

Rob J. Burdess

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Qualifications

Dedicated law enforcement professional with nearly 18 years of experience providing leadership and command of patrol, investigative units, SWAT and special projects, while demonstrating a consistent achievement of goals and objectives, strong public relations skills and devotion to the organizational mission. Extensive experience in planning, budgeting, training, resource management, community policing and special projects. Served as president of three non-profit organizations providing leadership and governance for effective operations. Holds a Master's degree in Public Administration, graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command and is an adjunct instructor at Des Moines Area Community College.

Professional Experience

1999- Present	Newton Police Department	Newton, IA
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Police Chief (September 2015 -Present)

Oversee and direct all activities of the 28 employee police department serving a population of 15,300; develops and directs the implementation of goals, objectives, policies, procedures and work standards for the department; and administers the department's \$3.1 million budget; works closely with the City Manager, the City Council, other City departments, a variety of public and private organizations and citizen groups in developing and implementing programs to maximize police services.

- Developed K9 narcotics program to assist with drug detection and assist in finding missing persons
- Partnered with Alliant Energy to develop an innovative electric vehicle program
- Initiated cultural training and community partnerships to address racial bias within the police department
- Initiated strategic planning process and organizational **SWOT** analysis.
- Initiated formal job analysis for non-sworn administrative and sworn command positions.
- Developed implementation strategy for the new Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and ordinance.
- Initiated and oversaw the development of a formalized college internship program.
- Developed new city wide distracted driving education and awareness program.
- Initiated process improvement strategy for dog/cat licensing and developed problem dog hearing procedure.
- Initiated and directed programming for the first Newton Public Safety Day.
- Drafted policies for critical incident operations, to include SWAT and officer involved shootings.
- First Newton PD commander to graduate from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

Police Lieutenant (2013 - 2015)

Plans, directs, manages, supervises, and coordinates the activities and operations of night shift patrol, traffic safety, investigations and SWAT divisions of the 24 sworn member police department. Coordinates assigned activities with other divisions, departments, and outside agencies; and provides highly responsible and complex administrative support as assigned.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Serve as lieutenant-in-charge in the absence of the chief of police.
- Developed a new employee evaluation and performance appraisal system.
- Serve as the traffic safety coordinator and developed a strategic plan for city wide safety programs.
- Command an 8 member SWAT team and developed a crisis intervention team.
- Command and supervise two patrol shifts - 6 officer 2nd shift and 5 officer 3rd shift.
- Serve as policy writer and draft, revise, and maintain a 300 + page policy and procedure manual.
- Expert in use of force and force management and serve as senior defensive tactics instructor.
- Responsible for facilitating organizational efficiency studies and developing collaborative solutions.
- Write local, state, federal and private grants and develop equipment procurement strategies.
- Oversee community policing programs: Safety City, Citizens Police Academy, Neighborhood Watch
- Develop and maintain department Facebook page.

Police Detective (2007-2013)

Supervise police officers and civilian employees while conducting high-level investigations in which direction must be given to accomplish investigative priorities and during any absence of higher-ranking commanders during large incidents or special events. Conducts complex investigations of suspected criminal activity, interviews witnesses and suspects, observes and inspects crime scenes, collects and preserves physical evidence, prepares written reports, performs forensic examinations, writes search warrants and other legal documents, performs law enforcement associated with traffic laws and crimes against persons and property, arresting individuals suspected of criminal activity.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Investigated hundreds of complex felony cases to include: death investigations, robbery, kidnapping, sexual assault, child abuse, aggravated assaults, fraud, theft, internet scams, and property crimes.
- Supervise police officers and civilian CSI members during large-scale criminal investigations and events.
- Achieved a case clearance rate of 88% during tenure as detective.
- Coordinate with Federal and State law enforcement agencies by providing investigative resources.
- Developed departmental training and protocols for the investigation of missing and exploited children.
- Consulted on the redesign of Iowa's Amber Alert program and served on the statewide reform committee.

Police Officer (1999-2007)

Protect life and property by patrolling the City of Newton, make written reports of crime, investigate crimes against individuals and property, process crime scenes for physical evidence, enforce state and city criminal and traffic laws, investigate vehicle accidents, assist the public, testify in court, handle and maintain police bloodhound unit, instruct officers in various law enforcement weapons and tactics, serve as a field training officer, acting supervisor and tactical team leader.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Serve as a field-training officer and trained, supervised, evaluated and mentored 5 recruit officers.
- Redesigned the probationary officer assessment system and updated the field training program.
- Coordinated the DARE program and assisted with the development and implementation of curriculum.
- Serve as a police K9 instructor and advisor for law enforcement agencies throughout the U.S. and Europe.
- Facilitated the development and training of police bloodhound units in several German States (2004-2008)
- Developed the Shop with a Cop program to help less fortunate children in the community.
- Initiated the development of the Newton Police Officer memorial for our fallen officers.
- Assisted with CALEA review committee and facilitated review of policy/procedures for administrators.
- Served as President of the Newton Police Association and directed fundraising efforts totaling over \$80,000 for the purchase of police equipment, training and the police memorial (2002-2013).

2006-2014

Iowa State Police Association

Des Moines, IA

President

Advise, govern, oversee policy and direction and assist with the leadership and general promotion of the Iowa State Police Association so as to support the organization's mission and needs of the 3,100 members. Communicate with state and federal law makers and lobby for laws promoting safety and professionalism in Iowa law enforcement.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Youngest director elected to the Board of Directors in the organization's history.
- Serve on executive finance committee and manage assets and an annual budget of \$2.5 million.
- Initiated an efficiency study and reduced operating costs by 10% and identified additional revenue sources.
- Developed and implemented a statewide grassroots nexus between members and public officials.
- Developed website and increased organizational transparency and member communication.
- Served on the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Advisory Board (2008-2009).
- Developed corporate sponsorships and programs for increased employee benefits.
- Developed the Iowa Law Enforcement Purple Heart Award for fallen or critically injured officers.

2006-2014

Rabiner Treatment Center

Fort Dodge, IA

President

Advise, govern, oversee policy and direction, and assist with the leadership and general promotion of the Rabiner Treatment Center and integrated High School so as to support the organization's mission and needs. Assist with fundraising and support of the organization and the overall treatment and reform of the clients thereof.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Serve as Board President and Chairman of the Personnel Committee and oversee benefit packages, employee training and disciplinary action of the center's 120 employees and C E O .
- Lobby State of Iowa legislators for legislation that is advantageous to juvenile rehabilitation and treatment.
- Assist in the development and oversight of a \$2 million annual budget.
- Serve as direct supervisor of CEO and management team and provide performance evaluations.
- Provided oversight for reorganization and 20% reduction in expenses and staff reductions.
- Oversaw state mandated accreditation of operations and services.

2010 - 2015

Des Moines Area Community College

Newton, IA

Adjunct Instructor

Instruct criminal justice and sociology students using lecture, practical sessions and field studies. Develop curriculum, create syllabus and course materials, assess and report student progress and grades in accordance with college policies. Motivate students to achieve academic and career goals and act as a mentor for students studying the law enforcement field.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Increased student enrollment in the Newton campus criminal justice program.
- Certified to teach online courses via the BlackBoard education module.
- Assisted with youth crime scene summer academy.

1997 - 1999

University of Iowa Police Department

Iowa City, IA

Police Officer

Protect life and property by patrolling the University of Iowa campus (25,000 students) and surrounding city (50,000 residents), investigate crimes against individuals and property, enforce state and regents laws, investigate vehicle accidents, make written reports, testify in court, provide security during college sporting events, instruct officers in using the PR-24 baton.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Was appointed first impact weapons instructor for the department.
- Established a systematic defensive tactics training program for all officers.
- Developed and served on the first training advisory committee.
- Youngest Police Officer hired in the department's history.

Education

2015 - Jan.-June

Northwestern University Center for Public Safety

Evanston, IL

Police Staff and Command School

- Police Command and Management Certificate
- 400 hr. training curriculum
- 24 college credits

2007-2009

Walden University

Minneapolis, MN

Public Administration

- Master of Public Administration Degree - May 2009
- 4.0 GPA

2005-2007

Upper Iowa University

Fayette, IA

Public Administration

- Bachelor of Science Degree - February 2007
- 4.0 GPA
- Cum Laude Graduate
- Dean's List - Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Summer 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007

1996-2005

Des Moines Area Community College

Ankeny, IA

Criminal Justice

- Associate in Science Degree - May 2005
- 3.05 GPA
- Dean's List - Fall 1996, Fall 2001, Spring 2002

1997 Sept.- Nov.

Iowa Law Enforcement Academy

Johnston, IA

Law Enforcement Officer Certification

- Level I - State of Iowa Law Enforcement Certification -480 hours

Command and Leadership Training

- March 2015 - National Tactical Officers Association - SWAT Command and Decision Making- 40 hours
- January 2015 - FBI- LEEDA - Command Leadership Institute - 40 hours
- November 2014 - Iowa Law Enforcement Academy- Becoming a Force Multiplier - 36 hours
- September 2014 - FBI- LEEDA - First Supervisors Leadership Institute - 36 hours
- May 2013 - Iowa Law Enforcement Academy - Legacy and Generational Leadership- 36 hours
- 2013 - 2014 - National Incident Management Systems Certified (NIMS) - ICS100, ICS200, IS700, IS800

Volunteer Activities

- 2014 - Present - Young Professionals of Jasper County - Professional Development Team Member
- 2013 - Present - Newton Christian School - Fundraising Committee Member
- 2012 - Present- Newton Church of The Way – Member/Volunteer
- 2010 - 2012 - International Association of Painters and Professional Trades Union - Local Vice President
- 2008 - Present- Iowa K9 Alliance - Instructor/Advisor
- 2006 - 2008 - Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Jasper County - Mentor
- 2006 - 2008 - Newton Fire Department- Volunteer Firefighter
- 2004 - Present - German Bloodhound Mantrailing Association - Instructor/Advisor
- 2003 - Present - Law Enforcement Bloodhound Association - Instructor
- 2002 - 2013 - Newton Police Association - President/Secretary
- 1997- 1998 - Coralville Parks and Recreation Department - Little League Baseball Coach

Awards/Commendations

- 2016 - 5-Star Innovation Leadership Award – Iowa Law Enforcement Academy
- 2016 – Trilogy Award – FBI-LEEDA
- 2016 – 20 Under 40 in Jasper County –Newton Daily News
- 2014 - Life Member Award - Iowa State Police Association
- 2014 - Past President Inductee - Iowa State Police Association
- 2010 - Newton Police Department Lifesaving Commendation
- 2008 - German Red Cross - Gold Cross Medal (Distinguished Volunteerism)- Sandau, Germany
- 2008 - Bridge of Hearts Foundation - Blue Heart Award (Distinguished Volunteerism)- Berlin, Germany
- 2005 - Nominee for Iowa Animal Hall of Fame (K9 Team)
- 1999 - University of Iowa Police Department Lifesaving Commendation
- 1997 - Present - Numerous letters and commendations for meritorious service in the line of duty

