

 MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT	DATE July 10, 2013	POLICY 1.1.03
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to identify the Policing Strategy utilized by the department to provide the most efficient and effective use of resources and establish a policing strategy that meets the needs of the community and attempts to address issues identified in the department’s comprehensive strategic plan.

The Middleton Police Department’s comprehensive strategic plan was designed to identify overall strategic issues which are likely to require department attention and resources. These strategic issues included, but were not limited to:

- A. Identifying Policing Strategies to effectively deal with drug, alcohol and gang-related issues and the crimes associated with those issues;
- B. Maintaining a high level of effectiveness as the community becomes more diverse across ethnicity, race, age and/or socio-economic strata;
- C. Ensuring the safe movement of traffic within and throughout the community; Identifying what the Department can do to continue current operations, and in fact improve on those operations, in a fiscal environment characterized by flat to shrinking public funding and;

- D. Identifying strategies to address the continued plague of domestic abuse crimes in our community.

In an attempt to address elements of these issues, the department's Policing Strategy was developed with the goal of aligning the Policing Strategy with those goals and issues identified in the overall strategic plan.

POLICY

The Policing Strategy of the Middleton Police Department was developed to provide a community policing approach that is unique to the needs of the City of Middleton. The goals of the Policing Strategy are:

- A. Maintain the level of quality service to our customers in the form of emergency response and proactive work that is equitable, consistent, and dependable in all parts of the city, and at all times of day.
- B. Deployment of personnel resources to both match the workload and to enhance the officer's sense of ownership over the geographic areas that they serve and the services that they provide.
- C. Provide opportunities for proactive work while officers are not responding to calls for service that is targeted, measured, and enhances the Department's ability to achieve its mission and accomplish specific public safety outcomes.

The Policing Strategy combines elements of contemporary policing solutions, focuses on the need for collaboration in problem solving, and provides officers with the tools they need to combat public safety and quality of life needs in the community. At its core, the Policing Strategy consists of five elements; a district policing plan, a problem-oriented policing philosophy, a Neighborhood Officer program and Community Policing Teams, and the use of Predictive Policing strategies to enhance crime prevention efforts.

PROCEDURE

District Policing Plan

District Policing is an operational method of assigning police resources in a more efficient way. The District Policing Plan provides for one officer in each of the three designated districts of the City on a 24 hour basis. Under the district policing model, patrol officers are assigned the same part of the city on a consistent basis, which provides officers with a more increased familiarity with the areas that they patrol. By dividing the city into patrol districts, calls for service are geographically distributed, which helps to equalize the workload during the shift. The District Policing Plan is the foundation upon which the Neighborhood Officer Program and Community Policing Teams are built, and is an integral part of the problem-oriented philosophy of the department.

Problem Oriented Policing

Problem-oriented policing is a framework developed to improve the systematic process for examining and addressing specific community problems. Under this approach, officers are committed to a more methodical approach centered on inquiry and problem solving. This philosophy requires a shift in the traditional view of police and policing, from one of alleviating immediate and emergency needs to one of identifying problems and seeking more permanent, long-lasting solutions which, by design, will reduce those issues that require urgent and immediate police resources. The Problem Oriented Policing model requires a greater awareness by the police of those issues, trends, and problems that impact the quality of life, and the ability to engage the community and stakeholders in developing long-lasting solutions of mutual interest.

Neighborhood Officer Program and Community Policing Teams

The **Neighborhood Officer Program** was developed to create a personal point of contact within the police department for residents and businesses in the city's many neighborhoods and subdivisions. The program is based on the successful concepts of the community policing philosophy and with the goal of focusing more on community and personal engagement. Every residential, business, and retail area in the city has at least one neighborhood officer assigned to help identify community issues, problems, and crime trends that affect the quality of life. Identified issues are then addressed either individually by the Neighborhood Officer or, for more diverse problems, by a Community Policing Team.

Community Policing Teams are comprised of patrol officers assigned to each of the three patrol districts within the City. Under the direction of a team supervisor, these teams of officers are tasked with addressing area and neighborhood problems, such as on-going traffic and safety concerns or noise issues; and, working with members of the community to identify and implement solutions. Using problem-oriented policing concepts, officers routinely utilize other stakeholders such as city building inspectors, probation officers, landlords, neighborhood associations, retail businesses, faith-based groups and any other non-traditional groups as partners to mitigate or prevent crime and disorder. By working as a team, the officers are able to expand their resources and hours of coverage to address a particular problem or issue. As always, the ultimate goal is to respond to the needs of the community.

Predictive Policing

Predictive Policing refers to policing strategies and tactics that develop and use information and advanced analysis to inform forward-thinking crime prevention. With the advanced use of technology and information systems, law enforcement is transitioning to an information and data-rich environment. The Predictive Policing model utilizes the most effective principles from contemporary community policing efforts, intelligence-led policing, and other proven policing models. Predictive Policing involves the analysis of data from internal and external sources, such as data mining, local and regional crime mapping, and social network analysis, to anticipate future crime trends and events. Predictive Policing is not intended to replace the traditional style of policing, but rather it is designed as a tool to make traditional policing more effective by anticipating needs and putting resources in place to address those needs. The goal of Predictive Policing is to combine the analysis and use of information with the ability to implement effective

strategies to prevent crime, and to effectively deploy resources in front of crime with the objective of changing outcomes. These goals will be accomplished by:

- A. Improving the quantity, quality, and timeliness of crime and disorder data.
- B. Improving the analysis of data, using automated methods when possible, aimed at anticipating or rapidly identifying trends, patterns, sequences, and relationships.
- C. Engaging in proactive information-based directed patrol (using intelligence-based strategies to pre-empt the dangerous people, alcohol and drug use, criminogenic situations, and frustrating relationships that precipitate calls to the police).
- D. Seeking opportunities for collaborative efforts, or to mutually share data and analysis with allied agencies.

Police Strategy Initiatives

Police Strategy initiatives are designed to support the overall strategy of the department by providing specific tools and outreach efforts. Strategy initiatives include:

- A. Vehicle Report Cards
- B. Crime Prevention Notices
- C. Enhanced use of Social Media
- D. Expanded use of real-time video
- E. Community Awareness Officer
- F. Neighborhood Meetings

Implementation and Operations

The Operations Captain will be responsible for overall direction and implementation of the Policing Strategy. The Neighborhood Policing Coordinator will be responsible for all operational aspects of the Neighborhood Officer Program, including the assignment of Community Policing Teams, the coordination of neighborhood assignments and projects, and the implementation of Predictive Policing Strategies. Shift supervisors will be responsible for providing supervision and direction to the officers on their individual shifts and may make neighborhood project assignments as necessary. In addition, any officer may initiate a neighborhood project assignment by submitting a request to either their direct supervisor or the Neighborhood Policing Coordinator.

Each assigned neighborhood project, whether assigned to a Neighborhood Officer or a Community Policing Team, will also have an assigned designated shift supervisor to provide direction and assistance as necessary. The assigned supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that effective proactive policing methods are utilized; that there is sufficient and continued progress towards the completion of assigned projects; that each assigned project is completed to

the furthest extent possible and in a timely manner; and that all project documentation is completed.

If an assigned neighborhood project also involves on-going criminal activity or a case (or cases) which has been assigned for investigation within the Investigative Services Bureau, the ISB Supervisor will be notified of the neighborhood project assignment and may assign an investigator, or the Community Awareness Officer, to coordinate with, and provide relevant resources to, the assigned neighborhood officer(s). The Neighborhood Officers and the assigned investigator(s) or CAO will coordinate efforts, share information, and work cooperatively towards the successful conclusion of the investigation as well as the specified goals of the neighborhood project. The ISB Supervisor may also initiate a neighborhood project when necessary, either through direct assignment or by submitting a request to the Neighborhood Policing Coordinator.