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August 31, 2011

To: Members,  
Board of Police Commissioners

Re: Mid-Year Crime Statistics Comparison 2002-2011

## RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received and filed.

## CONCLUSION

Regina's total reported crime at mid-year 2011 was at its lowest point in the past ten years. Both Crimes Against the Person and Crimes Against Property were also ten-year lows. Crime types that were ten-year lows include: Assault, Sexual Assault, Attempted Murder, Robbery, Kidnapping / Forcible Confinement, Theft of Motor Vehicle, Break and Enter, and Mischief.

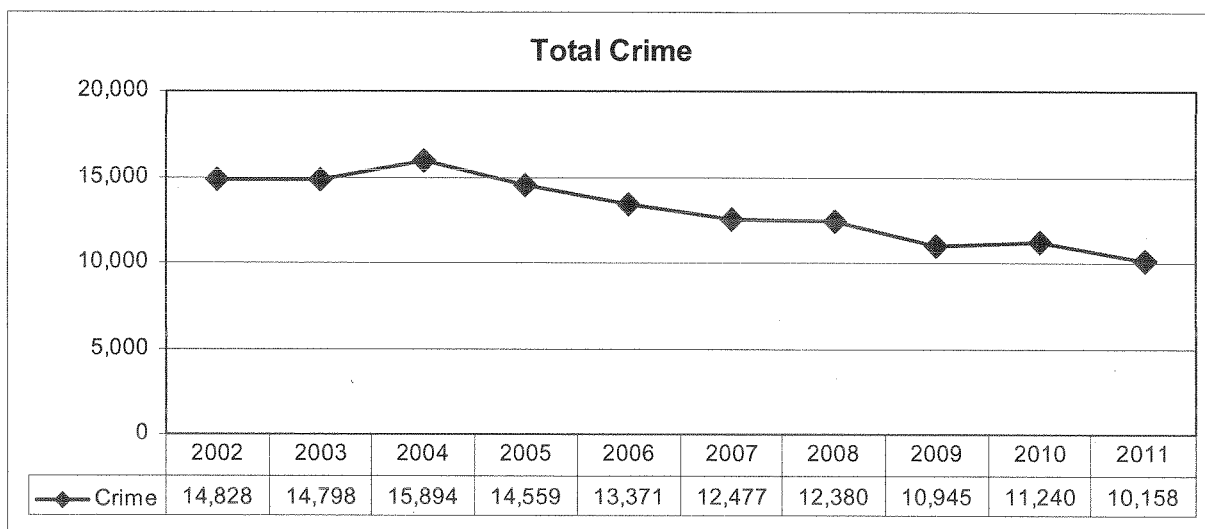
## BACKGROUND

Twice each year, once at mid-year and once at year-end, the Regina Police Service provides an analysis of reported crime in Regina over the previous ten-year period. This report compares data compiled from January 1 to June 30 for the period of 2002 through 2011.

Measuring crime statistics<sup>1</sup> and their changes over time is effective for identifying trends. The Regina Police Service gathers data in the same manner each year, allowing for reliable analyses of crime within the city over time.

## DISCUSSION

There were 9.6% fewer reported Total Crimes<sup>2</sup> at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 31.5% less than at mid-year 2002.

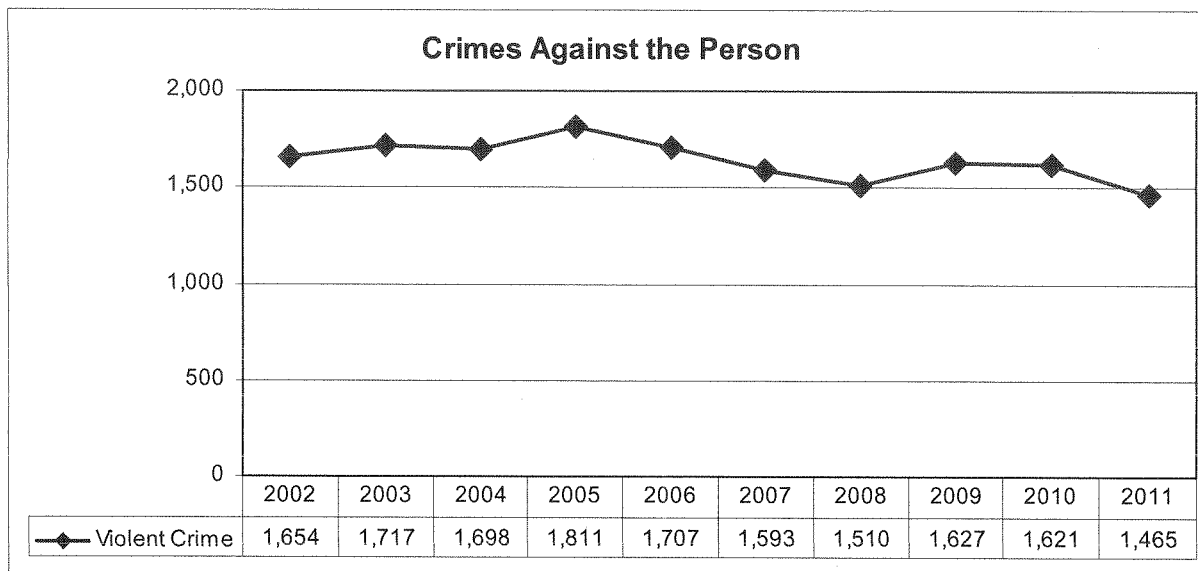


<sup>1</sup> Absolute crime counts, rather than crime rates or crime severity, are the basis of this analysis. These statistics are not intended for comparison with other jurisdictions that may use different methodologies or have different reporting criteria.

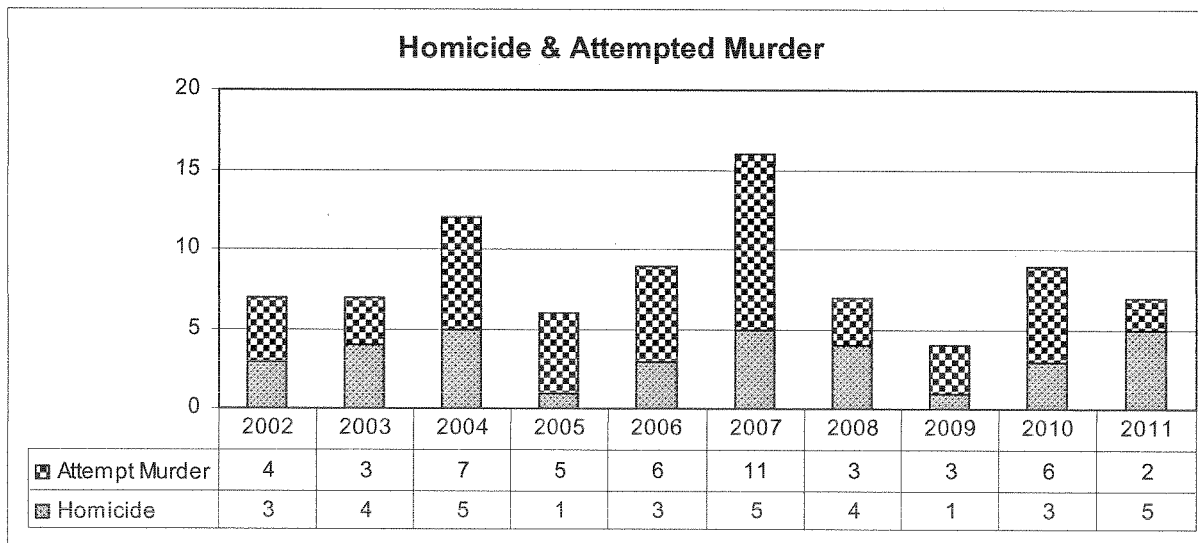
<sup>2</sup> Included in Total Crime are Crimes Against the Person, Crimes Against Property, Criminal Code traffic violations, the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, and those reports generated by the Regina Police Service in relation to procedural and other enforcement-related categories (Other Criminal Code violations).

## Crimes Against the Person

There were 9.6% fewer reported Crimes Against the Person at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 11.4% fewer than at mid-year 2002.

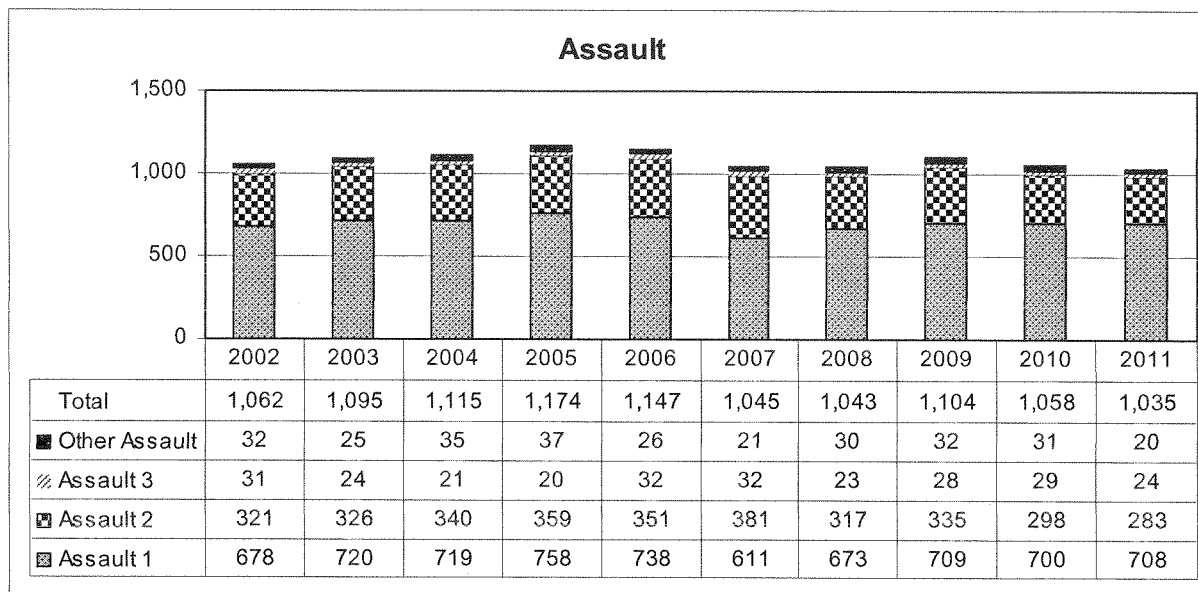


The five Homicides in the first half of 2011 were more than the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 3.4$ ) while the two Attempted Murders were less than the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 5.0$ ).<sup>3</sup>

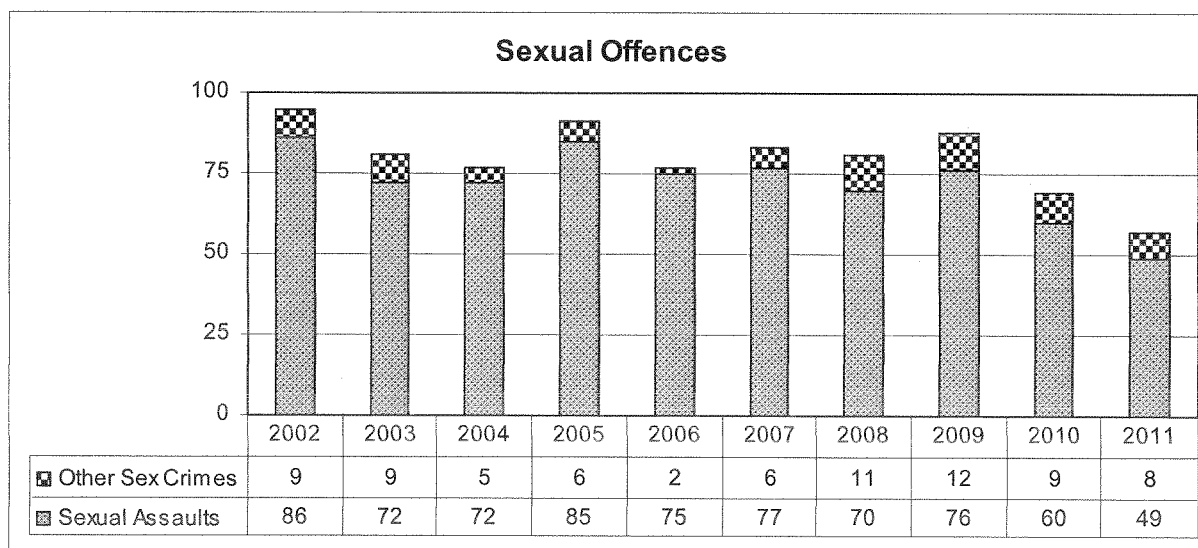


<sup>3</sup> Since Regina has relatively few homicides or attempted murders in any given year, a slight change in the count would be represented by a dramatic percentage change that would only exaggerate the difference. Percentage changes will therefore not be utilized in this report when discussing crime types with relatively low counts. Instead, comparisons to the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x}$ ) will be utilized when appropriate.

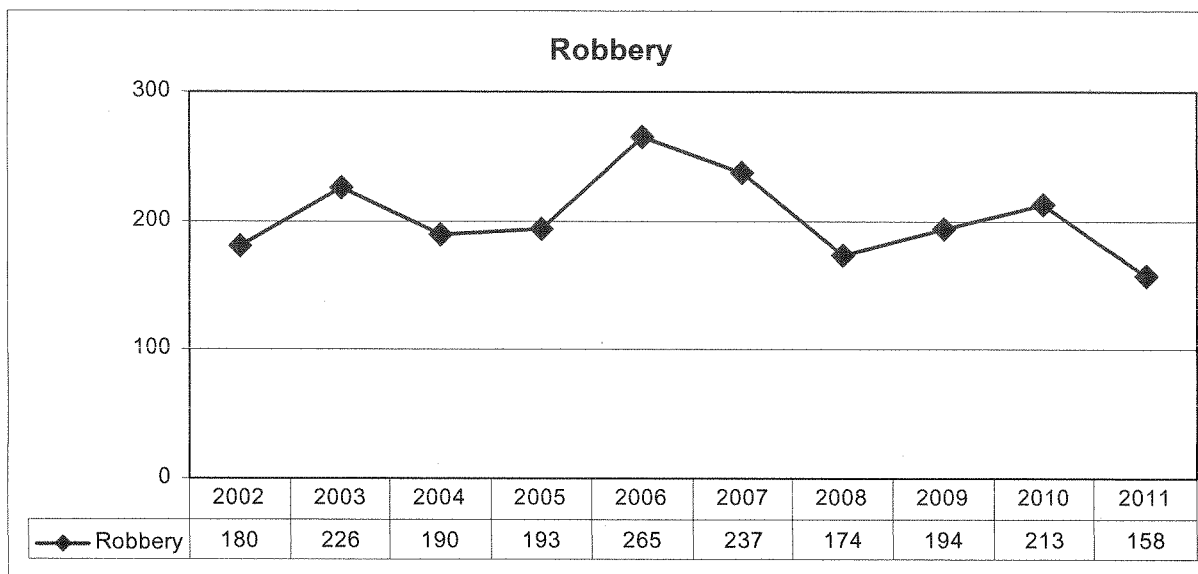
The total Assaults reported at mid-year 2011 were a ten-year low, with 2.2% fewer than at mid-year 2010 and 2.5% fewer than at mid-year 2002. Still, Assaults were fairly stable over this period, with relatively mild deviation in any given year from the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 1,087.8$ ; standard deviation = 47.3). Over two-thirds of the total Assaults in the first half of 2011 were Common Assaults, a higher proportion than in any other year in this ten-year period.



Sexual Assaults at mid-year 2011 were a ten-year low, with 18.3% fewer reported than at mid-year 2010 and 43.0% fewer than at mid-year 2002. The number of reported sex crimes other than Sexual Assaults was comparable to the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 7.7$ ).

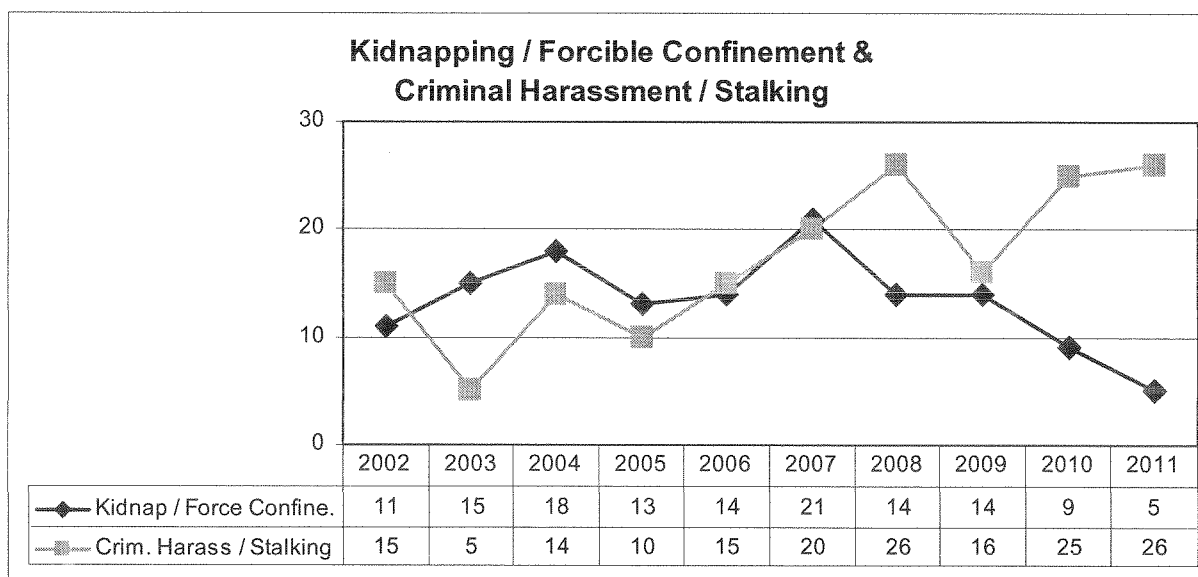


Robbery was at a ten-year low at mid-year 2011, with 25.8% fewer reported than at mid-year 2010 and 12.2% fewer than at mid-year 2002. The number of Robberies fluctuated annually, with no sustained year-to-year increases or decreases lasting more than two consecutive years. Developing a comprehensive strategy to reduce Street Robbery is an initiative in the Regina Police Service Strategic Plan, 2011-2014.



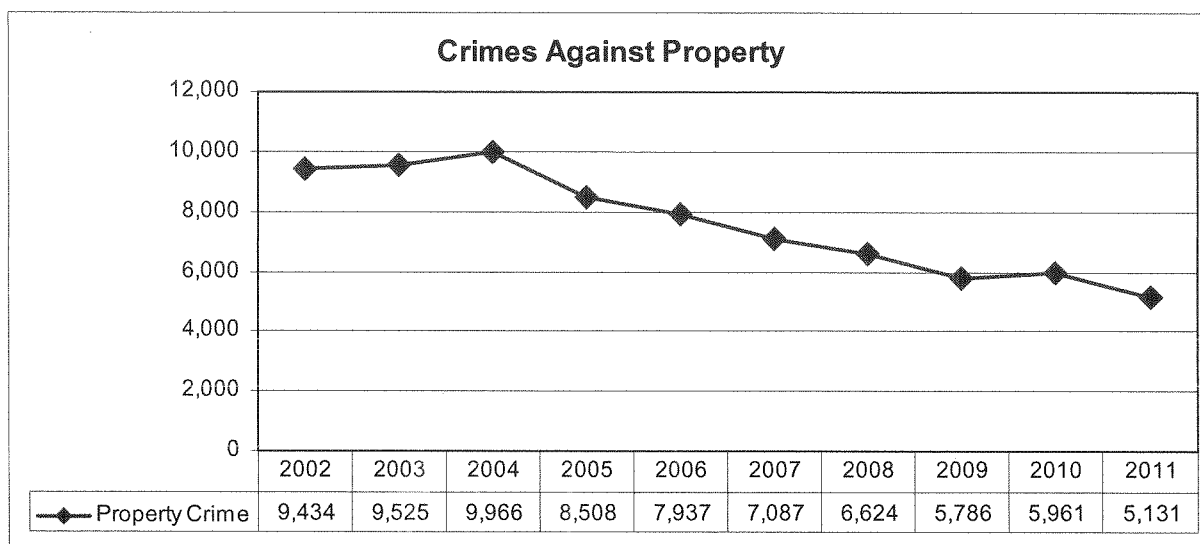
The five reported occurrences of Kidnapping / Forcible Confinement at mid-year 2011 was a ten-year low and less than half the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 13.4$ ).

The twenty-six reported Criminal Harassment / Stalking occurrences at mid-year 2011 was more than the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 17.2$ ). The Regina Police Service's Domestic Violence Co-ordinator has, since 2006, focused on repeat domestic incidents and, when appropriate, worked with both the victim and Family Services Regina to lay charges of Criminal Harassment / Stalking in attempts to protect victims from further abuse.

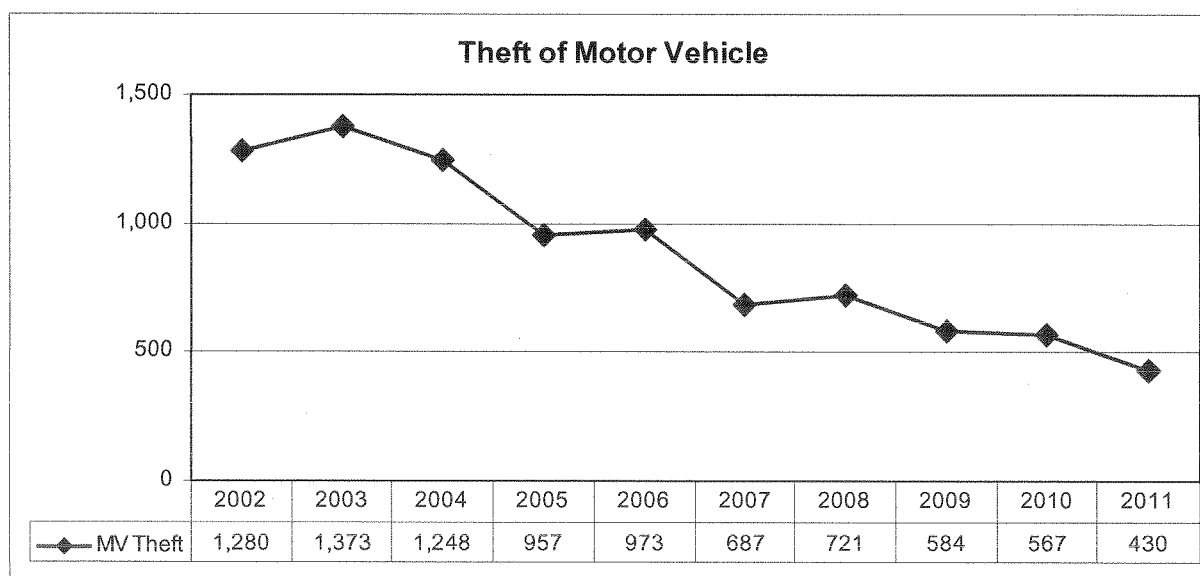


### Crimes Against Property

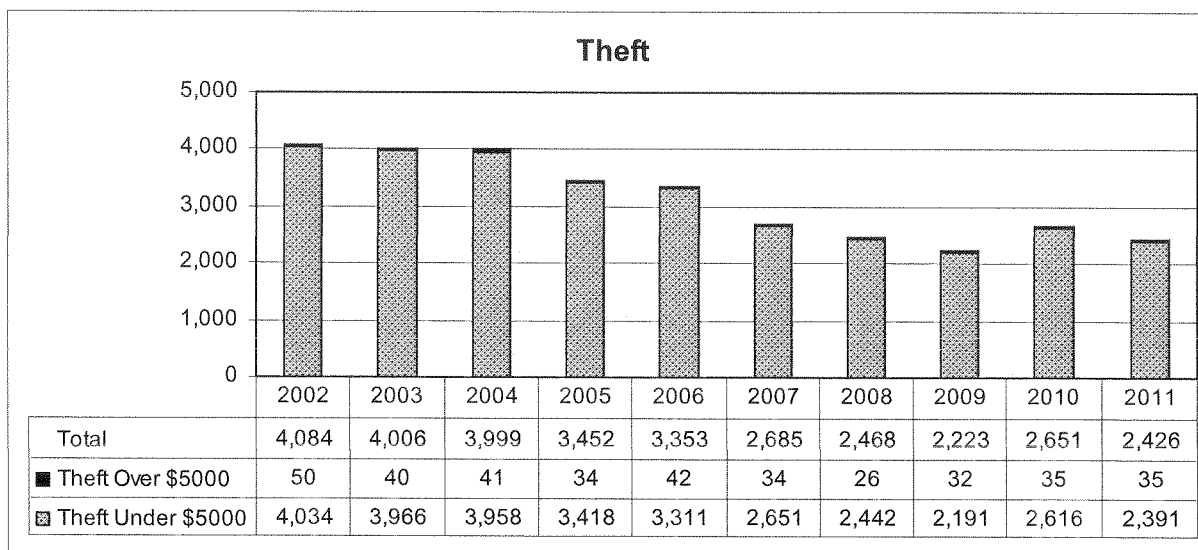
There were 13.9% fewer reported Crimes Against Property at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 45.6% fewer than at mid-year 2002.



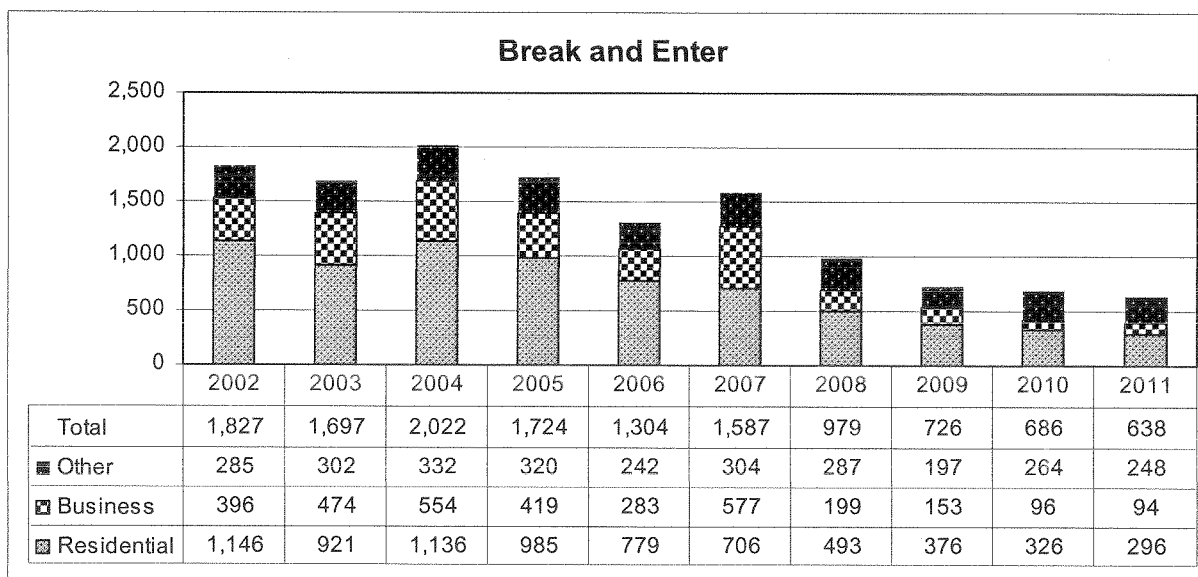
There were 24.2% fewer reported Motor Vehicle Thefts at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 66.4% fewer than at mid-year 2002. This trend demonstrates the continuing success of the collaborative Regina Auto Theft Strategy.



Theft<sup>4</sup> comprised almost one-quarter of the Total Crime in Regina at mid-year 2011. There were 8.5% fewer reported Thefts than at mid-year 2010 and 40.6% fewer than at mid-year 2002. The majority of Thefts involve property valued at less than \$5000. In any given year in the last ten years, approximately 1.0%-1.5% of Thefts involved property over \$5000.

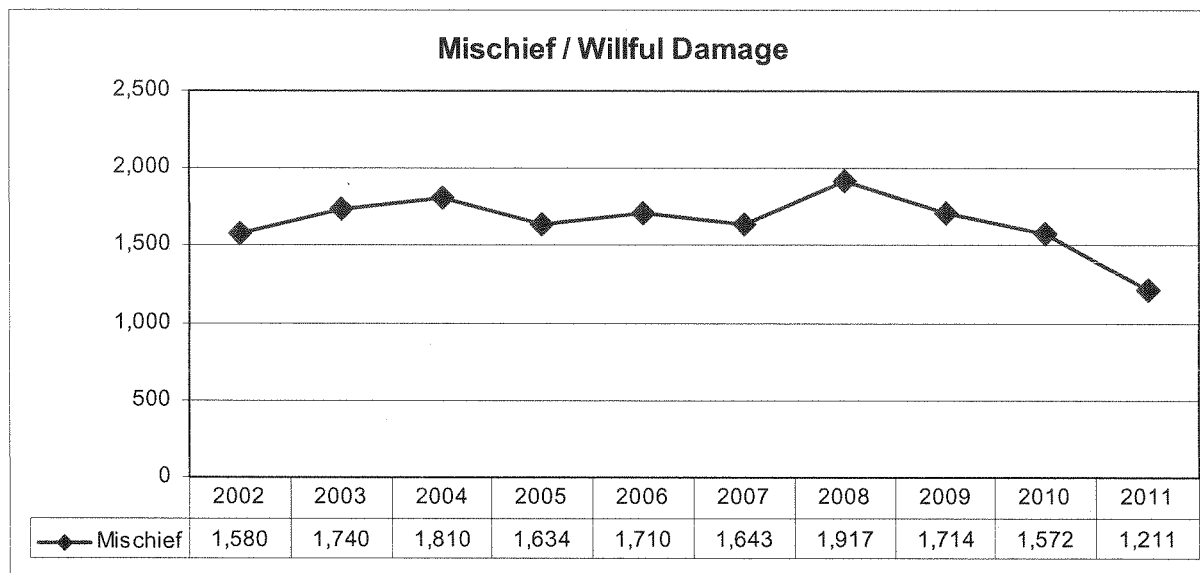


There were 7.0% fewer reported Break and Enters at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 65.1% fewer than at mid-year 2002. A reduction strategy, modeled after the Regina Auto Theft Strategy, was implemented following the increase in Break and Enters from 2006 to 2007. Preventative measures taken by Regina residents, such as home security systems, may also partly explain the ten-year reduction.

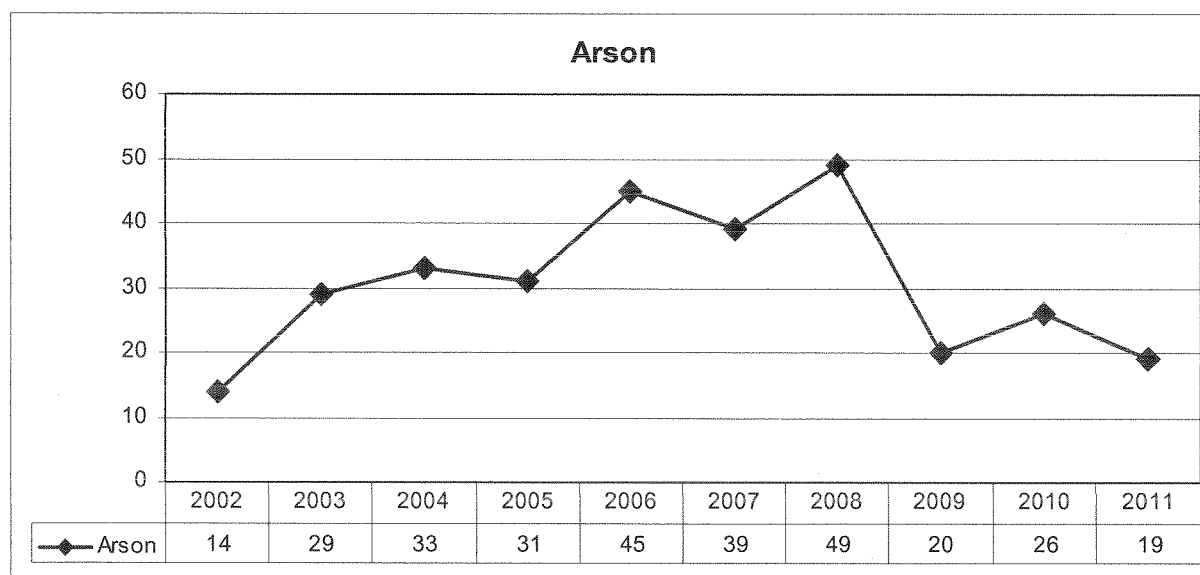


<sup>4</sup> The category Theft includes: theft, shoplifting, and theft from motor vehicle. The category does not include theft of motor vehicle.

Mischief / Willful Damage at mid-year 2011 were a ten-year low, with 23.0% fewer reported than at mid-year 2010 and 23.4% fewer than at mid-year 2002. The City of Regina and the Regina Police Service encourage public reporting of graffiti, a form of Mischief. The Regina Police Service also implemented a Graffiti Co-ordinator position in 2011 to increase investigative capacity. Of the reported Mischief by mid-year 2011, 14.4% were recorded as being occurrences of graffiti.



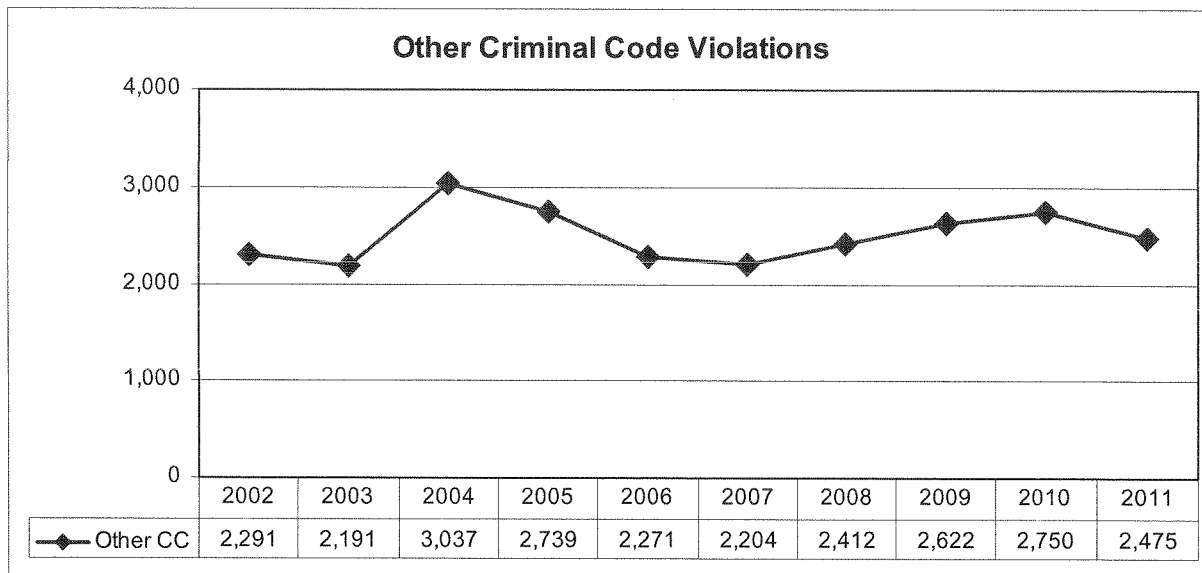
The nineteen reported Arson incidents at mid-year 2011 was lower than the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 30.5$ ).



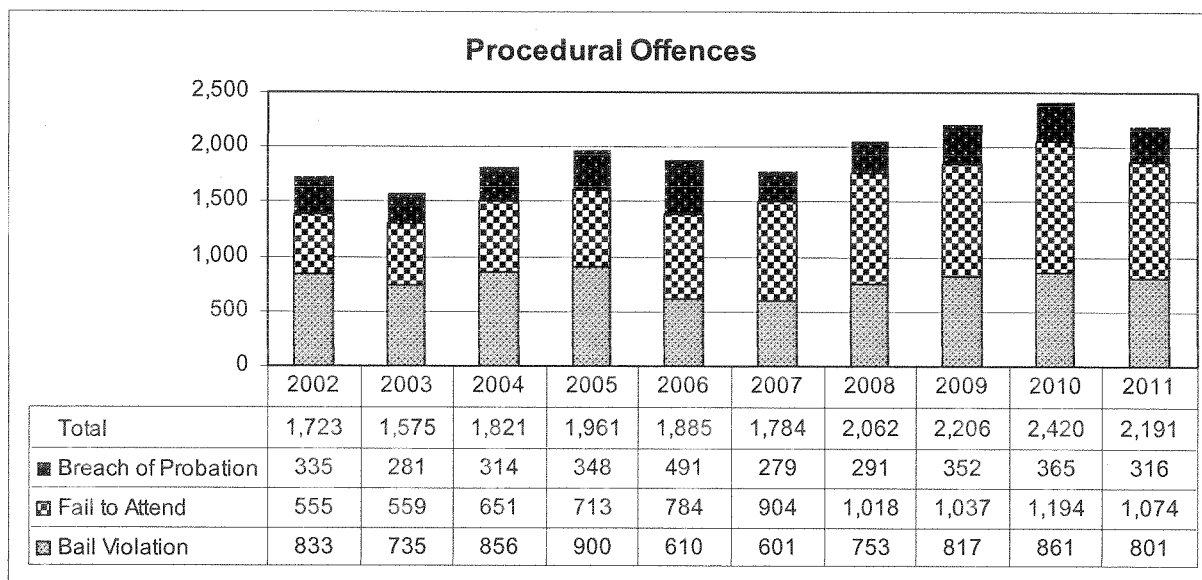


### Other Criminal Code Violations

There were 10.0% fewer Other Criminal Code violations<sup>5</sup> at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 but 8.0% more than at mid-year 2002. Some reports falling under Other Criminal Code violations, such as procedural offences and prostitution charges, are partially generated through police initiatives and projects.

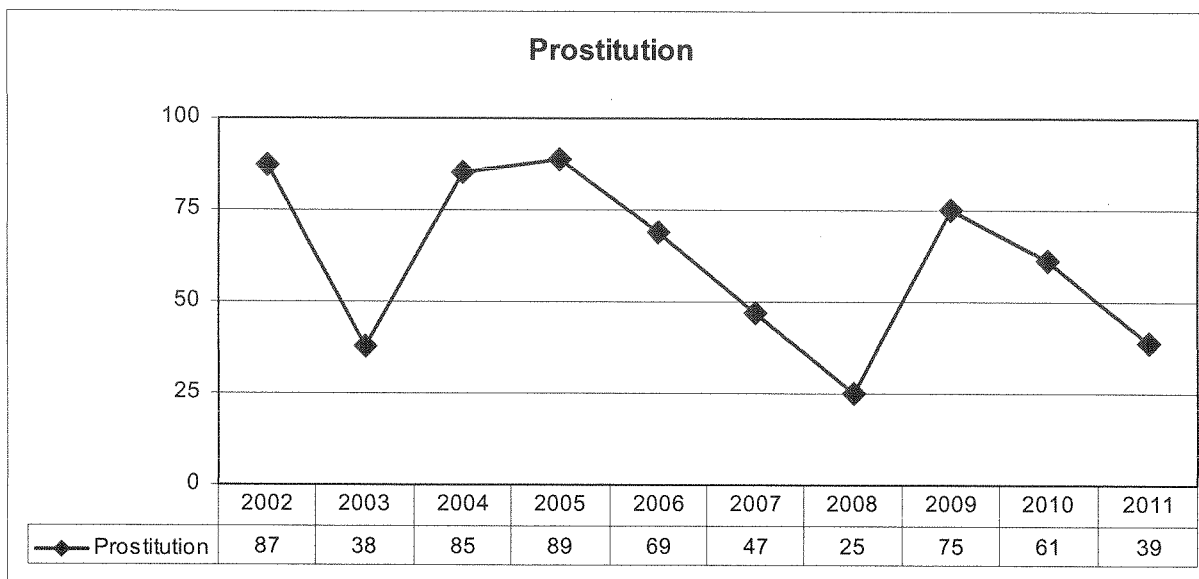


There were 9.5% fewer Procedural Offences at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 but 27.2% more than at mid-year 2002. Procedural Offences make up a large portion of Other Criminal Code violations. Breach of Probation, Fail to Attend Court, and Bail Violations combined to account for 88.5% of all Other Criminal Code violations in the first half of 2011. The increase in Procedural Offences can partly be explained by the usage of curfew checks on select offenders as part of the strategies to reduce Auto Thefts and Break and Enters.



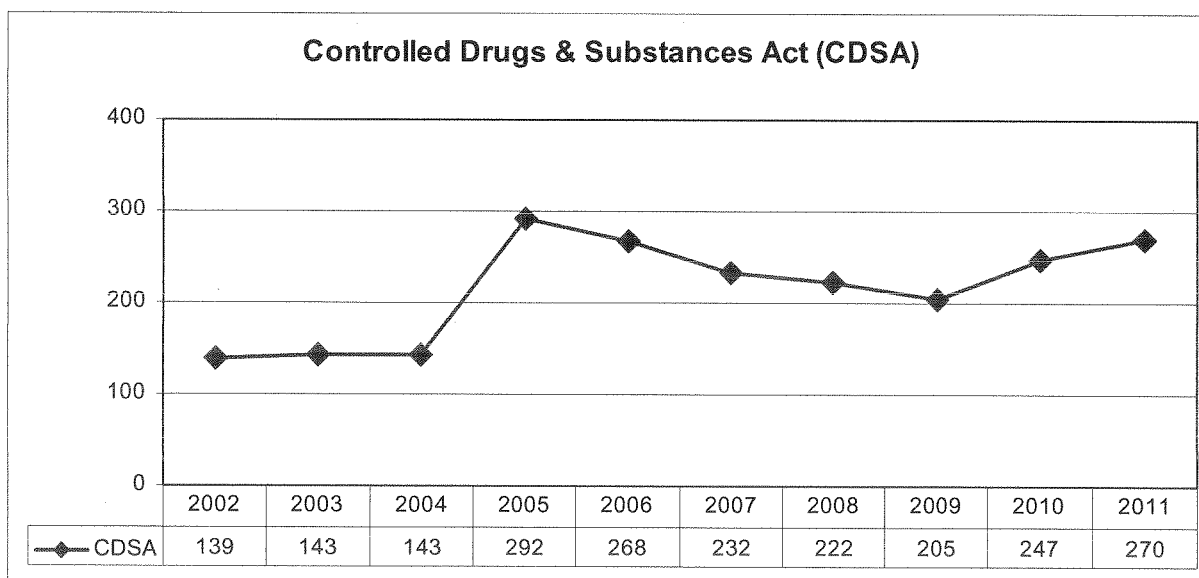
<sup>5</sup> The crime category Other Criminal Code Violations includes: procedural violations, offensive weapons violations, prostitution, counterfeiting currency, and gaming and betting.

The thirty-nine occurrences of Prostitution at mid-year 2011 were less than the ten-year mean average ( $\bar{x} = 61.5$ ).

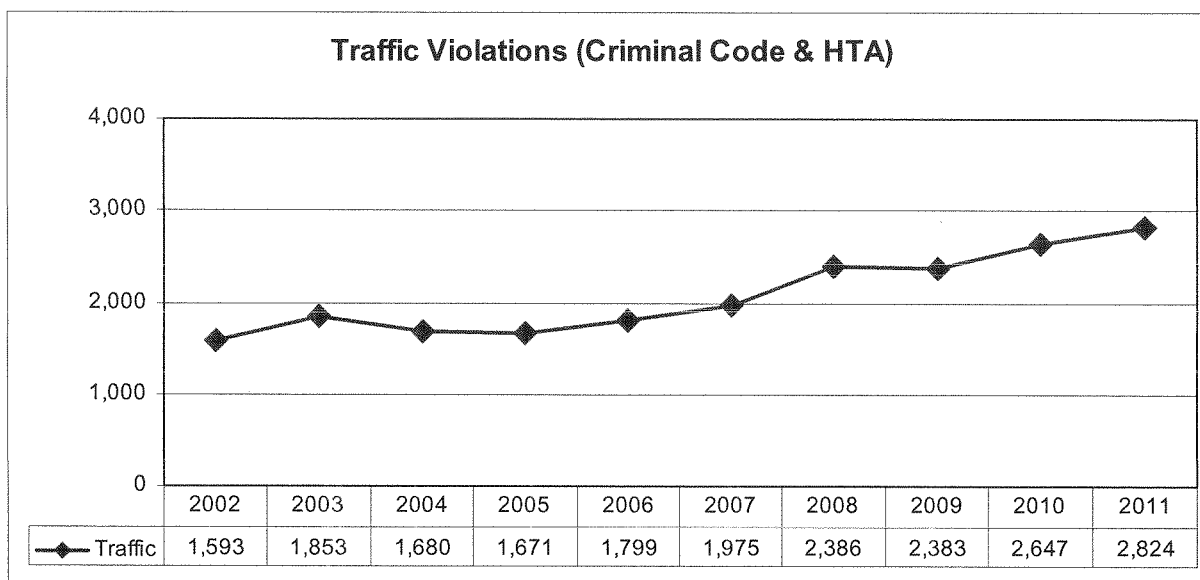


#### *Controlled Drugs & Substances Act (CDSA) and Traffic Violations*

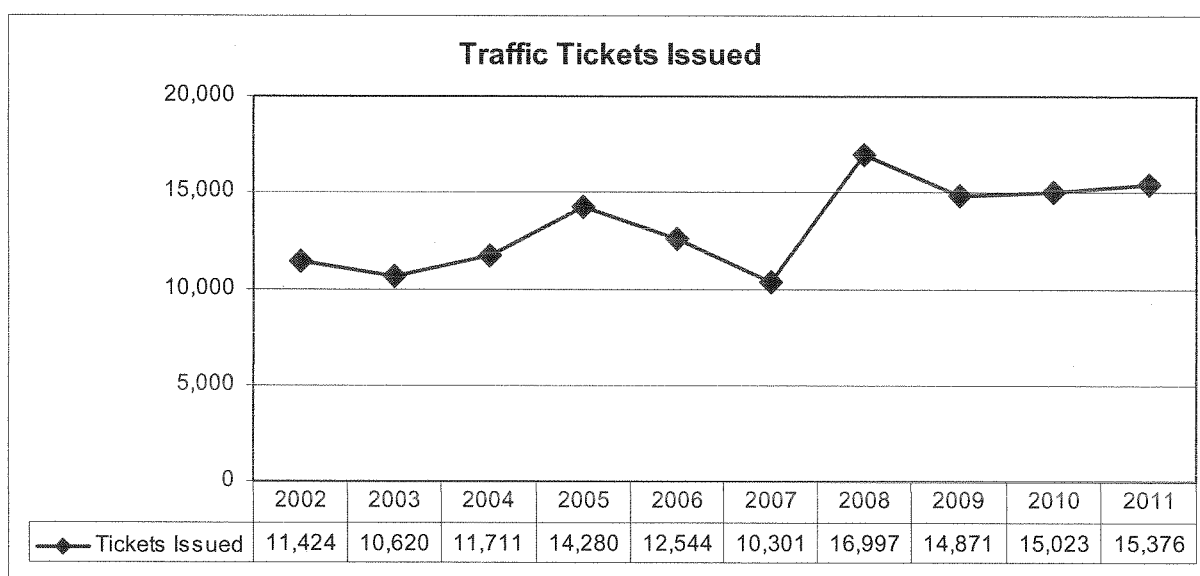
There were 9.3% more CDSA occurrences at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 94.2% more than at mid-year 2002. The increase in CDSA occurrences from 2004 to 2005 was related to the creation of a Special Enforcement Team (SET) and, shortly after, the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU), as well as organizational restructuring in the Regina Police Service's Criminal Investigation Division (CID).



The number of Traffic Violations, including offences from both the Criminal Code and the provincial Highway Traffic Act, increased relatively consistently from 2005 to 2011. There were 6.7% more Traffic Violations at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 77.3% more than at mid-year 2002. The number of Traffic Violations is partially generated through traffic initiatives and projects. Report Impaired Drivers (RID) and Enforcement Overdrive are two examples of collaborative programs that address impaired driving.



There were 2.3% more traffic tickets issued<sup>6</sup> at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 34.6% more than at mid-year 2002.

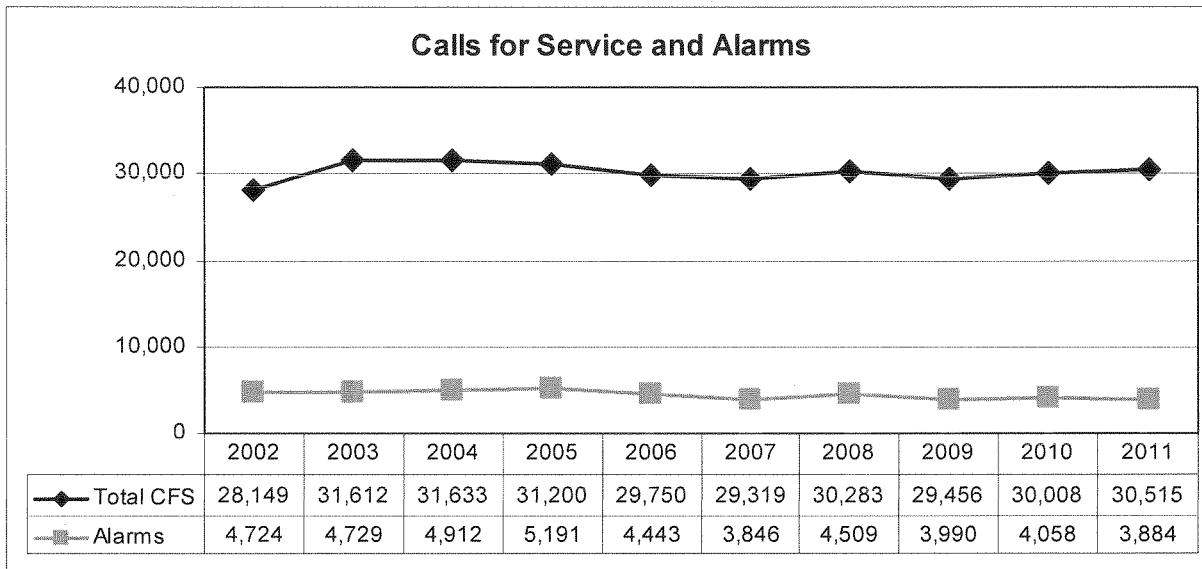


<sup>6</sup> Included are traffic stops and red light camera tickets.

*Calls for Service*

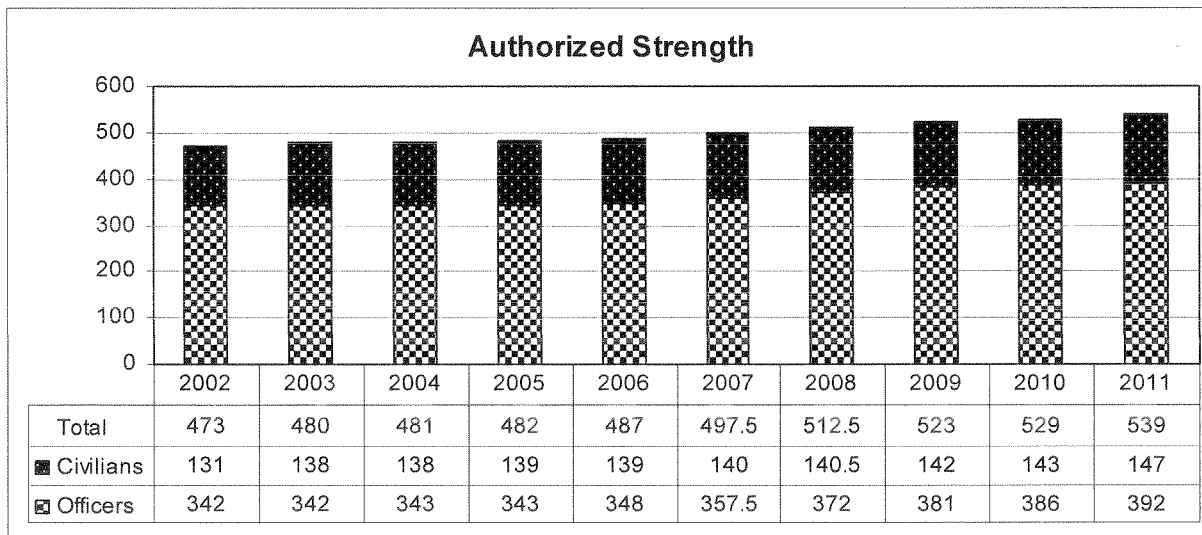
There were 1.7% more Calls for Service at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2010 and 8.4% more than at mid-year 2002. The increase in Calls for Service is largely attributable to an increase in curfew checks utilized as part of ongoing crime reduction strategies.

There were 25.2% fewer Alarm calls at mid-year 2011 than at mid-year 2005, the year in which legislation regarding responsible alarm use was brought into force.



*Authorized Strength*

The authorized strength for sworn officers increased by 14.6% while the authorized strength for civilian positions increased by 12.2% over the last ten years.



## *Population*

Regina's population has grown more rapidly in recent years. The City of Regina's population was estimated to be 187,429 in 2002 and had increased by 5.3% to 197,426 by 2010.<sup>7</sup> Despite this population growth, crime has steadily decreased over the same period.

## RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS

### Financial Implications

None with respect to this report.

### Environmental Implications

None with respect to this report.

### Strategic Implications

None with respect to this report.

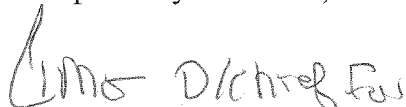
### Other Implications

None with respect to this report.

## COMMUNICATIONS

None with respect to this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Troy Hagen,  
Chief of Police

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<sup>7</sup> The city of Regina's 2010 population estimate is based on City of Regina Health Numbers.