

Lincoln County Sheriff's Department  
2007 Annual Report

2007 was a very busy year for the Sheriff's Department. Our staff is enjoying a new work ethic and the statistics confirm our efforts. I am very proud of their commitment to professional excellence. There were many personnel changes as well with retirements, replacements and promotions occurring during the year. Each year, more demands are placed on the department and 2007 was no exception. The Sheriff's Department received 26,105 calls for service in 2007, almost 3,000 more than in 2006. Increased patrols and investigations led to a 22% increase in inmates booked into the jail. A 53% increase in traffic citations, 113% increase in drug related arrests and 80% increase in OWI arrests were also achieved through the hard work of our staff. Regarding revenues, in 2007 the Sheriff's Department implemented procedures to collect upon monies owed as well as bringing some of our fee's up to date. We began the collection process of more than \$600,000.00 owed by adult and juvenile offenders that had accumulated since the year 2000. Additionally, a booking fee was introduced and the department's Huber fees were increased. These efforts are being made to place more of the money burden upon users of our services and less on the law abiding taxpayers.

Sheriff Jeff Jaeger

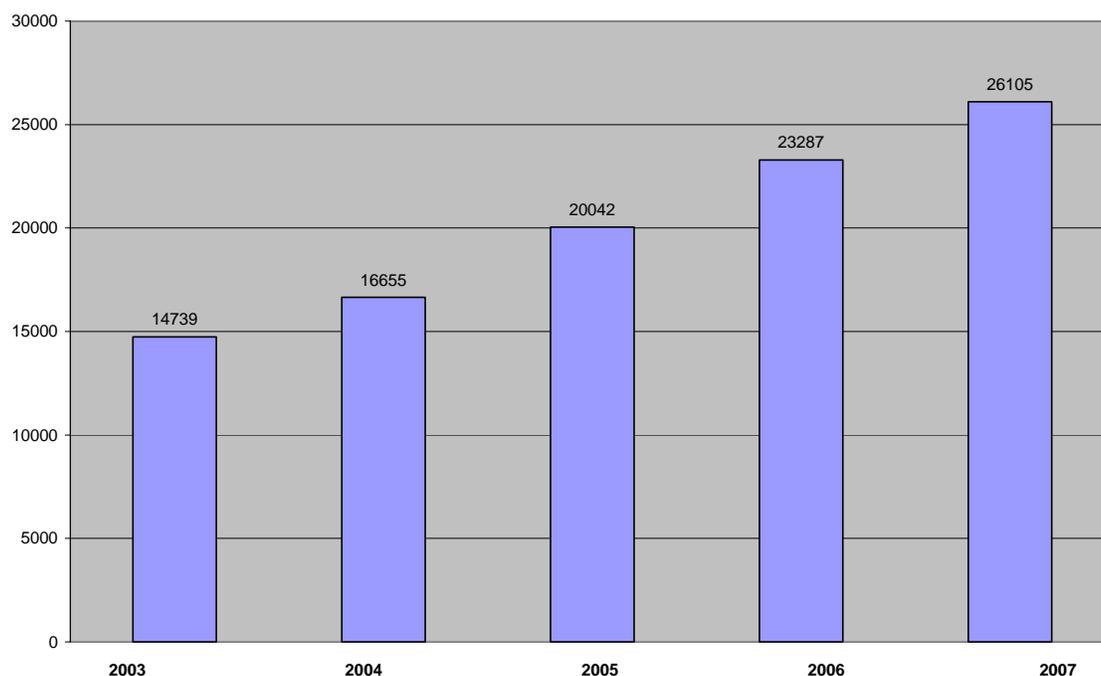
## 911/Dispatch

The 911 dispatch center continues to enhance its local and interoperability communications systems. In 2007 this was accomplished by the installation of a new 140 foot tower which replaced the existing 80 foot tower.

Cellular carriers continue to expand their coverage within the county by adding more antennas. The additional cover provides us with greater accuracy for locating wireless 9-1-1 calls.

Calls for service dispatched in 2007 totaled 26,105, a 12% increase over 2006 and a 77% increase over the last five years. These large increases are largely due to dispatching for Merrill PD full time. There were eight fatal crashes which is up from five in 2006.

**Number of Calls for Service**



Several of the specifics are listed here:

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Ambulance calls:              | 1,849 |
| Crashes:                      | 1,210 |
| Domestic disturbance:         | 185   |
| Drug activity:                | 78    |
| Fire calls:                   | 181   |
| Motorist assistance:          | 1,212 |
| Reckless or impaired drivers: | 467   |
| Traffic stops:                | 5,988 |
| Vehicle in ditch:             | 310   |
| Vehicle lookouts:             | 671   |

Prepared by: Mark Handlin, 911 Administrator

**Patrol**

Following promotions to fill vacancies there were four Patrol Lieutenants for 2007. There were 16 deputies in patrol with five newly hired deputies to fill vacancies left by promotions and retirements. One deputy was assigned to the Recreational Officer position, and in June another deputy started in the newly created position of Court Security Deputy. A total of 26,105 complaints or calls for service were received in 2007. This is an increase from 23,291 in 2006. Patrol Officers initiated 5,988 Traffic stops in 2007 which is up 46% from 2006. Some of the other calls are tallied below.

|                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Break-ins                   | 66                      |
| Car/Deer Crashes            | 369                     |
| Criminal Damage to Property | 77                      |
| Domestic                    | 74                      |
| Juvenile Complaints         | 112                     |
| Reckless Drivers            | 270                     |
| Vehicle lockouts            | 189                     |
| Traffic crashes             | 710                     |
| Traffic citations           | 2,116 up 53% from 2006. |
| County ordinance citations  | 74                      |
| OWI arrests                 | 152 up 80% from 2006    |
| Drug related arrests        | 28 up 113% from 2006    |

### **Investigations Division**

**PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS:** Sergeant Investigator Warren Steffenhagen  
Sergeant Investigator Jeffrey Simon

There were many changes within the division this year as a result of Sergeant Investigator Simon's retirement after 26 years of service. On behalf of the Detective Bureau we wish Jeff all the luck in the future. Because of the retirement of Sergeant Investigator Simon's retirement in May, Sergeant Investigator's Steffenhagen and Kingsley were the primary general investigators within the department from May until September when Deputy Gerdmann was promoted to Lieutenant in charge of the Investigations Division and Deputy Gartmann was promoted to Sergeant Investigator.

In 2007, 552 case files were submitted to the division out of these 213 case files were sent to the Lincoln County District Attorney's Office for charges.

Notable cases for 2007 – Merrill Police Department, Marathon County Sheriff's Department, Everest Metro Police Department, and our agency worked jointly and solved multiple burglaries of construction sites.

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

Lieutenant Timothy Gerdmann was primarily assigned to oversee and supervise the general operations of the bureau. Sergeant Investigator Warren Steffenhagen and Brian Kingsley are primarily assigned to general and property crime offenses, with Sergeant Investigator Steffenhagen also the lead evidence technician. Sergeant Investigator Kingsley is also an evidence technician and is assigned as our forensic examiner of computer related crimes. Sergeant Investigator Carla Peters is assigned as the Juvenile Investigator, and Sergeant Investigator Mark Gartmann was assigned to general and property crimes as well as being trained to take over the Juvenile Investigator.

Prepared by:  
Lieutenant Mark Gartmann  
Sergeant Investigator Warren Steffenhagen

### **Special Response Team**

The Special Response Team consisted of eight members. There were ten training dates in 2007. The Team responded to seven call outs in 2007. There were three call outs to armed subjects, two drug related search warrants, one fugitive search, and one property related search warrant.

All call outs and training were successfully concluded with out injury to any members of the public, team members, or suspects.

**Lincoln County Sheriff's Department  
D.A.R.E.  
2007 Annual Report**

The Lincoln County Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) unit consisted of two deputies in 2007. These deputies are Lt. Timothy Fischer, and Lt. Mark Gartmann.

The D.A.R.E. program continues to be well received by students, educators and parents. This acceptance can be largely attributed to the dedication and efforts of our D.A.R.E. instructors and to the positive life lessons contained in the curriculum.

2007 marked the fourth year of teaching the updated curriculum which was implemented in 2003. Each officer must demonstrate effective instruction to insure success of the D.A.R.E. program. The D.A.R.E. officers continued instruction on the presence and effects of Methamphetamine which was implemented last year because of this drug's pervasiveness in our community.

In 2007 we continued to teach both the third and fifth grade curricula at the following schools: Midway Elementary, Maple Grove Elementary, Pine River Elementary, St. Mary's Catholic School, and Tomahawk Elementary.

A total of 252 hours was invested by our instructors in teaching 315 third and fifth grade students at the above listed schools. We are fortunate that students, parents, educators and local elected leaders continue to support the Lincoln County D.A.R.E. program.

We look forward to another great year in 2008.

Prepared by:  
Lt. Timothy P. Fischer  
DARE Officer / Supervisor

**Lincoln County Sheriff's Department  
Special Investigation Unit  
2007 Annual Report**

**PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR:** Sergeant Investigator Brian Kingsley

The Special Investigations Unit, Computer Forensics Division is up and running and has helped both the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department along with surrounding law enforcement agencies with computer crime investigations including but not limited to child pornography arrests, threats, e-mail scams, and other online crimes.

Lincoln County is not inundated with methamphetamine labs like in the past years. Investigations are showing methamphetamine is still being distributed in Lincoln County.

Cultivating marijuana seems to be on a rise in 2007. The Special Investigation Unit located and dismantled the largest indoor marijuana grow in the history of the drug unit.

Public informational presentations were given to civic groups in 2007, including specifically information relating to drug use and computer crimes.

Drug paraphernalia arrests – 32  
Possession of methamphetamine – 1  
Keeping of a drug house – 1  
Possession of marijuana – 29  
Manufacture / delivery of marijuana – 3  
Possession of marijuana w/ intent to delivery – 3  
Possession of cocaine – 2  
Possession of psilocybin mushrooms – 1  
Possession of controlled substance – 4

Prepared by:  
Sergeant Investigator Brian Kingsley

**Lincoln County Sheriff's Department  
Juvenile Division  
2007 Annual Report**

**PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR:** Sergeant Investigator Carla R. Peters

There was an addition to the Juvenile Division this year with the promotion of Deputy Mark Gartmann to Sergeant Investigator on September 22, 2007.

The reported juvenile cases went down this year from 361 investigations involving juveniles in 2006 to 298 cases involving juveniles in 2007. This is a decrease of 63 reported cases, and is a direct result of a cooperative effort between the Merrill Police Department, Tomahawk Police Department and the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, in aggressively monitoring juvenile activities. Break down of these cases are as follows;

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Sexual abuse of a child                     | 35 |
| Physical abuse of a child                   | 27 |
| Child neglect                               | 21 |
| Expose genitals                             | 3  |
| Disorderly conduct                          | 43 |
| Obstructing an officer                      | 5  |
| Contributing to the delinquency of a minor  | 1  |
| Criminal damage to property                 | 8  |
| Theft/burglary                              | 19 |
| Child custody                               | 27 |
| Battery                                     | 5  |
| Runaway                                     | 54 |
| Harassing phone calls                       | 3  |
| Forgery                                     | 1  |
| Underage alcohol                            | 10 |
| Operating a motor vehicle without a license | 2  |
| Possession of drug paraphernalia            | 7  |
| Operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated | 4  |
| Traffic offenses                            | 19 |
| Criminal trespass                           | 2  |
| Battery by prisoner                         | 5  |

One of our more notable cases included a young child running away which was reported to the sheriff's department then eventually investigated by Sergeant Investigator Peters. This case turned into numerous charges of physical abuse of a child, child neglect, disorderly conduct, exposing children to genitals, causing a child to view/listen to a sexual act. The investigation resulted in an execution of a search warrant where child pornography was seized.

Prepared by:  
Lieutenant Mark Gartmann  
Sergeant Investigator Carla Peters

**Lincoln County Sheriff's Department  
Jail Division  
2007 Annual Report**

The Lincoln County Jail booked in 1292 inmates in 2007. That was an increase of 231 inmates over 2006. The average length of stay for an inmate in 2007 was 20.78 days, which is a decrease of 3.73 days over 2006's average of 24.51. There was a decrease of 1468 bed days from the previous year.

Huber fees collected for 2007 were \$50,111.00. The inmate phone system generated \$12,237.78 in revenues. The State of Wisconsin reimbursed Lincoln County \$52,480.00 for holding certain Probation and Parole holds in 2007.

The daily population average for 2007 was 44.69 in-house, 3.38 on Electronic Monitoring, 25.48 out of county for a total of 73.547 inmates per day. The highest average month was March with an average of 79.806 per day and the lowest average was January with 68.839 per day. The highest day was March 5 with 87 total inmates. The lowest day was January 3rd with 61 total inmates.

REPORT PREPARED BY – Lt. JEFF KRAFT - JAIL ADMINISTRATOR

