

Waltham Police Department

CHAPTER 45

CRIME PREVENTION

General Order Number: GO-01 2006

Effective Date: 01/2009, 06/2014, 06/2016, 03/2024

Accreditation Standard #: 45.2.1

POLICY:

The Waltham Police Department will use a crime prevention strategy that involves a proactive approach using crime analysis as its compass. Crime Analysis will identify the location of crimes, the types of crimes, and the impact that these crimes have on the community. Because the Waltham Police Department accepts the philosophy of community policing, all officers must understand the concept and techniques of crime prevention. All officers shall work closely with the different components of the Department in planning and coordinating the crime prevention function.

PROCEDURES:

1. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION:

- a.** Crime Prevention is a department wide responsibility.
- b.** All officers will use a proactive approach to crime prevention, with the goal of eliminating or significantly reducing crime, through cooperation within the police department and with community partners.

2. CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS: [45.2.1f]

- a.** All crime prevention efforts will utilize the latest crime analysis information using data that indicates the type of crime and the geographic area that present the greatest problems.
- b.** The community will be kept informed on the locations of crime through a variety of social media outlets as well as the WPD web portal, and the City of Waltham website.
- c.** At least once a year the Commanding Officer – Community Services Division will evaluate the effectiveness of all crime prevention activity. This will include the effectiveness of all citizen/police crime prevention training seminars, such as the citizen's police academy.

- d. Because perceptions and misperceptions of crime can affect the quality of life for citizens of a community, the aforementioned social media outlets will be used to explain, in detail, data on all neighborhood crime.

3. CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS:

- a. Each police officer will familiarize themselves with outstanding criminal activity and begin a proactive approach to eliminating or significantly reducing particular crimes. Officers will work with citizens, businesses, other officers, school groups, and other organizations to develop a proactive strategy that will assist in eliminating or significantly reducing crime. [45.2.1a]
- b. The citizens of Waltham will be informed of the following services that the police department provides: [45.2.1d]
 - 1. Community Policing Coordinator.
 - 2. TRIAD (Education for elderly groups).
 - 3. Education Programs for the Young, such as: GREAT Program, Junior Police Academy.
 - 4. Education Programs for Businesses, such as: Active Shooter, ALICE program.
 - 5. Missing Children.
 - 6. Shoplifting.
 - 7. Drug Familiarization.
 - 8. Auto Theft.
 - 9. Credit Card Theft.
- c. In addition to crime analysis, officers will use a variety of methods to identify problems in the city. They will use computer data, FIO cards (Field Identification Cards), and information from other officers. Officers will also analyze calls for service, talk with citizens, and use any other information that will assist in identifying crime problems that exist.

- d. Officers will use all information gathered and respond with a strategy that will eliminate or significantly reduce the identified problem.
 - e. Once an officer has responded with a problem-solving strategy, they will assess their actions and determine if the problem was eliminated or significantly reduced.
4. **LIAISON WITH THE COMMUNITY:** [45.2.1a] Officers should work with the citizens in their particular section of patrol in order to determine what problems and crimes are affecting the quality of life in their patrol sector. Every officer of the Waltham Police Department should consider themselves Crime Prevention officers, and develop and encourage community participation in the identification of problems and methods to solve problems.