

84th's Outstanding Warrants Below Avg.

By Craig McGuire

With the second-lowest number of outstanding misdemeanor warrants in Brooklyn last year, the 84th Precinct, which covers Brooklyn Heights, is an area the officers of the Kings County Warrant Division do not have to concentrate on regularly.

Outstanding warrants are issued when people arrested for misdemeanors do not show up for their court date or fail to answer a summons.

Only 279 misdemeanor warrants were outstanding in Brooklyn Heights last year, noticeably better than the average number for Brooklyn's 22 precincts, 705.

It is the warrant division's responsibility to track down and apprehend people with outstanding warrants.

New York City Police Sergeant Gerard Fabiano, head of the division, said knowledge of residents in a particular area with outstanding warrants can be an effective law enforcement tool.

"If you have a certain area hit hard by crimes like robberies or drug dealing, it is usually neighborhood people," said Fabiano. "We then proceed into the area and make a concentrated

sweep, and in many cases these individuals have outstanding warrants. This frequently helps reduce the problem."

"It's sad to say that often the system is a revolving door," said Fabiano. "We're the best counter to that."

Although he expressed frustration at the law enforcement system, Fabiano said the problem lies not with the enforcement agents, but rather the sheer volume of cases. Last year in Brooklyn there were over 15,500 misdemeanor warrants and more than 9,000 felony warrants is-

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