



MERRIAM POLICE
"Proudly Serving Since 1951"

2008
 Annual
 Report
MERRIAM
Just right.

**PATROL: TRAFFIC
 ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS**

INTRODUCTION:

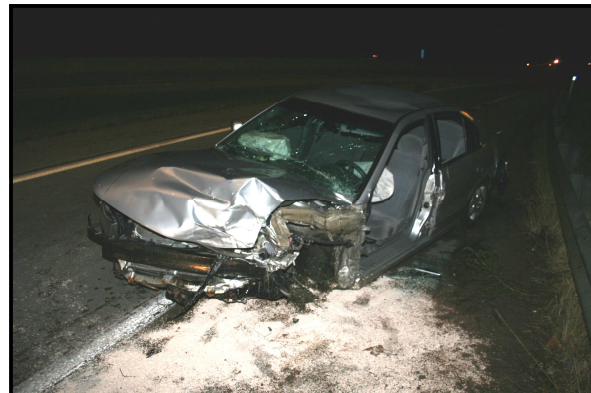
Traffic enforcement has always been a large part of the everyday duties of a Merriam officer. Statistics and studies have shown that in areas where there is more traffic enforcement, there are also fewer accidents. Recent studies have also shown that crime rates in general may decrease when officers are out stopping motorists violating the traffic laws. Many high profile cases like the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City were solved by an officer making routine traffic stops. In 2008, Merriam officers made **6,509** traffic stops, issued **6,006** moving violation tickets and **4,295** non-moving tickets (total numbers including the Traffic Unit). This represents a **10%** decrease in the number of traffic stops and a **1%** decrease in tickets issued in 2007.

TRAFFIC STANDARDS:

For the past nine years there has been a minimum traffic standard in existence. The standard for each patrol officer is to write two tickets per eight-hour shift. Traffic officers have a standard of eight tickets in an eight-hour shift. Fifty percent of the tickets issued should be for a moving violation. This standard was adopted in conjunction with the community-policing philosophy. Traffic complaints are commonly heard at neighborhood gatherings throughout the city. Citizens routinely request speed and other traffic enforcement in their neighborhoods.

2008 Traffic Citations

- ◆ D.U.I. 133
- ◆ Speeding 2,257
- ◆ Inattentive driving 147
- ◆ Traffic light 227
- ◆ Stop sign 139
- ◆ No insurance 1,464
- ◆ Seat belt 1,053
- ◆ Drivers license violations 927
- ◆ Expired/illegal tag 752
- ◆ Parking 112
- ◆ All others 2,986



The driver of the car was intoxicated. He hit a construction trailer and a tree. The driver was injured in this accident.

Court Statistics

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Filings:	8,585	8,652	9,958	10,641	10,867	10,159
Fines Collected:	\$631,327	\$747,116	\$835,280	\$881,930	\$912,467	\$1,032,667