OFFICE OF
DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF

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Dodge County Sheriff's Office
Introduces New Leica Robotic Total Station

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office Crash Investigation Team recently obtained a new Leica Robotic total station and EVR scene software for the data collector. Sheriff Ninmann states that this would not have been possible without the assistance of Director Joyce Fiacco, Land Resources and Parks Department, who provided funding for the new equipment as well as expertise in obtaining the appropriate equipment.

The Sheriff's Office and Land Resource Department worked together for more than a year to identify the proper vendor and equipment that would fit the budget and the needs of the Sheriff's Office Crash Team.

The total station records points of evidence at crash and crime scenes and the data is transferred to a computer aided diagram program for scene reconstruction. The Crash Investigation Team had been using a Sokkia total station that was purchased with grant funds in 2004.

Last week, the Crash Investigation Team received 24 hours of training on the new systems by Mike Selves (Collision Forensic Solutions, Nebraska).

The Leica system is robotic and only requires one person to operate, as opposed to the Sokkia total station, which required a minimum of two persons to operate. A typical crash/crime scene where 120 points of evidence would be collected would take approximately two hours by a trained team of two Crash Investigators with the older total station, however utilizing the new robotic total station, the same scene and points of evidence can now be collected in less than one hour by one trained Crash Investigator. Sheriff Ninmann states the new equipment will allow us to better utilize our resources at crashes and could shorten the length of time a road would need to remain closed from a crash.

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