

NEW CANAAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: CRIME PREVENTION

GENERAL ORDER NUMBER: 88-7-51

FILE: OPS 14

OPERATIONS SUPPORT

I PURPOSE/POLICY

The New Canaan Police Department is firmly committed to the concept of reducing crime by establishing proactive crime prevention programs. The purpose of this General Order is to establish procedures for presenting, promoting and evaluating the effectiveness of the department's crime prevention programs.

II RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the Chief of Police to underscore a need for each member of the department to assist in the education and advancement of the department's crime prevention efforts.

III PROCEDURES (ORGANIZATION & ADMINISTRATION)

A The responsibility for planning and coordinating crime prevention activities shall rest with the officer assigned to Community Relations/Crime Prevention. Prior to assignment, the officer shall have received special training in crime prevention theory and practice. The Community Relations/Crime Prevention officer shall be under the direction of the investigative section supervisor. Additionally, the Chief of Police may designate selected employees to assist in specific crime prevention efforts.

IV PROCEDURES (OPERATIONS)

A The following crime prevention programs constitute the Department's priority response in delivery of crime prevention services:

1. Neighborhood Watch Program
2. School Instruction and Presentation Programs
3. Home and Business Security Surveys
4. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Presentations
5. Public Addresses to Community Groups on relevant crime issues.
6. Closed House Check Program
7. Any other programs which may be deemed necessary to aid in the Department's crime prevention efforts.

- B** To be effective, crime prevention must have the flexibility to respond to changing crime data. As a result, the Crime Prevention officer shall be responsible for the following:
1. Targeting programs by crime type and geographic area on the basis of analysis of crime data.
 2. Targeting programs to address community perceptions or misconceptions of crime, when possible.
 3. Evaluating the effectiveness of the crime prevention programs at least every two years.
- C** The Neighborhood Watch Program is one of the Department's crime prevention efforts. The Crime Prevention Officer shall make every effort to insure that Neighborhood Watch groups remain current. He or she will also encourage the establishment of Neighborhood Watch groups in targeted areas.
- D** The department has an obligation to reach out to all aspects of the community affected by crime. All members of the department are encouraged to bring specific suggestions for crime prevention activities to the attention of the Crime Prevention Officer. Such suggestions may include, but are not limited to the following:
1. Conducting security surveys in specific areas.
 2. Disseminating information to the community on the prevailing types of crime.
 3. Increased closed house checks.
- E** The Crime Prevention Officer shall maintain ties with community groups and work with them in order to develop programs of mutual interest and benefit. Examples of such programs are as follows:
1. Requirements for successful prosecuting bad check cases to the Chamber of Commerce.
 2. Practices on personal safety presented to school children and senior citizen groups.
- F** The Crime Prevention Officer shall make himself available to requests from the following:
1. The Town Zoning Board.
 2. The Town Code Enforcement Officer.
 3. All other agents of the local government.

If requested, the Crime Prevention Officer is required to provide all relevant information concerning crime prevention as it relates to sightlines, access and egress, residential and commercial regulations and/or other considerations.

V DISTRIBUTION

This general order will be reproduced in electronic and traditional media. All sworn personnel shall have access to Department general orders through a read-only file on their individual domain of the Department's computer network. Printed copies and/or CD's will also be placed in locations throughout headquarters so that they are easily accessible to all personnel.

VII EFFECTIVE DATE

This general order approved by the Police Commission on October 19, 1988 and is effective January 30, 1989.

Revised June 1992
Reviewed May 2000

Per Order

Edward J. Nadriczny
Chief of Police