

BELLEVUE POLICE DEPARTMENT

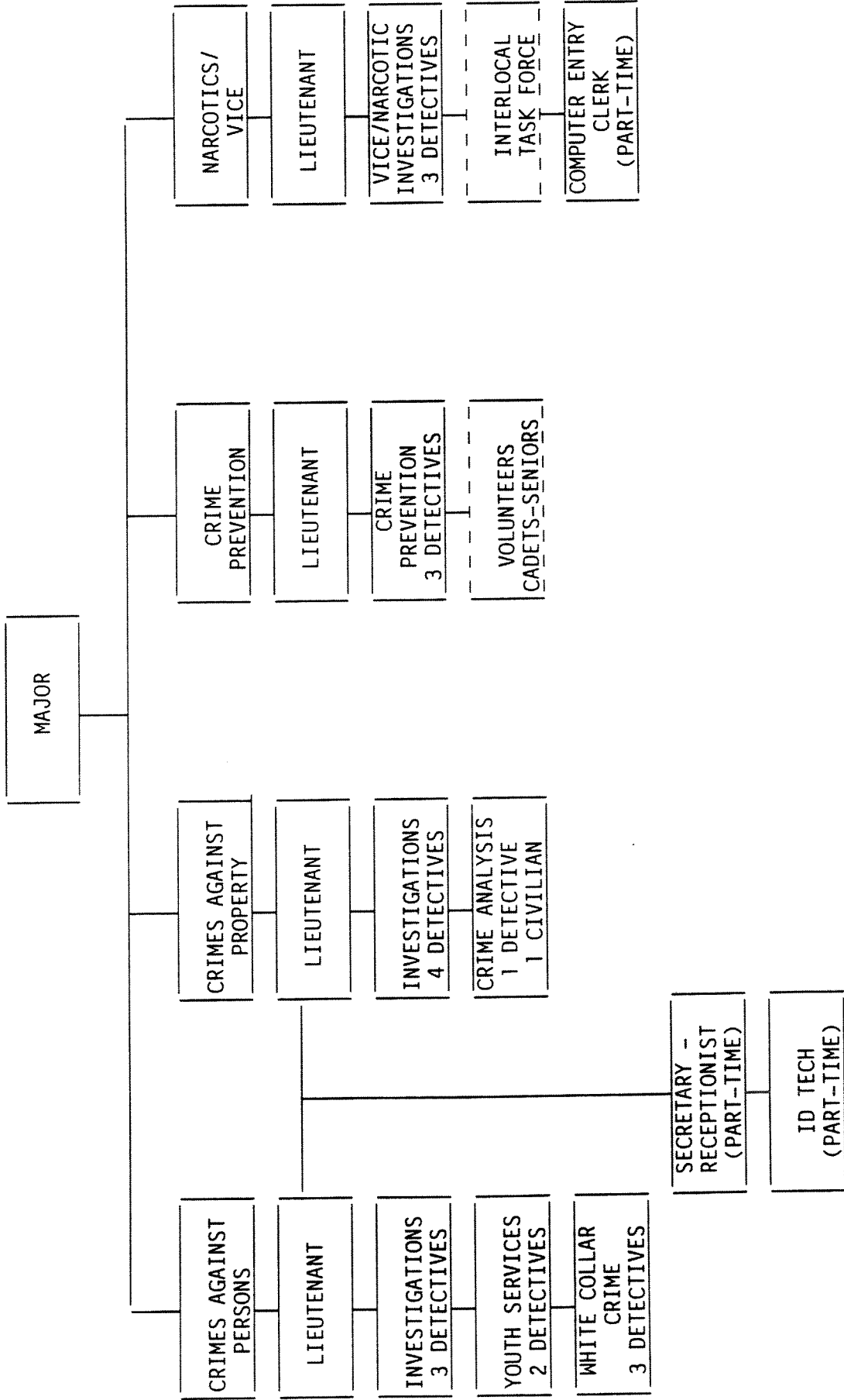
**Investigations  
Section**

*1988 ANNUAL REPORT*



DETECTIVE SECTION

1988



DENNIS M. WYATT  
MAJOR

**CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS**

The Crimes Against Persons Unit of the Bellevue Police Department is one of four units within the Investigations Section of the Operations Division. The Unit, which is organized into three basic investigative groups, is supervised by one lieutenant who reports to the Major in charge of the Investigations Section. The three investigative groups (Persons Crimes, Juvenile, and White Collar Crime) are staffed by eight detectives and assisted by one civilian part-time employee.

**Persons Crimes Unit**

There are three detectives assigned to the Persons Crimes Unit. They are responsible for the secondary investigation of all major crimes, including homicide and death investigation, rape and other sex offenses, armed robbery, kidnap, serious aggravated assaults, and arsons where bodily injury or death occurs. In addition to their daily duties, these three detectives must be available for off-duty call-outs (weekends, nighttime, and holidays).

In 1988 these detectives were assigned to investigate 167 felony cases. Of that number, 27 cases were closed by arrest, 13 were closed by filing without arrests, and 65 were closed by other means (a 63% closure rate). The investigations included nine death investigations, 36 sex offenses, 23 child abuse cases, 28 robberies, 15 felony assaults, and 26 missing persons. They arrested and/or charged 46 defendants in connection with these cases (28 arrests and 18 charged without arrest). In connection with this crime activity, the detectives responded 53 times to after-hour call-outs (nights, weekends, holidays) and served 43 search warrants. They spent approximately 365 hours in court/prosecutor time in regards to their cases.

The following are a few major cases of interest and serve as an example of the types of investigations that are assigned to the Persons Crimes detectives:

Homicide - An 83-year-old female, a Lake Hills resident, was murdered in her home. She apparently surprised a burglar when she came home unexpectedly. The suspect, a 15-year-old male, strangled her with her purse strap and fled the scene in her car. He was apprehended less than 12 hours later as he attempted to get into her stolen car, which he had parked in his apartment complex parking lot. The suspect lived less than 1/2 mile from the victim's residence.

Rape - Detectives investigated a series of rapes and robberies of elderly females that lived in apartments on the N.E. 8th corridor in the Highlands area. The suspect was identified by latent fingerprints obtained at the last crime scene. The suspect had recently been released from prison, where he had been serving time for rape and robbery.

Rape - Detectives investigated the burglary of a Tam-O-Shanter residence and the rape of the 15-year-old female occupant. Through their

investigation, the detectives found an observant neighbor that had observed a suspicious vehicle in the area on the day of the burglary and rape. This neighbor noted the license number of the car, which allowed the swift conclusion to the case, thus eliminating the potential of other such crimes in the area. The suspect had been recently released from prison, where he was serving time for similar offenses.

### Juvenile Unit

The Juvenile Unit is comprised of two detectives. They were responsible for screening all juvenile arrests for appropriate dispositions, monitoring the Police Department's direct diversion program, and the primary and secondary investigation of all child abuse and child neglect cases.

In 1988 the two Juvenile detectives were assigned 136 cases. Of those cases, 30 were closed by arrest, 28 were closed by filing or summons, 43 were closed by other means, and 18 were determined to be unfounded (a 74% closure rate). Thirty-eight people were arrested in connection with those investigations and 27 were charged into court without arrest. The detectives spent in excess of 210 hours in court and in meetings with prosecutors. In the course of their investigations, the Juvenile detectives served six search warrants and recovered approximately \$6,000 in stolen property.

In 1988 there was a substantial increase in the reporting of incidences of child abuse. Juvenile detectives investigated 66 cases of child sexual abuse and 31 cases of physical abuse, a total of 97 cases. (Additionally, the Persons Crimes detectives investigated 23 cases of child abuse.) This total number, 120 actively investigated cases, compares with a total of 55 cases in 1987 - a 118% increase. The Juvenile detectives screened an additional 60 reports of reported abuse or neglect that were referred by Children's Protective Service (a division of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services) that were resolved without investigation.

### White Collar Crime Unit

The White Collar Crime Unit is staffed by three full-time detectives and assisted by one part-time civilian assistant. These detectives are responsible for the primary and secondary investigation of all forgeries, frauds, extortions, computer-related crimes, and check crimes. Additionally, the Department polygraph operator is assigned to this unit.

White collar crime accounts for an ever increasing portion of reported and unreported crime. In 1988 reported white collar crime losses were \$1,610,773. This represents a 12.74% increase over 1987 losses. Although these losses are not included in UCR statistics, they represent approximately 35% of the value of all other reported loss due to theft. (The UCR statistics do not include white collar crime losses.) Additionally, while white collar crime reporting is generally on the increase, much of the actual loss goes unreported. Many of the victims of this type of crime attempt to recover their losses through civil remedies and never report the actual losses to the Police Department.

In 1988 the White Collar Crime detectives investigated 835 criminal cases. Of these cases, 169 were closed by arrest, 56 were closed by filing or summons, and 145 cases were closed by other means (a 44% closure rate). They arrested 62 people and charged 54 others in connection with their investigation without arrest. White Collar Crime detectives served 44 search warrants and recovered \$651,365 in property and funds. These recoveries were a combination of property recoveries by warrant, victim reimbursements, and court-ordered restitution.

The types of cases that are assigned to this unit range from a simple case of bank check forgery and checks issued on a closed bank account to extremely complicated frauds and scams.

Here are two examples of complicated scams that are typically assigned for investigation:

A woman made an occupation out of obtaining false identification, which included birth certificates, social security cards, and drivers' licenses. She used this identification to obtain credit cards and bank accounts. She made thousands of check and bank card transactions at many different locations. (She also obtained and used stolen credit cards.) Many of the purchases were immediately refunded for cash. In a very short time, this suspect was able to cause over \$100,000 in loss to our business community. When the detectives finally identified and located her, they served a search warrant on her residence. They recovered stolen property from various Seattle area merchants valued in excess of \$75,000. The case took over a month of one detective's time to prepare. When the case goes to trial, it will consume another 3-4 weeks of the same detective's time in court.

Another case involves a person who is a bookkeeper at the victim's business. The bookkeeper obtained a business license in the name of the company that he worked for. He then opened a bank account in the company name and listed himself as the president and owner. From that point, he made deposits of payments to his employer into his own account. Since he was the bookkeeper, he was able to cover his trail for a time. Before his embezzlement was discovered, he was able to abscond with over \$200,000.

General (non-criminal) highlights from the Section:

- \*\* Shelly Brown from the Crime Analysis Unit gave birth to a girl in February -- Megan Elizabeth.
- \*\* Detective Bob Phelan retired on a medical disability.
- \*\* Detective Lieutenant Dave Morrison ended a seven-year assignment in Narcotics with a transfer to Patrol.
- \*\* Detective Lieutenant Roy Gleason transferred to Narcotics.
- \*\* Detective Lieutenant Mark Ericks moved from Property Crimes to Persons Crimes.
- \*\* Lieutenant Ed Mott was brought into the Section from Patrol and assigned to the Property Crimes Unit.
- \*\* Detective Bill Ferguson, Crime Analysis Unit, was promoted to Lieutenant and was transferred to Patrol.
- \*\* The Investigation Section filled the part-time civilian position with a talented young lady, Kelly Miles. She worked until September, when she was forced to resign due to increased workload at college.
- \*\* Luann Warren, part-time employee in the Domestic Violence Program, quit to pursue her education. She and her husband moved to Chicago, where she will finish her PhD and he will complete his internship.
- \*\* The Investigation Section, along with Patrol and Traffic, moved back into the remodeled quarters in the City Hall after an 18-month absence.

1988

## PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT

The Property Crimes Unit is one of four units in the Investigative Section of Bellevue Police Department's Operations Division. The Unit investigates all property crimes, performing necessary follow-up investigations. Patrol officers are unable to perform as a first line police response.

The Unit is headed by a lieutenant. There are two two-person teams, one for North Bellevue crimes and the other for South Bellevue crimes. One detective position handles all commercial property crimes, but was vacant this past year due to medical leave. The other is assigned as the crime analysis detective. One civilian is a crime analyst and the other is an ID technician. A rotating detective position allows Patrol officers to assist detectives on a temporary, three-month assignment wherein they are intensively trained and take on an investigative case load, often assisting property crime investigators.

In 1988, the rotating detective position was suspended for six months due to a Patrol manpower shortage and the crime analysis detective was promoted in November and unreplaced until 1989. The crime analysis detective does not conduct follow-up investigations. The remaining four investigators investigated 932 cases in 1988, including 186 motor vehicle thefts. They closed 800 cases, charging 173 people. 154 were arrested and 19 charged without arrest. 157 were charged with felonies.

### Burglary and Theft:

Property Crime detectives served 36 search warrants, recovering \$3,800 in narcotics and \$481,483 in property. They were called out 22 times to the scenes of property crimes.

Comparing 1987 to 1988 crimes, burglaries decreased 7.9%, and 28.6% more were cleared in 1988. 5.2% more arrests were made for burglary in 1988. Theft incidents increased from 1987 by 10.8%. 18.9% more were cleared, partly due to 19.5% more arrests for theft in 1988.

In the spring of 1988, a search warrant was served on a storage locker to recover \$50,000 in coins, precious metals and stones, clearing a dozen cases in three states.

In June, after six months of investigations, a Crime Stoppers' tip led to a search warrant in Renton, allowing the recovery of \$15,000 in property purchased with forged and/or counterfeit checks and two vehicles. Although only one Bellevue theft was cleared, about 40 were cleared in Washington and Oregon, for a total recovery of about \$25,000.

Thirty cases were cleared with the arrest of two brothers and four associates. Three search warrants recovered \$12,000 and a well-known burglary team was sent to jail again, hopefully reducing the 1989 burglary impact.

In June, one arrest cleared a series of thefts from a downtown business building. The theft was accomplished through the theft of a building master key. Just over half of the loss was recovered (\$13,000), but the key recovery prevented a greater expense of rekeying the entire building.

### **Crime Analysis:**

The CAU provides statistical data for FBI Uniform Crime Reports, gathers and disseminates criminal activity information and serves as a network for department information exchange. It reviews all crime reports to identify patterns and develop suspect information. Weekly bulletins are published and known offenders are tracked. Stolen, recovered and pawned property is organized and cross referenced to aid in case closures.

In 1988, the Unit was totally computerized and an inter-agency around-the-clock, computer bulletin board was established. A bulletin board was started, which led directly to the arrest of 25 people and fostered information exchange within the department. Besides making over 14,000 computer data entries in 1988, the systems were refined for easier retrieval access.

### **Identification Technician:**

The ID technician examines fingerprint evidence to identify suspects for Bellevue cases and assist with evidence processing. In 1987, just over 700 cases provided 2,454 fingerprints, which were matched to identify 44 suspects. In 1988, 667 cases yielded 2,235 fingerprints, which were matched to identify 62 suspects. A new Automated Fingerprint Identification System produced 24 of those matches and promises to enhance the clearance rate for cases in which fingerprint evidence is collected in the future.



CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

One lieutenant and three detectives are assigned to the Crime Prevention Unit. The Crime Prevention Unit specializes in commercial, residential and school crime prevention programs throughout the city, as well as support services to the Police Department for installation of specialized electronic surveillance and stakeout equipment. The Crime Prevention Unit also played an active part with other City departments such as Parks, Planning, and Design and Development in their programs, like community annexation meetings, summer park patrol program, development review process (involving new construction), Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) meetings, City Quadrant meetings, COB Safety Fair, and City facilities security planning.

The Unit is also an active participant in the regional anti-crime program called Seattle-King County Crime Stoppers, which is made up of the police departments of Bellevue, Kirkland, King County, Mercer Island, Redmond, Tukwila and Seattle. This is an anonymous tip, cash reward program. It is an official associate of the Crime Stoppers International (CSI) Program. It is one of over 800 in existence internationally.

The Crime Prevention Unit also monitors and enforces the False Burglary and Robbery Alarm Ordinance, as well as the Pawn Shop Ordinance.

Residential

The residential crime prevention detective coordinates the entire "Block Watch" program for neighborhoods with the assistance of the Senior Crime Prevention Volunteers who conduct home security inspections (surveys) and property inventory/engravings.

1988 brought about the second year of participation in the 6th annual Bellevue Home Show held at Bellevue Square. This resulted in an estimated contact with over 2,500 citizens and signing up of over 50 citizens for security surveys and/or property engravings.

Also, in 1988 the residential specialist continued the emphasis on drug prevention education, both to the adult population and to young persons. A drug poster was developed and distributed to schools and the business community.

The residential detective continued the program of sending a personal letter and return card to each home burglary victim with an offer for crime prevention services, primarily security inspections and engravings. This program continued to have a return rate of 20% for requests of services. Almost all were referred to the Senior Crime Prevention Volunteers for follow-up. This program will continue in 1989.

One important objective of this position is to promote and maintain a strong working relationship with the citizens of Bellevue, where annual crime statistics again reflected a decrease in residential burglaries. This is the

eleventh out of twelve years.

### Commercial

The commercial crime prevention detective coordinates programs for the business community and regularly trains owners/managers and employees concerning crime prevention techniques in armed robbery. Mock robbery scenarios are role-played for bank employees, personal security, shoplifting, internal theft, bad checks, credit card forgery and executive and family security awareness. This officer also conducts in-depth security surveys and provides businesses with recommendations on physical, electronic, and policy and procedures for existing and soon-to-be-built businesses.

This detective also coordinates the monthly bank security officer meetings with the White Collar Crime Unit of the Investigations Section and is a key coordinator of the monthly meetings with the Central Business District's mid/high-rise property managers and the Fire Department to address mutual safety and security related issues. Both of these ongoing meetings have resulted in strengthened relationships with the private sector in attempting to solve mutual problems and to prevent crimes in these types of environments.

1988 brought about specialized crime prevention training for patrol officers, dispatch and records personnel.

### Schools

The detective who is assigned to schools develops and presents crime prevention programs to all levels of school-age children, including preschool. Some of the topics include drug/narcotics education, careers in law enforcement and criminal justice fields, dangerous strangers, fingerprinting, shoplifting prevention. Many of the programs at the elementary school age include the "Detective McGruff" and the McGruff Safe House Program. Although a major remodeling was being done in the police facility, numerous alternative type tours were completed during the year to acquaint citizens, particularly young people, with the police.

This officer is also responsible for the coordination of the Police Explorer Post (Cadet Unit) made up of young people between the ages of 15 and 20. The Unit has over 20 Cadets and five advisors. On a volunteer basis, they perform the school patrol program with the purpose of observing and reporting suspicious activity, as well as crimes after closing hours. They also help out at numerous events during the year such as the Bellevue Boys and Girls Club haunted house, Special Olympics, fun runs, Arts & Crafts Fair, Safety Fairs, City of Bellevue annual open house, Crime Stoppers Jail & Bail, etc. Since 1973, the Cadet Unit has proven itself to be a very valuable program for the young people, as well as a benefit to the city and the Police Department. Each Cadet becomes familiar with modern law enforcement functions and techniques. As an illustration, there has been 50 former Cadets that have been or are currently employed in the criminal justice system, as well as many others who have gone on to excellent careers in the private sector. Two of our own police officers were former Bellevue Police Explorers and one is currently an advisor to the program.

# ANNUAL REPORT

1988

<u>CP Events</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Total</u>
Presentations	58	56	294	408
Special Events	13	9	86	108
Meetings	89	9	86	422
Schools Attended	7	12	116	24
Teaching Statewide/Nationally	4	14	2	20
Surveys	9	56	3	68
VARDA/Camera	16	20	12	48
Media Interviews		3	4	7
TOTAL	196	387	522	1,105

<u>People Contacted</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Total</u>
Presentations	1,920	908	9,339	12,167
Special Events	4,065	99	2,408	6,572
Meetings		2,517		2,517
Schools Attended		401		401
Teaching Statewide/Nationally	259	218	60	537
Surveys	9	60	12	81
VARDA/Camera	16	57	3	76
Media Interviews		3	4	7
TOTAL	6,269	4,263	11,826	22,358

<u>Time Spent</u>	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Schools</u>	<u>Total</u>
Presentations	85	153	341	579
Special Events	196	137	830	1,163
Meetings	299	830	395	1,524
Schools Attended	112	245	64	421
Teaching Statewide/Nationally	26	90	8	124
Surveys	14	94	3	111
VARDA/Camera	23	146	17	186
Media Interviews		3	4	7
TOTAL	755	1,698	1,662	4,115

**ANNUAL REPORT  
1988  
CADET UNIT ACTIVITY**

**Training**

School Patrol -----	621	hours
Training Academy (Basic) -----	624	"
(Advanced) -----	240	"
EVOC -----	80	"
School Patrol Training -----	66	"
Fingerprinting -----	16	"
Drugs & Alcohol -----	45	"
Communication -----	30	"
K-9 -----	26	"
SWAT & Weapons -----	22	"
Firearms Safety -----	30	"

**Activities**

Arts & Crafts Fair -----	215	hours
Bellevue Jazz Festival -----	108	"
Park Openings -----	45	"
Hazardous Material Days -----	24	"
Special Olympics -----	215	"
COB Open House -----	50	"
Training Center Open House -----	50	"
Jail & Bail Fund Raiser -----	36	"
Republican Fund Raiser -----	32	"
Fingerprinting -----	24	"
BITE of Bellevue Square -----	40	"
Emerald City Marathon -----	66	"
4th of July Display -----	32	"
Blue Grass First Class -----	36	"
SeaFair Torchlight Parade -----	102	"
BPOG Circus -----	50	"
Voter Registration -----	8	"
Nordstrom's Kids Run -----	16	"
Auctions -----	126	"
Teddy Bear Packaging -----	60	"
Haunted House -----	144	"
Police Accreditation -----	<u>16</u>	"

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS                 3,340 hours

**Senior Volunteers**

Security Engravings/Surveys -----	71	142	hours
Training -----	*	66	"
CP Booth -----	*	<u>36</u>	"

TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS                 244 hours

1988

THE MULTI EASTSIDE AGENCY

NARCOTICS TASK FORCE

The Special Investigations Unit consists of one lieutenant and three detectives responsible for the detection of organized criminal activity, intelligence gathering, vice and narcotic related investigations. The Unit provides training and other specialized services for police operations. The Unit is a member of the Multi Agency Eastside Narcotics Task Force comprised of representatives from Kirkland, Redmond, Mercer Island and Bellevue Police Departments. The Task Force concept has proven to be highly effective in combating the narcotic trafficking activity on the Eastside. The Unit's continued priority is to focus on marijuana grow operations, local cocaine dealers and organized narcotic traffickers.

In 1988 there were a number of significant changes and accomplishments that occurred in the Special Investigations Unit. They are as follows:

1. A change in supervision.
2. An extension from 18 months to 27 months for those assigned to the Unit.
3. Designed and implemented a computerized intelligence records keeping system.
4. The Unit obtained a part-time secretary to assist with computer file entries.
5. Computerized the various Narcotic Search Warrant Forms utilized in the daily operation of the Unit.
6. The development of a Narcotic Raid Plan.
7. Developed greater communication between the Task Force Unit and the involved agency administrators.
8. The Task Force supervisor conducted monthly meetings with the interlocal agency supervisors to discuss activity of the Unit, performance of personnel, goals of the Unit, and mutual areas of interest.
9. Improved cooperative investigative liaison with other law enforcement jurisdictions and actively participated in several large multi jurisdictional investigations.
10. Upgrading of Unit equipment.
11. Significant increases in activity and seizures.

There were a number of significant cases developed by the Special Investigations/Eastside Narcotics Task Force Unit in 1988. Some were as follows:

1. In January 1988, four subjects were arrested for Narcotic Violations at a local motel when it was discovered that they were in possession of cocaine valued at approximately \$2,000. The investigation additionally resulted in the seizure of \$7,000+ in cash.
2. In January 1988, two subjects were arrested after selling cocaine to a detective working in an undercover capacity. As a result of the arrests and the service of a search warrant, cocaine and \$17,000 in cash were seized from their residence.
3. In February 1988, one subject was arrested after a search warrant was served on a residence near Duvall. The subject had turned both the house and an adjacent barn into a marijuana grow operation. Marijuana plants valued at \$534,000 were seized. The defendant's property, valued at approximately \$175,000, was seized federally.
4. In February 1988, four subjects were arrested in Seattle following a search warrant service at a motel. Seized were cocaine and heroin valued at \$19,000 and \$3,700 in cash.
5. In March 1988, a subject was arrested in Bellevue when processed marijuana and starter plants valued at \$2,000 were discovered in the residence. Also seized were numerous chemicals used in the manufacture of explosive devices.
6. In April 1988, the Eastside Narcotics Task Force served a search warrant in the Fall City area and as a result of the warrant service arrested three subjects and seized cocaine valued at \$23,500, numerous rifles and handguns, and \$16,000+ in cash.
7. In April 1988, the Eastside Narcotics Task Force served a search warrant in Seattle and arrested a subject found in possession of cocaine valued at \$24,000.
8. In May 1988, the Task Force served a search warrant at a residence in Redmond and arrested a male subject for Narcotic Violations. Cocaine had been purchased from the subject on four different occasions. As a result of the warrant service, the following items were seized: cocaine valued at \$2,000, stolen jewelry, cash and weapons.
9. In June 1988, the Task Force served a search warrant on the residence of a 62-year-old Bellevue woman and seized a marijuana grow operation having a value of \$25,000, grow equipment, and \$3,400 in cash.
10. In July 1988, the Task Force served a search warrant in Renton after receiving information that the occupant was involved in growing marijuana. As a result of the warrant service, marijuana valued at

