

16.00.090 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (S.R.O.) PROGRAM

The purpose of the School Resource Officer (S.R.O.) program is to enhance public safety by providing a uniformed Police presence on school campuses; building relationships with their assigned school's community; and by acting as an accessible resource for their schools youth, parents, educators and neighbors of the schools.

The primary responsibility of the School Resource Officer is to promote a safe learning environment on school campuses and in surrounding neighborhoods. Duties related to this area of responsibility include:

- ❖ Maintain a high-visibility uniformed Police presence on school campuses.
- ❖ Respond to emergencies on and near school campuses.
- ❖ Investigate crimes that occur on school campuses, are reported at schools, or otherwise have a nexus to the schools or the population that they serve.
- ❖ Assist Patrol Officers, Detectives and other law enforcement agencies with investigations related to the schools or the population that they serve.
- ❖ Respond to, investigate, and mitigate threats directed at the school.
- ❖ Advise and actively participate in emergency preparedness planning committees, drills exercises, and activities.

The Police Department also recognizes that schools are places where both the needs and resources of the community often come together. As such, School Resource Officers are also expected to work collaboratively with schools, public safety agencies, and community service organizations to prevent juvenile delinquency and to foster healthy, productive youth citizenship. Duties related to this area of responsibility include:

- ❖ Consult with School Administrators, counselors, drug / alcohol interventionists, and other youth service organizations to detect and address at risk youth behavior.
- ❖ Mediate conflict and support anti-bullying and violence prevention programs in the schools.
- ❖ Liaison between schools, families and juvenile justice system, including attending Juvenile Probation, Youth-At-Risk, and Community Truancy Board hearings.
- ❖ Facilitate referral to appropriate community resources.
- ❖ Teach in the classroom (substance abuse, violence prevention, constitutional law, career development, etc.).
- ❖ Participate in extra-curricular school sponsored activities and youth programs.