

2009 CHIEF'S CITATION AWARD RECORDS DIVISION

The Chief's Citation Award is intended to recognize members of a team or unit for participating in an incident, event or series of events, or project which has a substantial positive impact on the community or the police department.

The incident, event or project must be superior in nature and further the Department's mission and overall effectiveness.

Members of this team include: Theresa Giannetto, Wendy Ammann, Ken Anderson, Barb Barber, Gwen Bell, Brandi Belcher, Jerri Bjork, Donald Brown, Marissa Butler, Penny Blomgren, Kateri Caron, Christine Cassie, Brandon Childs, Deannette Christopherson, Charmaine Dauterman, Kiley Friesen, Justin Gardella, Carolee Giersdorf, Beth Gleason, Inez Hodge, Kristi Jackson, Wendy Jones, Michelle Knie, Debbie Larson, Rebecca Lessard, Michelle Loucks, Angela Napolitano, Sandra O'Connor, Jennifer Quick, Michelle Reiner, Marnie Rorholm, Jan Roys, Tiffany Ryan, Jackie Sadler, Linda Shafer, Priscilla Sivanish, Tami Teaford, Tamara Tenner, Glenda Toptine, Jeff Weinfurtner.

Beginning in July of 2006, when Mrs. Giannetto was hired, it quickly became apparent to her that the backlog of reports that had not been entered into our information system was affecting the police department's ability and effectiveness. Officers and deputies reported that the backlog of reports was a serious officer safety concern because they were not able to review the five year history of an individual when they ran a name in RMS. Due to the backlog, officers were unable to identify escalating criminal behaviors and often did not have the needed information that could or would have changed events in the field. Information needed for an accurate background check for employment in our community was also not being provided. In July of 2006, Records had 73,000 batches of reports that had not been entered. Each batch can contain from 1 to 20 reports, so it can safely be extrapolated that the Records Division had many hundreds of thousands of reports needing entry into our law enforcement information systems.

Strategies and plans were put in place to both keep up with the current workload of 15,000 documents each week, and in addition, make every concerted effort to eliminate the backlog. All of the Records employees have applied themselves over the last three years to this important project with dedication, energy and enthusiasm. It is due to their hard work and expertise that the document backlog has been reduced by 400 batches of documents per week. And as of this writing, the Records Division is current with all document entry for the first time in nearly 20 years!

Having the needed critical information in our information system and available for our community and officers has clearly furthered the department's mission and overall effectiveness.