



**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT EIGHTH DISTRICT
COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN: CRIME REDUCTION AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

JUNE 2025



Contents

POLICY STATEMENT	3
Community Engagement Policy	3
Community Engagement Plan	4
EIGHTH DISTRICT.....	4
LEADERSHIP	5
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW	7
DISTRICT COMMUNITY POLICING PLAN PRIORITIES	8
ACTIONABLE ITEMS	8
1. The Eighth District will continue to work with the Homeless Assistance Unit and the City’s Health Department to mitigate homelessness.	8
2. The Eighth District will partner with local agencies to mitigate graffiti on public property and historical buildings.....	9
3. The Eighth District will create safer travel spaces for vehicles and pedestrians. The district will attempt to reduce the gridlock traffic caused by oversized vehicles (18 Wheelers) and crashes caused by a lack of signage.	9

POLICY STATEMENT

The New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) shall promote and strengthen community partnerships, work constructively with the community, ensure collaborative problem solving, ensure ethical and bias-free policing, and work to increase community confidence in the Department. The New Orleans Police Department will effectively engage the community in collaborative problem solving. NOPD will partner with the residents and stakeholders to identify and solve problems that contribute to crime, fear of crime and quality of life problems in communities. The Department is committed to proactively solving problems as well as reacting to their harmful consequences.

The New Orleans Police Department's Community Engagement Program consists of a Community Engagement Police, Community Engagement Plan and Community Outreach and Public Information Plans.



Community Engagement Policy

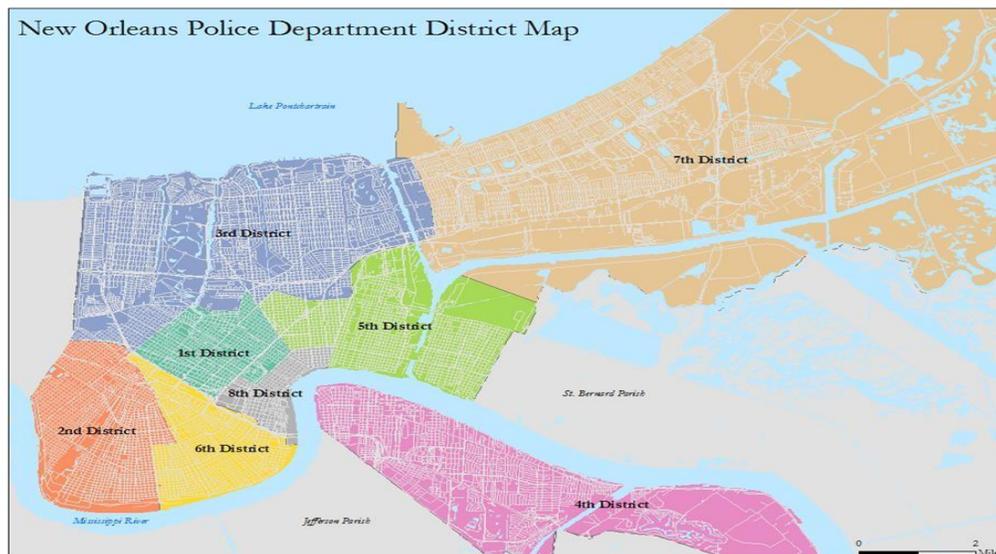
The New Orleans Police Department shall promote and strengthen community partnerships, engage constructively with the community, ensure collaborative problem solving, ensure ethical and bias-free policing, and increase community confidence in the Department.

Community Engagement Plan

The Community Engagement Manual is designed to be a long term, aspirational document that will enhance the NOPD's community engagement, community policing and problem-oriented policing procedures. The objectives of this manual are meant to guide officers on how to foster positive community engagement interactions between citizens and the NOPD, utilize community policing ideals, create opportunities for substantive engagement with the community, substantive collaboration with the community, and civic engagement.

EIGHTH DISTRICT

The Eighth District encompasses approximately 7.5 square miles, making it the smallest police district in the City of New Orleans. Its boundaries are the River to S. Claiborne, and Calliope to Elysian Fields Ave. The District currently serves a population of approximately 20,000 residents. The Eighth District, which includes the French Quarter, is the most visited tourist area in Louisiana. The Eighth District is also the home to some of Louisiana's oldest and historical monuments. The police station is located at 334 Royal Street. The District has 81 officers as of June 1, 2025. The District phone number is 504-658-6080. The 8th District can be contacted by email at nopd8thdistrict@nola.gov. For more information about the work of these officers, please follow the Facebook page account: NOPD Eighth.



LEADERSHIP



Captain Samuel Palumbo Jr., a 23-year veteran who joined NOPD in 2002, returned to the 8th District in March 2025. He was the Assistant Commander of the 8th District from 2020 until 2023. Prior to returning to the 8th District, he was assigned as the Assistant Commander of the Specialized Investigation Division, where he oversaw the City's Violent Crime Unit and Intelligence Division. His NOPD career includes time as Assistant Commander of the 6th and 8th Districts as well as multiple roles assigned to federal agencies. Palumbo has received several letters of commendation, a medal of Life Saving, a Purple Heart and a Medal of Merit. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Loyola University.



Second in Command is **Lieutenant Travis C. Ward**, a 20-year veteran of the NOPD, who was appointed to the Eighth District in April of 2023. His current assignment as Assistant-Commander of the Eighth District includes the management and direction of patrol strategies and the District Investigative Unit.

Lieutenant Ward has served within the NOPD in various positions, such as District Patrol, Task Force and the Eighth District Investigative Unit. He has an extensive background in investigating Homicides, Suicides and Unclassified Deaths from his time as a Detective in the Homicide Section and investigating Officer Involved Shootings and Serious Use of Force Incidents during his time in the Public Integrity Bureau / Force Investigation Team. He has tactical experience from his service in the Special Operations Division as a tactical operator in the Tactical Platoon and as a supervisor in the Violent Offenders Warrant Squad / U.S. Marshals Service Task Force. He is a graduate of Loyola University New Orleans where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice as well as a Master's Degree in Criminology & Justice.

DISTRICT SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR



Sgt. Kenneth Marchese joined the New Orleans Police Department in 1992. Sgt. Marchese started in the Second Police District serving as a patrolman and a detective. He was promoted to sergeant in 2012 and supervised officers in the 6th Police District, 8th Police District and the Traffic Division.

Sgt, Marchese has an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Phoenix.

COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICERS



Officer Bronson Gettridge is a 18 year veteran with the New Orleans Police Department. Officer Gettridge has been assigned as an 8th District Community Liaison Officer since November of 2020. Officer Gettridge has previously served in the Department's 7th District on the Task Force and the Narcotics unit. Officer Gettridge has also been assigned to the Street Gang Unit and Special Operations Division. Officer Gettridge is Radar, Mounted and DUI certified. Officer Gettridge received a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology from Fresno State University.



Officer Johnnie Brumfield has been a member of the New Orleans Police Department since June 3, 2001. Officer Brumfield has served as part of the 8th district's Community Liaison team since November 1, 2020. Officer Brumfield served in the 2nd Police District for 7yrs and the 8th Police District for 14yrs. Officer Brumfield is Scooter certified. Officer Brumfield received his Bachelor's Degree in Christians Leadership from Faith Evangelical Seminary in 2014.



Officer Alicia Pierre has served the New Orleans Police Department since 2009. Officer Pierre has served in various roles within the department, which includes Field Training, Mounted certification and Property Crimes Investigations.

Officer Pierre currently serves as one of the Community Liaison Officers in the Eighth District. Officer Pierre has received her Associates Degree in Liberal Arts from Upper Iowa University.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

On March 25, 2025, the NOPD hosted a forum with the 8th District Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) at the 8th District Police Station, located at 334 Royal St. The purpose of this event was to identify and prioritize public safety concerns voiced by community members. PCAB members reviewed New Orleans Neighborhood-Police Anti-Crime Coalition (NONPACC) agendas, crime stats and citizen concerns to form a list of issues that the 8th District should consider in the new Community Action Plan. The Community Liaison Officers collected feedback from the PCABs and analyzed the feedback to identify trending problems that could be developed into robust problem-oriented policing plans.

We will continue to survey the community every 2 years to update and prioritize these issues. Thus, we will continue to establish transparent, actionable items and update them on a monthly basis to show community members the district's efforts in resolving community concerns.

DISTRICT COMMUNITY POLICING PLAN PRIORITIES

After viewing issues raised by the community, the primary area of focus in the 8th District Community Policing Plan, drafted for June 2025, are:

1. Consistent homeless population **(The Main Public Library, Shelters, French Market corridor, and the River Walk)**- Many of the city's homeless reside at the Main Public Library (During and after Library hours). The 8th district and other city agencies collaborate to ensure the area is sanitized and safe. The 8th district also partners with social service agencies (Unity of New Orleans) and the City's Health Department to provide care and Social Service resources for those in need. The 8th District community also recognizes homelessness is not a crime. The causes of homelessness are rooted in a systematic breakdown in a number of societal safety nets.
2. Graffiti is a critical part of the 8th district priorities. Quality of life issues are key elements with ensuring the overall landscape of the 8th District is maintained. The 8th district is different than any other police district in the city of New Orleans. The 8th District sees hundreds of thousands of visitors per year and maintaining the city's reputation as a "Great Place to Live" is a top priority.
3. Oversized vehicles and missing traffic signs play a significant part in the Gridlock traffic and crashes involving vehicles and pedestrians. The oversized vehicle becomes fixed in the intersection preventing the flow of traffic for emergency vehicles. This priority is a concern for the Community as it became a recommendation from our Police and Community Advisory Board.

A vast majority and collective effort is needed to approach the multifaceted challenges of the Eighth District. The men and women of the Eighth District have listened intently to the concerns of the community and have rigorously reached out to Agencies across the city to have these needs and concerns met.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

Actionable items are concrete steps that the District will take to implement the Community Outreach and Public Information Plan. Actionable items will be quantified or qualified through data analytics and anecdotes. The actionable items are transparency steps that will be updated monthly to demonstrate to the community the exact steps that the District executed.

- 1. The Eighth District will continue to work with the Homeless Assistance Unit and the City's Health Department to mitigate homelessness.**

Task #1: The Eighth District will dispatch Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) to respond to calls concerning vagrancy and homelessness that include mental health concerns.

Task #2: The Eight District will continue to work the Law Enforcement Assistant Diversion Unit (L.E.A.D) to offer alternatives to arrest. This program will address the root problems of homelessness in lieu of arrest.

Task #3: The Eighth District will partner with local nonprofits that are helping homeless youth, such as Covenant House, on mentorship programs and connecting them with Homeless Assistance Unit within the 8th District to obtain services such as rides to the Department of Motor Vehicles to receive a driver's license.

Task #4: The Eighth District will connect homeless individuals with Travelers AID and UNITY of New Orleans to provide assistance with obtaining identifying documentation, housing (temporary and permanent), and continuing social services for those in need and those requesting resources to maintain their personal quality.

2. The Eighth District will partner with local agencies to mitigate graffiti on public property and historical buildings.

The Eight District has recognized that graffiti is becoming a constant nuisance in the district. As a result, the 8th district has partnered with local non-profits to address the issue. This will be done by continuing the following:

Task #1: Locating and removing any graffiti reachable for its removal. The Eighth District will partner with community organizations, to identify "tags" and defaced properties for restoration.

Task #2: Identify if those locations can benefit from more lighting in the area. Document this information and relay it to City Agencies and Vieux Carre of the locations for their attention, using crime prevention through environmental design techniques. (CPTED).

Task #3: Partner with city agencies and the Vieux Carre Graffiti Abatement Program to maintain graffiti free zones.

Task #4: The Eighth District Captain and Community Liaison Officers will continue to communicate with community organizations to address and document concerns associated with neighborhood improvements.

3. The Eighth District will create safer travel spaces for vehicles and pedestrians. The district will attempt to reduce the gridlock traffic caused by oversized vehicles (18 Wheelers) and crashes caused by a lack of signage.

Task #1 Partner with the Department of Public Works to survey the high Crash areas and replace any missing or damaged signs.

Task #2 The Eighth District will communicate to the public via social media and other platforms the hazards of oversized vehicles in the French Quarter.

Task #3 The Community Liaison Officers will actively monitor the entry points of the French Quarter (Canal St., Rampart St., Esplanade Ave., and Decatur St.) and enforce any violations of oversized vehicles (vehicles over 31ft) entering the French Quarter.