professional public safety organization in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

*Thomas N. Stolee
Chief of Police*

BELLE PLAINE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Operational Chart 2015



Belle Plaine Police Department

Personnel Roster for 2015

Full-Time Staff:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Begin Service Date:</u>
Thomas Stolee	Chief of Police	February 11 th , 2010 1992-2002 (Prior years of service with B.P.P.D.)
Matt Brandt	Patrol Officer	June 2 nd , 2003
Terry Stier	Investigator /Sergeant	October 21 st , 2004
Dave Weckman	Patrol Officer	May 9 th , 2005
Brian Vycital	Patrol Officer/S.R.O.	January 1 st , 2006
Mickey Semantel	Patrol Officer	May 26 th , 2011
Ben Pederson	Patrol Officer	April 4 th , 2013
Jared Tveitbakk	Patrol Officer	July 11 th , 2013
Kris Moloney	Patrol Officer	February 9 th , 2014

Part-Time Staff:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Begin Service Date:</u>
Jeff Koslowski	Patrol Officer	July 10 th , 2003
Nick Vendel	Patrol Officer	February 18 th , 2014
Sterling Cayer	Patrol Officer	July 6 th , 2015
Anthony Woldsnes	Patrol Officer	July 6 th , 2015
William Vendel	Patrol Officer	August 3 rd , 2015
John Gulden	Patrol Officer	August 3 rd , 2015

Personnel:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Begin Service Date:</u>
Lori Latzke	Administrative Assistant	March 14 th , 2005
Nicole Jensen	Administrative Assistant	May 19 th , 2014



Belle Plaine Police Department

2015 CALENDER OF EVENTS			
January			July
Predatory Offender Checks			Bar-B-Q Days
Department Meeting			Predatory Offender Checks
Public Safety Committee			Public Safety Committee
February			Department Meeting
BCA video review			August
Public Safety Committee			National Night Out
March			Public Safety Committee
St. Patrick's Day Celebration			First Responder Training
Public Safety Committee			September
City Wide Clean Up			Use of Force Training
April			Public Safety Committee
Evidence Room Cleaning			Taser Training
Assist w/ Ironman event			October
Emergency Management / Policy Review			Firearms Qualification
May			Chamber Halloween Event
Spring-clean up-cars-forfeiture			Public Safety Committee
Mock Crash			Chamber Half-Marathon Event
Prom / School events			November
D.A.R.E. Graduation /Picnic/ Walk-Run			Public Safety Committee
Blood Bourne Pathogens Training			Law Update Training
Advanced Driving Training			
			December
June			Public Safety Committee
POST licenses due			Snowmobile Training/ update
German Days			Toys for Tots



Belle Plaine Police Department

PROGRAMS UPDATE :

The duties of a Belle Plaine Police Officer are much more than driving around, stopping cars, and responding to calls for service. Crime Prevention and public relations are high priorities that are accomplished through programs and assignments. These programs are essential in our goal to provide quality police services in our community.

School Resource Officer / D.A.R.E. Instructor:

Officer Brian Vycital taught the D.A.R.E. program to elementary students in 2015. Officer Vycital also conducted several safety talks within the Elementary and High School. Officer Vycital continues to teach D.A.R.E. in the schools, assisting with traffic control before and after school hours and assists in handling calls that come into the office requiring Law Enforcement intervention. Being a former D.A.R.E. instructor, I believe in this program and the philosophy of the Schools, Parents and Police working together to make a difference in the life of our children. Officer Vycital has brought new programs and ideas for school safety to the school district, such as a new NetSmartz internet safety presentation. While change is sometimes difficult, we benefit from having a good working relationship with our schools.

Predatory Offender Registration / Tracking:

The State of Minnesota requires that we register and track sex offenders living in our community. Offenders are assigned a "threat level" of either I, II or III. Level III is the most likely to re-offend while level I is the least likely to re-offend. Officer Matt Brandt handles the Predatory Offender Registration and Tracking Program for the police department.

Use of Force / Taser Instructor:

Each year, officers from the Department are required by the Minnesota P.O.S.T. Board to attend a Use of Force and Taser refresher class. Officer Dave Weckman is the departments Use of Force and Taser Instructor. Officer Weckman provides professional training and development in this important aspect of our jobs.

Firearms Instructor:

Additionally, officers are required by the Minnesota P.O.S.T. Board to complete a Firearms Qualification Class. Officer Matt Brandt is the department's Firearms Instructor. Officer Brandt attended the firearms instructor class in 2010. Officer Brandt has shown dedication and has brought proficiency and training to a higher level for all officers.

Belle Plaine Police Department

E.C.F.E. Demonstration:

In May, we set aside a day for the children involved in the E.C.F.E. program to visit the Police Department. It is an opportunity for the children to see the inside of a squad car, see the lights and hear the siren, see what is on an officer's belt and tour the police department. The purpose of the visit is to help them understand that Police Officers are their friends and they can come to us any time that they need help. The Belle Plaine Fire Department and Ridgeview Ambulance Service assist in showing the children their vehicles, as well as teaching them about their jobs and duties to keep Belle Plaine safe as well. We also have numerous tours of the police department throughout the year by various groups and schools.

Bar-B-Q Days / St. Patrick's Day / German Days, Chamber Marathon and Halloween Events, along with Other Planned Events...

Throughout the year, the police department is called upon to provide traffic control and security at public events. The attendance for each seems to grow each year which goes hand in hand with additional planning and staffing for each event.



National Night Out:

The Police Department coordinated its annual National Night Out event on Tuesday August 4th, 2015. National Night out is designed too:

- Heighten drug and crime prevention awareness.
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs.
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships ;and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Administrative Assistants Lori Latzke and Nicole Jensen and Sgt. Stier have taken ownership and have done a great job with the National Night Out program coordination. Several events were hosted within the City of Belle Plaine, with each being well attended.

Belle Plaine Police Department

Field Training Officer:

Newly hired Full-time or Part-time Officers must complete their Field Training Program prior to being certified for solo performance. All Officers have stepped up their involvement in this program to ensure success of newly hired part-time officers.



Crime Prevention:

Officer Kris Moloney is our newly state certified Crime Prevention Officer. He actively is developing programs in this area to keep Belle Plaine safe. Chief Stolee is a state certified crime prevention officer and appreciates all this position has to offer the citizens of Belle Plaine.

Other Programs:

The Belle Plaine Police Department also assists with many other programs and safety talks throughout the year. Several safety related talks are done within the schools as well as the community each year including Bullying, Crime related information, Scams and Identity Theft along with many other topics.

The Police Department also offers vehicle lock-outs, house checks (for residents whom are away or on vacation).

Several Boy Scout, Girl Scout, Cub Scout and school groups have completed tours of the police department and squad cars, along with safety talks provided by an officer.

Officers also continue to work with programs in the community, such as (F.I.S.H.), Special Olympics Chili Cook Off, Polar Plunge, Shop With A Cop, Families Moving Forward, Coffee with a Cop, etc.. Programs that assist the public and help the citizens of Belle Plaine are important to us. Toys for Tots was a huge success with Officers Semantel and Vycital taking ownership of this meaningful program.



Belle Plaine Police Department



Towards Zero Deaths / Operation Night-Cap:

The Belle Plaine Police Department continues to participate in grant funded programs that include initiatives from Toward Zero Deaths and Night-Cap programs which focus on D.W.I.'s, speed, seatbelt and child restraint violations.

High visibility events with officers from other agencies working with each other during these details have made an impact for 2015. Public Service Announcements, media campaigns and the .08 limit has made some change, but active enforcement against those who choose to drink and drive is the most effective for combating the fight to lower alcohol related crashes and fatalities.

The 10 deadliest counties for the State of Minnesota are as follows: (From 2014 statistics)

1. *Hennepin*
2. *Anoka*
3. *Ramsey*
4. *St. Louis*
5. *Dakota*
6. *Stearns*
7. *Otter Tail*
8. *Olmsted*
9. *Itasca*
10. *Scott*

Belle Plaine Police Department

CALLS FOR SERVICE



Source of Calls for Service:	2015 Yearly Total:	2014 Yearly Total:	2013 Yearly Total:
Telephone (non-emergency) :	2392	2103	1908
Belle Plaine Police Dept.:	*New Statistic coding 34	*New Statistic coding	90
Officer Initiated	835	917	972
Dispatch /911:	861	748	913
In Person:	356	350	326
Mail /Fax:	344	316	348
Officer at scene:	*1	*311	24
Total	4823	4745	4581

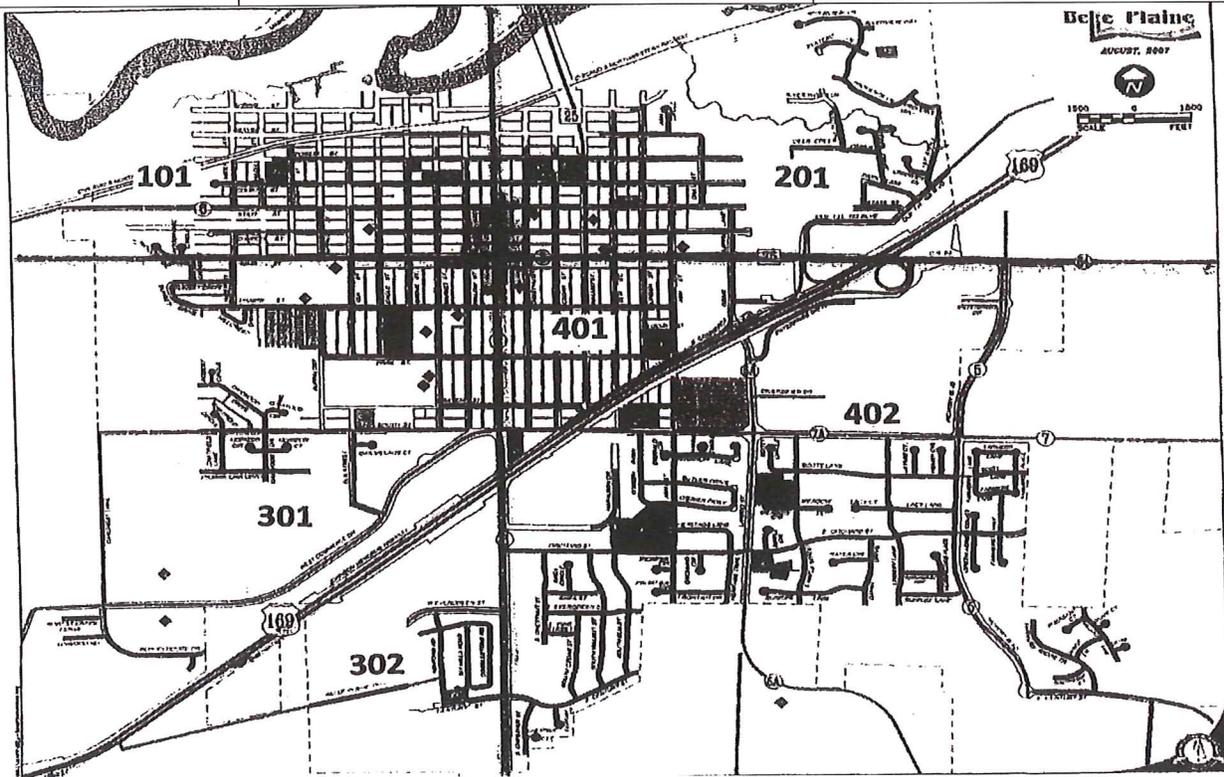
Lori Latzke and Nicole Jensen continue to be very active with the amount of calls, paperwork and individuals that come into the police department on a daily basis.

With the increase in calls for service come the integral responsibility of processing cases, permits, dog licenses, firearms permits and several other tracking and miscellaneous duties and day to day expectations. Managing the front area, office and records aspect of the police department with efficiency and professionalism is a vital part of keeping the behind the scenes paper process, data entry and customer service running smoothly. Both have continued to keep the department upfront and on task with great success.

Belle Plaine Police Department

Calls for Service-- Location:

Activity by Location Grid #	Grid Location Description	Yearly Total
101	NW quadrant located N. of Main Street	615
201	NE quadrant located N. of Main Street	1407
301	SW quadrant located N. of Hwy. 169	719
302	SW quadrant located S. of Hwy. 169	59
401	SE quadrant located N. of Hwy. 169	669
402	SE quadrant located S. of Hwy. 169	1008
	Outside City Limits (Assists to Other Depts.)	346



29% of the incidents have occurred in Section 201 in 2015. The majority of activity in this area is due to business and the Police Department (direct reporting) being located in this area. This includes public assists and information received. Section 402 had the 2nd largest call volume with 21% with a mix of residential and business populated in this section.

Belle Plaine Police Department

CRIME STATISTICS:

Total Criminal Activity:

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	2015 YEARLY TOTAL	2014 YEARLY TOTAL	2013 YEARLY TOTAL	2012 YEARLY TOTAL
Assault	34	34	24	45
Burglary	7	21	5	4
Damage to Property	67	67	56	42
DWI	28	29	27	43
Disorderly Conduct	12	12	4	12
Drug Offenses Arrests	33	35	24	47
Family Offenses	0	4	6	3
Fraud/Forgery	16	10	11	9
Criminal Sexual Conduct	11	7	8	4
Obstructing	29	13	20	33
Theft	82	82	82	105
Criminal Fire	0	1	1	5
Alcohol Offenses	11	7	11	27
Harassment /Harassing calls	3	1	7	19
M.V. Stolen or Tampered with	8	4	4	3



Belle Plaine Police Department

NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY:

NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	2015 Yearly TOTAL	2014 Yearly TOTAL	2013 YEARLY TOTAL	2012 YEARLY TOTAL
Alarms	178	117	114	99
Animal Complaints	186	191	110	155
Assist Other Dept's	316	319	338	324
Background/Records Check	273	254	294	195
Assist Public	878	865	-	-
Civil Disputes	190	147	149	160
Domestics-Not physical	51	32	48	76
Gas Drive off	21	13	26	53
Lost/Found	179	120	158	202
Handgun Permits	85	78	109	114
Juvenile/Mischief	96	49	40	40
Medical Assists	327	285	309	294
Noise Complaints	50	43	48	49
Ordinance Violations	46	53	109	103
Predatory Offender Checks	38			
Motor Vehicle Accidents	62	80	71	72
Suspicion	357	302	359	379
Traffic Complaints	372	314	229	234
Vehicle Lockouts	183	175	222	190
Warrants	40	54	48	57
All Others	37	547	702	1359
	4391	4038	3483	4155

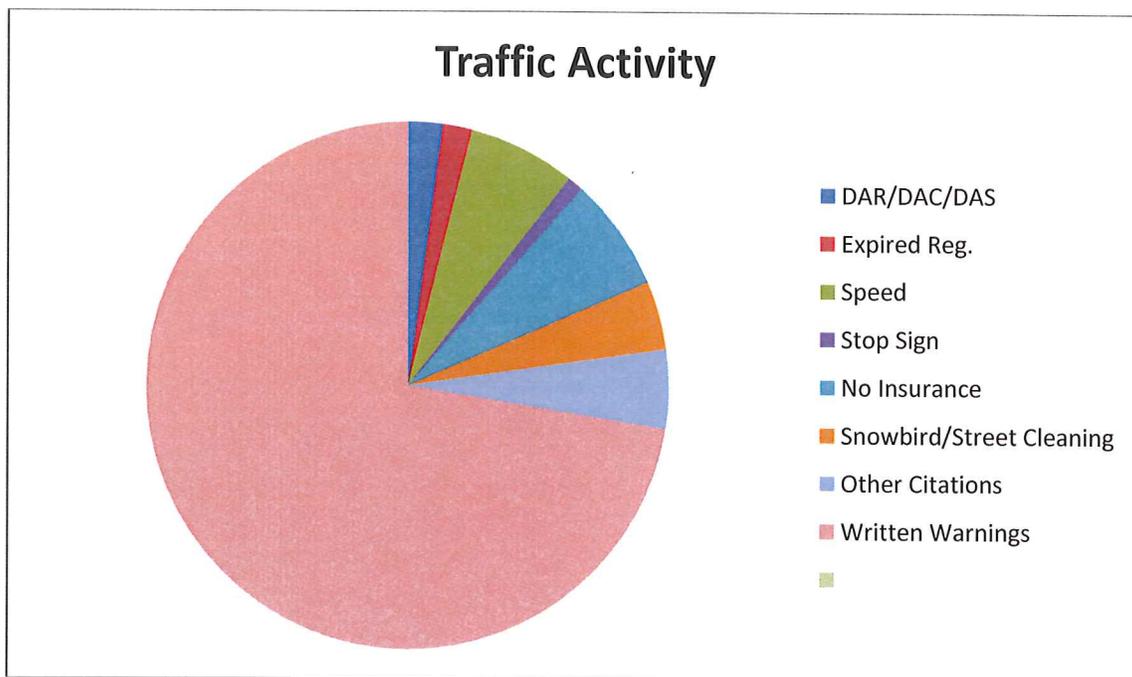
Non-Criminal Activity can be defined as calls for service or means for tracking certain areas of concern.

Belle Plaine Police Department

TRAFFIC STATISTICS



Warnings make up 72% of traffic contacts by Belle Plaine Officers. Speed is a known factor for traffic crashes resulting in an increase in deaths during an injury crash. Enforcement of speeding is essential to keeping roadways safe and death tolls down. Total traffic contacts the Belle Plaine Police Department made totaled 2,479 which include 1,789 warnings written.



Belle Plaine Police Department

COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION PROGRAMS

- ✓ NIXLE : Community Wide Notification System.
- ✓ Crime Stoppers.
- ✓ Police Department Facebook page.
- ✓ City web site.
- ✓ City newsletter "The Bridge".



The addition of two new programs offered by the Police Department in 2014 continues to be very successful. Thank you to the City Council and City Staff, including Public Works, Belle Plaine Fire, Ridgeview Ambulance, Belle Plaine School District and businesses for partnering in this effort to make our community safe through the Tiger Watch Program. Toys for Tots was well received in the community. With the over and above giving effort by many, numerous families and children had a Christmas and/or Holiday season that they didn't expect and otherwise would have gone without.



Belle Plaine Police Department

CALLS FOR SERVICE—TRENDS



We continue to see additional calls and contacts each year. The new residential construction has experienced an uptick and each new business has the potential of additional calls to our case load.

The Belle Plaine Police Department continues to see an increased call volume. This is to be expected with the increase in population (rentals) and businesses. The members of the Belle Plaine Police Department are dedicated to offering the highest quality of police service to our community. We place the greatest value on the safety and concerns of the citizens we service with the knowledge that we are accountable to those very same people. With the addition of body cameras in 2014, the Belle Plaine Police Department offered transparency within the department and clarity to the community regarding what actually transpires during each call for service or traffic stop. The body cameras were implemented in the end of May. We continue for ways to improve technology to be efficient and effective in the performance of our duties.

MOTTO:

We look to be BENEFICIAL to our community treating people like people. We take PRIDE in helping someone in need every day. We are PROFESSIONAL in our duties and we will be DILIGENT in our jobs, crime prevention, investigation and safety of our citizens. Beneficial- Pride-Professional-Diligent (B.P.P.D.) –Belle Plaine Police Department.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Impartiality, integrity, ethics and professionalism are key workings to increase community safety, protect life and property, and reduce crime and the fear of crime. To do this, the department and its individual members, both civilian and sworn, are committed to the pursuit of excellence and vow to strengthen a partnership with the community to resolve problems, and strive to improve the safety and quality of life in our city.