

Grand Island Police Department



2014 Annual Summary

Introduction

2014 was a year of continued rapid growth and change in the Grand Island Police Department. The majority of the ICMA recommendations for change in Department were completed in 2014. Ten Police Officers completed entry level training and were assigned into operations during the year and the Department's operation strength increased to 85 Police Officers. We also were able to bring our Code Enforcement Unit to full strength with eight Community Service Officers. The use of strategic policing and intelligence led policing became well established in the Department. There is still yet more to do as we move forward. This summary provides an overview of the 2014 year.

International City/County Management (ICMA) Association Public Safety Study Implementation

2014 was the third year of our four year implementation plan for recommendations adopted from the ICMA study. The Department reached new staffing levels in 2014. The new Police Officers and Community Service Officers equated to us having the resources to further implement strategic policing. Significant increases in special operations, traffic enforcement, crime prevention and code enforcement occurred in 2014.

We have implemented most of the adopted recommendations. Some recommendations will not be addressed until 2016 as planned. The Department has been providing a monthly implementation progress report since initiating the plan. We will be discontinuing the progress report as implementation is mostly completed and there is little to report on a monthly basis.

Performance Measures

The ICMA Study recommended that the Police Department develop outcome based performance measures. ICMA created six areas of measurement. Data to measure one segment of one of the performance measures is not available and was not adopted upon recommendation of the ICMA consultants. The Police Department incorporated one of the ICMA recommendations as a seventh performance measurement. 2014 was again an implementation year with most of our new resources not being operational. The 2015 year will be the first year of reporting where the Department will not be involved in major recommendation implementation. We believe we have shown progress in addressing the performance measures in 2014.

The City continues to grow and the 2014 population census estimate is 50,700 people. We have adjusted the performance objectives that are based upon population to reflect the growth. The below report is based upon a 2014 population of 50,700 people in the City.

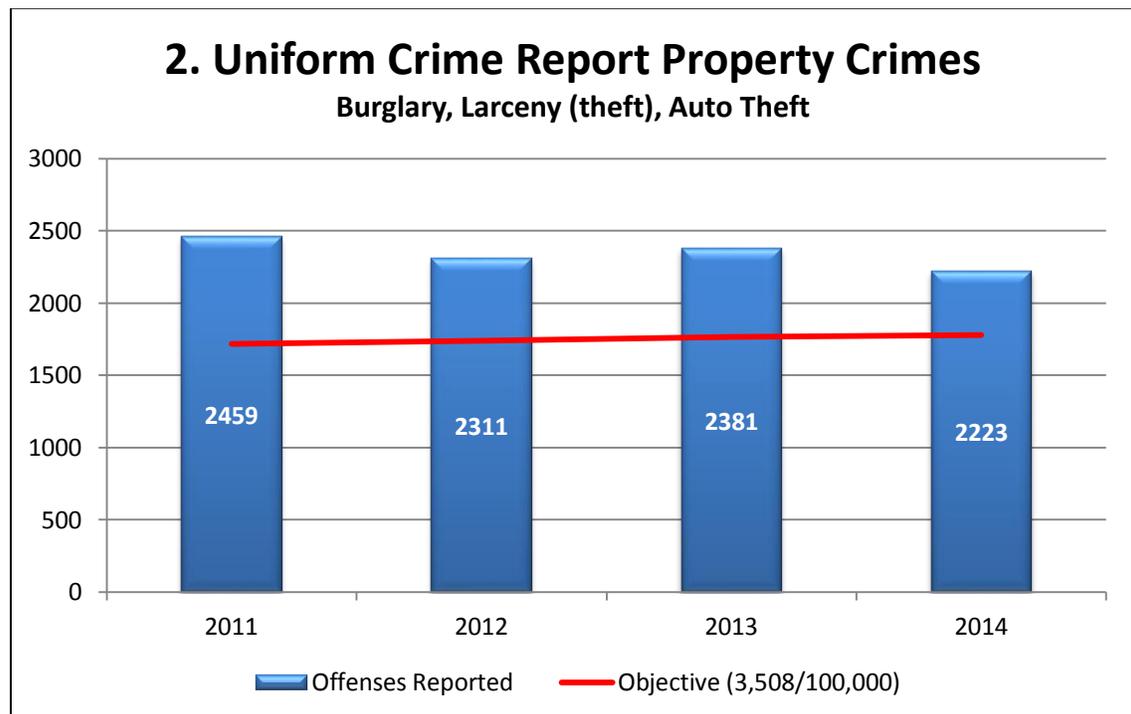
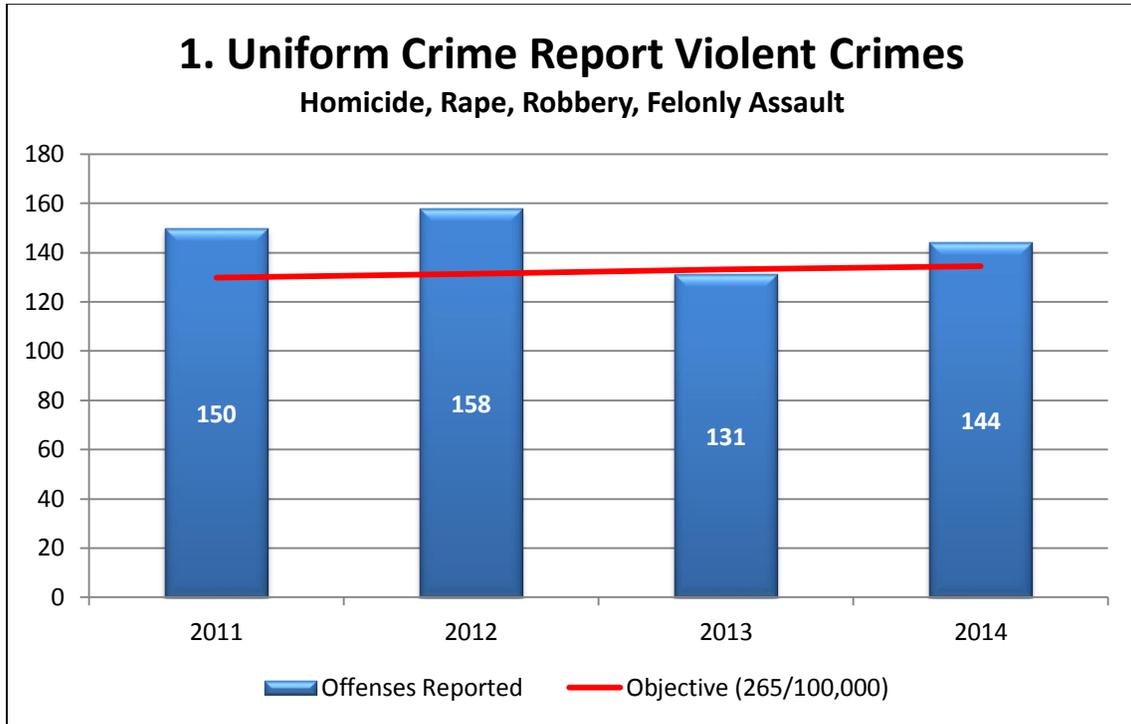
1. Reduce Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Crime Rate

Violent Crime – 134 UCR part 1 crimes/yr.

144 Reported crimes

Property Crime – 1779 UCR part 1 crimes/yr.

2223 Reported crimes



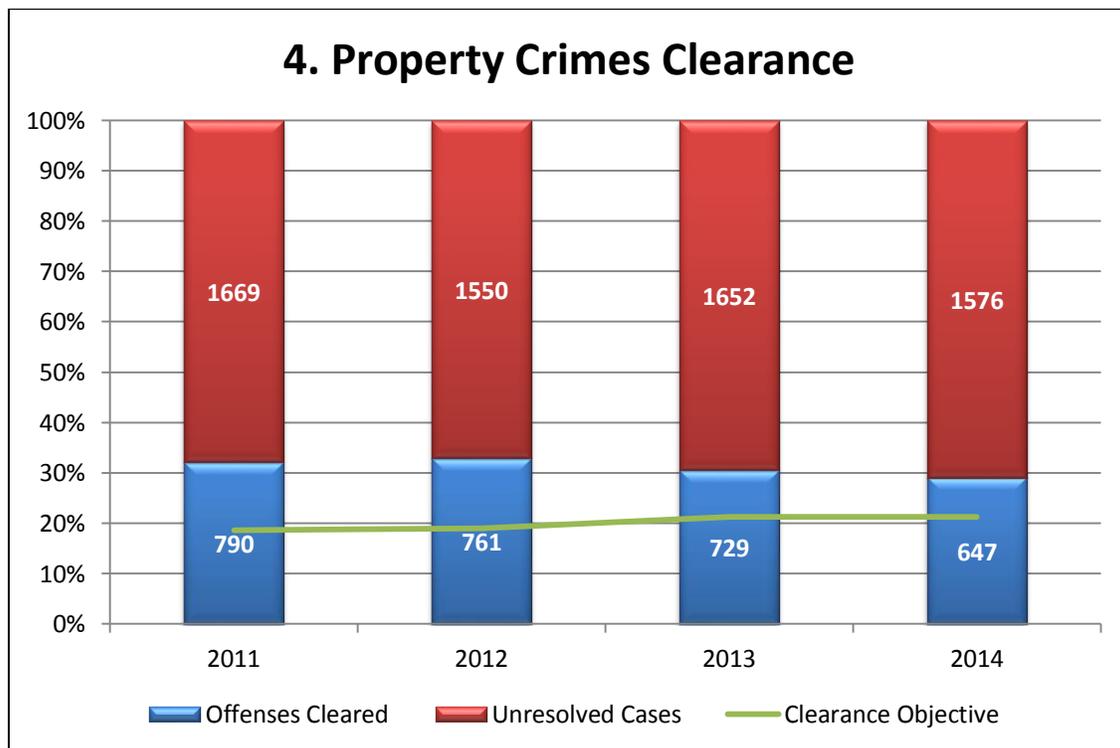
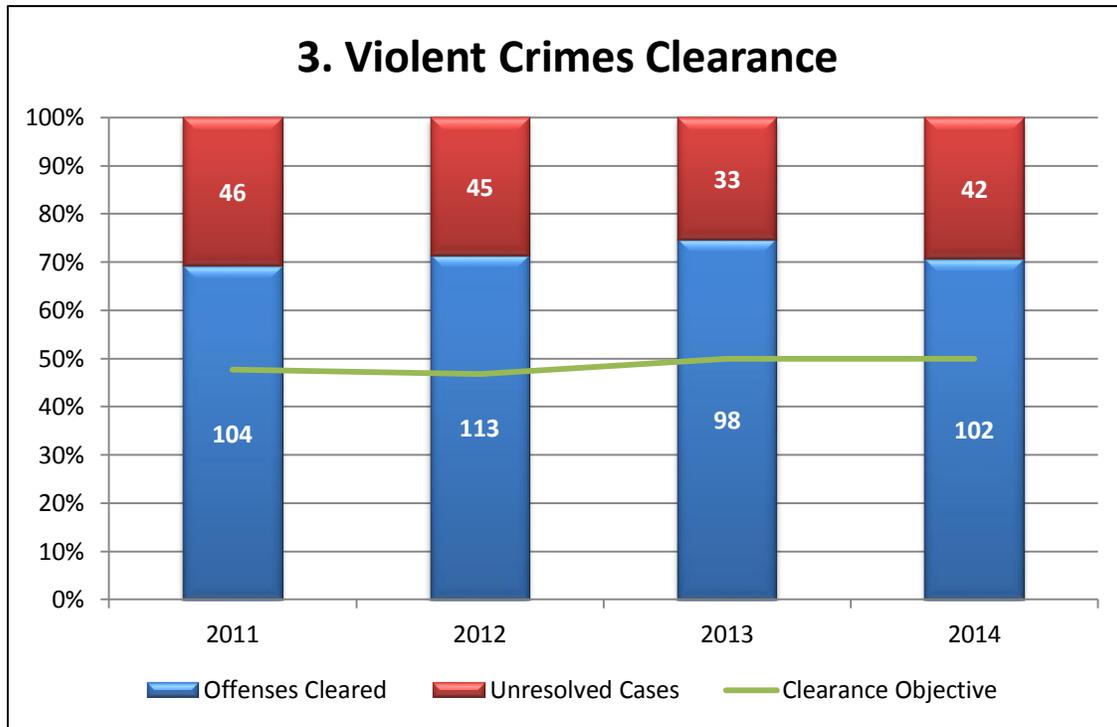
2. Hold Offenders Accountable

49.9% Clearance rate for UCR violent crime

70% violent crime clearance rate

21.3% Clearance rate for UCR property crime

29% property crime clearance rate



3. Reduce Fear of Crime

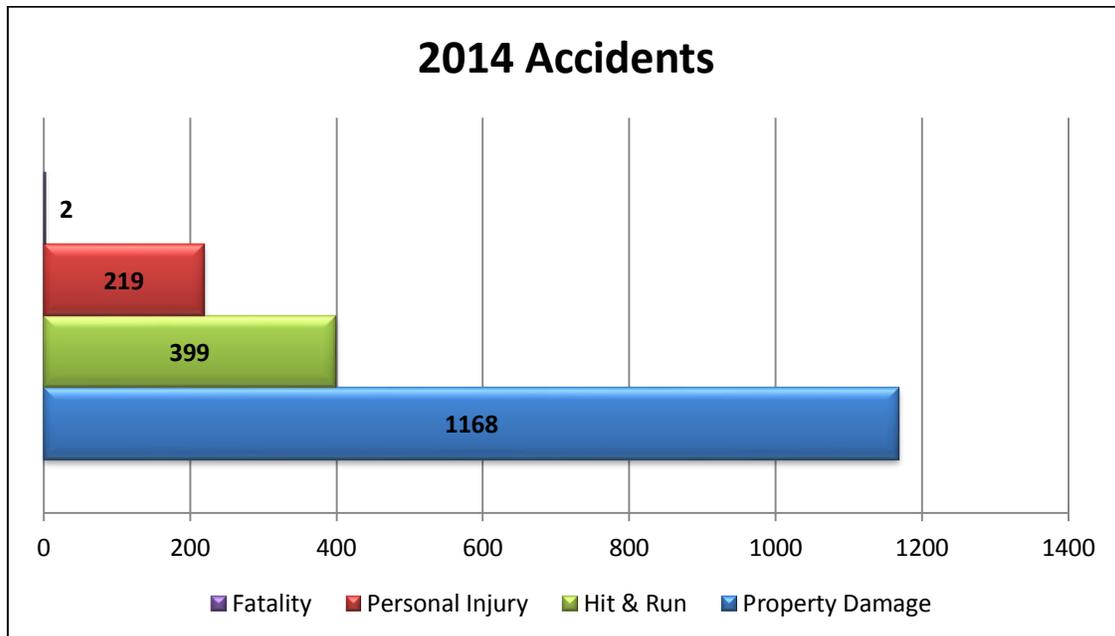
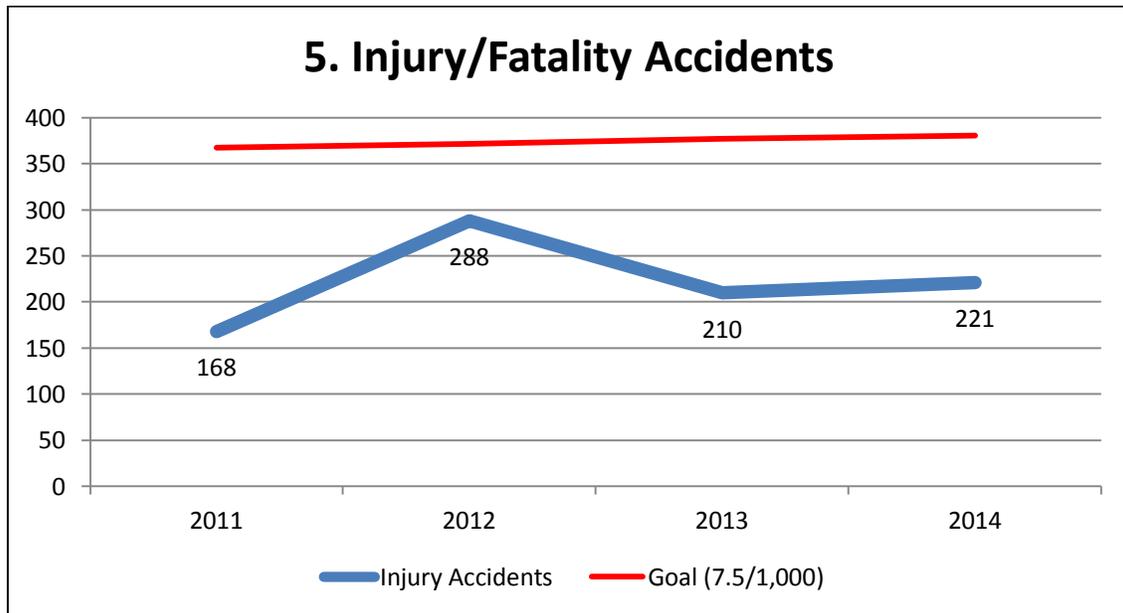
Recommend a community survey be conducted in 2016.

4. Develop Public Centered Crime Defense Program (started April of 2013)

524 crime victim contacts
75 crime prevention programs
38 media presentations

5. Maintain an injury accident rate of 7.5 per 1000 population – goal = 380 accidents

221 Injury/Fatality Accidents in 2014



*Accident data pulled from Law Incident Table data

- | | |
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| 6. Maintain a saturation index of less than 60%. | Recommend a workload analysis be conducted in 2016 |
| 7. Report clearance rate for the Criminal Investigations Division | Tier 1 – 357 cases – 98% clearance
Tier 2 – 116 cases – 71% clearance
Tier 3 – 160 cases – 54% clearance |

Tier 1 – Suspect has been named, physical evidence located.
 Tier 2 – Physical description, but no suspect, physical evidence doesn't directly lead to suspect.
 Tier 3 – No witnesses, no physical evidence, no known suspect.

Performance Measure Summary

Achievements

- Property Crime - There was a 6.6% reduction in UCR reported property crime.
- Hold Offenders Accountable - The Department's clearance rates for both Violent Crime and Property Crime held or slightly improved and are above the targeted rate of the national average.
- The Crime Prevention Unit has increased public awareness of crime and preventative measures. The Crime Prevention Unit has worked with the Patrol Division, the Department and City PIO, local media, the Chamber of Commerce, businesses and individual citizens to improve crime defense and traffic safety in Grand Island.
- The City's injury accident rate remains well below the national average of 7.5 per 1000 population. The Department has increased traffic enforcement and education efforts and works closely with the Public Works Department to improve traffic safety.
- The Criminal investigations Division has maintained very high case clearance rates that are key in our efforts to hold offenders accountable.

Concerns

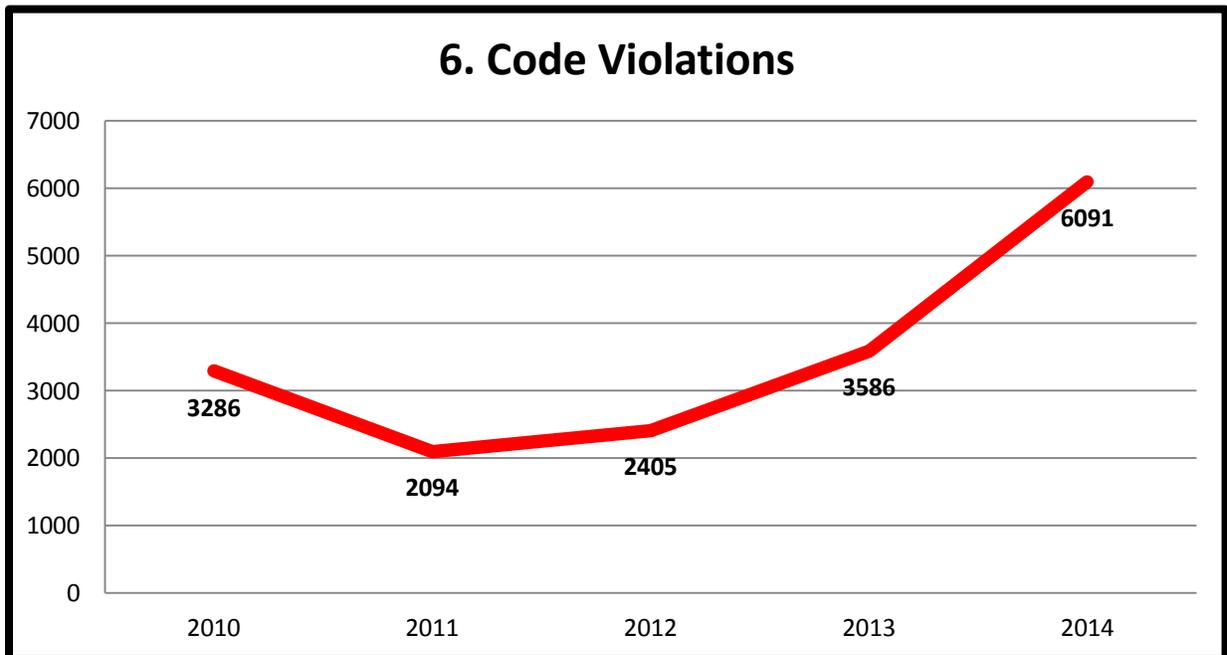
- Violent crime increased by 13 offenses and put us over our performance measure target. We will be conducting an analysis of the violent crimes to determine actions that can be taken to reduce offenses.
- There was a reduction in the number of property crimes in 2014; however, the property crime rate is still too high. We must continue to work to further reduce property crimes.
- Repeat offenders – We are identifying that a small number of people are prolific criminals and committing a large number of crimes. Our crime clearance rates are high and most of these criminals have multiple arrests. Unfortunately arrest is not a deterrent to these prolific offenders. We are observing a trend where an offender arrested for one or multiple criminal acts will return to committing more criminal acts

immediately upon release and while pending court procedures for the original crimes. In almost all cases these criminals are committing crimes to feed their drug use.

- 2014 was a year of implementation and growth. 2015 will be the first year that the Department has all of the public safety study programs and resources in place for the full year. This is one of the reasons for scheduling the measurement of two of the performance objectives for 2016. The other reason is that the ability to accurately measure both of these performance objectives will require outside resources and expertise. These are the community assessment of the fear of crime in Grand Island and the Patrol saturation index. This is a budget issue that will need to be addressed in the 2016 budget.

Quality of Life

- The below chart shows the significant increase in code enforcement in Grand Island with the addition of Community Resource Officers, CSOs to full strength. The Department increased code violation complaints by 70% over 2013. The positive impact on the quality of life in Grand Island through the work of our CSOs can be seen in our neighborhoods throughout the City. The Department is committed to working with all stakeholders to continue to improve the quality of life in Grand Island.
- There are still issues with people who refuse to comply with the City codes and correct violations. Having to file cases in the court system is cumbersome and time consuming and penalties are minimal.



Personnel

- **New Positions**

Our 87th officer was hired in 2014. We now have an operational strength of 85 officers and two officers will complete their FTO training in March which will bring us to our full sworn staffing levels. The Patrol Teams are at full strength.

The Department achieved full staffing levels with 4 full time and 4 part time operations Community Service Officers. The CSOs have increased their proactive enforcement. The Department is planning on expanding CSO services and will be working with other City departments in identifying new areas that they can assist in enforcement.

- **Restructuring**

The Department completed most of the public safety study recommendations for restructuring our organization in the past two years. We have not added a second officer to the Crime Prevention Unit and have not added an additional Investigator to the Criminal Investigations Division. These additional changes are scheduled for March of 2015 when two officers complete their FTO program and are assigned in the Patrol Division.

Technology - Operational Software and Hardware

- The Department implemented the “Mobile Forms” software package in 2014. Mobile forms provides for officers to complete reports in the field. Mobile Forms also provides a more structured reporting format that improved consistency of reported information.
- The Department, in cooperation with the State Fusion Center, is working on a project to make our records management system and our gang intelligence database available to other law enforcement agencies in the State. Part of the project is the development of new gang intelligence database software that will be an improvement over our current program.
- The Community Service Officers were issued tablets and trained to use Mobile Forms. The CSOs can now complete reports, take photos using their tablet and attach photos to the reports while in the field. This has increased productivity in the Unit.
- The Department replaced one half of our patrol fleet mobile video dash cam systems in 2014 with new units. We hope to complete the upgrade and replace the other half in 2015.