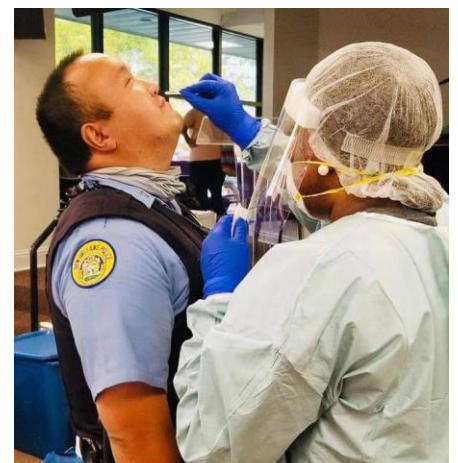




**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**7<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT**  
**COMMUNITY POLICING PLAN**  
**JUNE 2021**





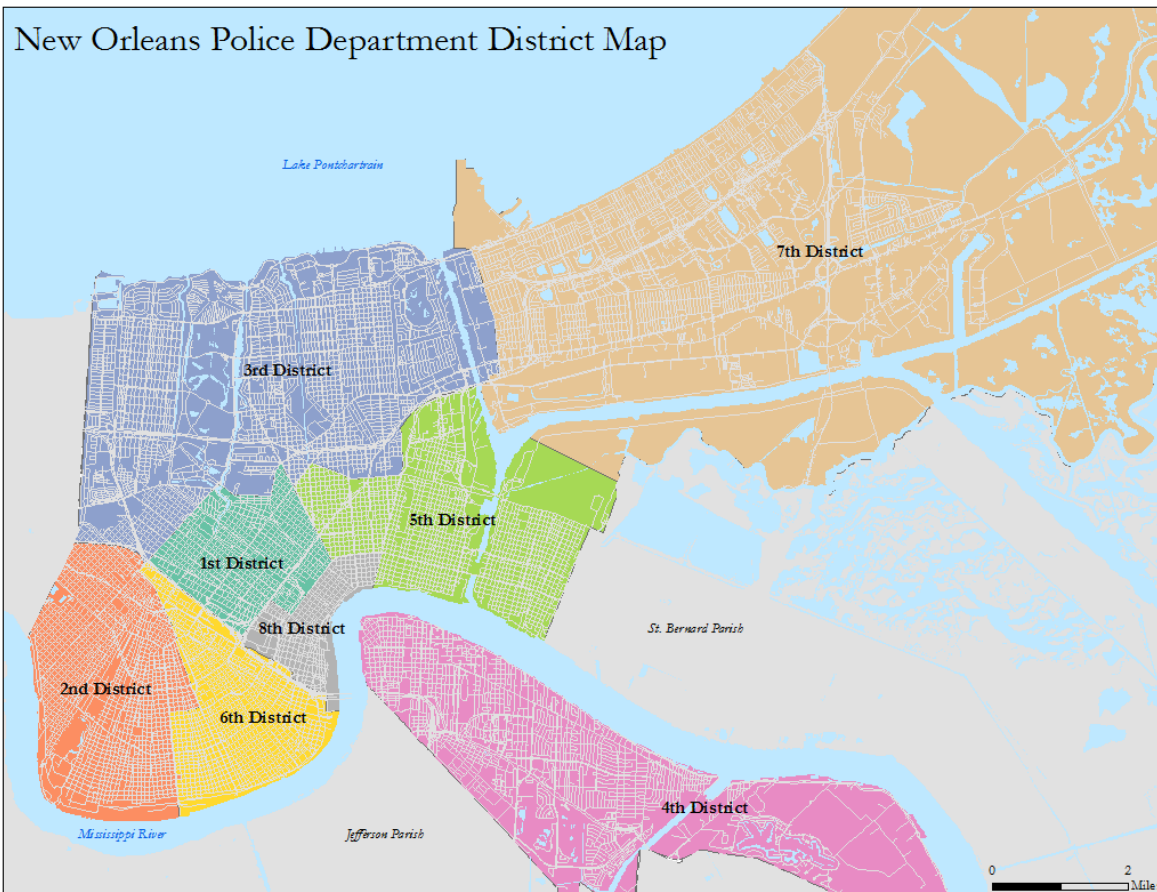
**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**7<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT**

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## OVERVIEW

The 7th District encompasses approximately 133 square miles, making it the largest police district in the City of New Orleans. Its boundaries are the Mississippi River to Industrial Canal to St. Tammany Parish and from St. Bernard Parish to Lake Pontchartrain. The Police station is located at 10101 Dwyer Road. The District has 85 officers. The District phone number is (504) 658-6070 or by email [nopd7thdistrict@nola.gov](mailto:nopd7thdistrict@nola.gov). For more information about the work of our officers, please follow our Facebook account: [www.facebook.com/nopdseventh](https://www.facebook.com/nopdseventh)



## LEADERSHIP



Captain Nicholas Gernon joined the New Orleans Police Department in 2002. He first worked in the 1st District in night patrol before being assigned as a burglary detective. He has also worked as a Narcotics and Violent Crime Detective and from 2007 to 2009 as a Homicide Detective. Gernon was promoted to Sergeant in 2009 in the Eighth District and rejoined Homicide as a Sergeant in 2012. He was appointed as the acting Homicide Commander in June 2014.

In July 2015, Gernon was promoted to Lieutenant and moved to the 6th District. In November 2016, he was again promoted and became the Commander of the Eighth District, overseeing the French Quarter.

From the Eighth District, in 2019 Gernon was tapped to oversee the Crime Laboratory and Central Evidence and Property Division.

He was appointed to the position of Seventh District Captain in May 2020.

Captain Gernon completed the Police Executive Research Forum's Senior Management Institute for Police in July 2017. He is a local instructor for the International Association of Chiefs of Police Leadership in Police Organizations course. He is also a graduate of the University of New Orleans with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Captain Gernon has received several awards from various organizations over the years. He was named Eighth District Detective of the year in 2006. He has been recognized by the French Quarter Business Association for his work as the Eighth District Commander. He has also been awarded a City Council Proclamation for his commitment to the community as well as a Crimestoppers award pertaining to Homicide Investigations in 2012. He was a Gambit 40 under 40 award recipient in 2018 for his work on connecting low level offenders to social service providers as an alternative to incarceration. He remains committed to seeking out resources in which citizens can be connected to services in lieu of arrest.



Second in Command is Lieutenant Wayne DeLarge, a 17-year veteran of the NOPD; who was appointed to the 7<sup>th</sup> District in 2020. His current assignment as Assistant-Commander of the Seventh District, includes the management and direction of the patrol strategies and deployment of the 7<sup>th</sup> District, includes the management and direction of the patrol strategies and deployment of the 7<sup>th</sup> District Detective Unit. Lieutenant DeLarge has worked with NOPD various units, such as 6<sup>th</sup> District Night Watch and District Investigation Unit where he investigated crimes ranging from burglaries to armed robberies. Lt. DeLarge has an extensive background in investigating Homicides, Suicides and Unclassified Deaths as a Homicide Detective, Detective Sergeant and Detective Lieutenant. He is a proud graduate of St. Augustine High School and has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology



from Xavier University.

#### **DISTRICT SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR (DSA)**



Sgt. Nigel Daggs is a 18-year Veteran of the New Orleans Police Department. His previous assignments include the 5<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Districts. His experience also includes 5 years of investigating crimes ranging from Person's Crimes, Property Crimes, and Narcotics and a former Community Liaison Officer. Sgt. Daggs has worked in a supervisory capacity for the last 3 years. His current responsibilities include all administrative duties as well as disciplinary actions and is the district training coordinator. Along with other duties he is also the immediate Supervisor of the CLO's and SRO.

#### **COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER (CLO)**



Officer Aldeane Valentino is a 19-yr veteran of the New Orleans Police Department. Officer Valentino has served as an officer on the platoon and investigation units in various districts. Officer Valentino previously served in the 8<sup>th</sup> District as the CLO, where she led multiple projects to improve their quality of life. Officer Valentino has relocated to the 7<sup>th</sup> District to serve this community. Officer Valentino will bring her prior experience as a CLO and has a strong relationship with City Services, to address all community concerns.



Officer Cleveland Johnson is a 14yr veteran of the New Orleans Police Department. Officer Johnson started his career in the 5<sup>th</sup> District where he worked on the

platoon, Task Force and Narcotics units. Officer Johnson then moved over on to the traffic division, where he handled various traffic, vehicle crashes and DWI investigations. Officer now serves in the 7<sup>th</sup> District as an Field Training Officer (FTO) and Community Liaison.

### **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)**



Officer Urlissa Dabney is a 19yr veteran of the New Orleans Police Department. Officer Dabney has served the residents of the 7<sup>th</sup> District for the interiority of her carrier. Officer Dabney has served as the district SRO for the past 8yrs. Officer Dabney is certified trained SRO through the Dare, Great ad NASRO programs.

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### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

On Friday, May 28, 2021 the NOPD hosted a forum with the 7<sup>th</sup> District Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) via Zoom platform. The purpose of this event was to identify and prioritize public safety concerns voiced by community members. PCAB members reviewed 311 data collected year-to-date- in the 7<sup>th</sup> District, and reviewed New Orleans Neighborhood-Police Anti-Crime Coalition (NONPACC) citizen concerns to form a list of issues that the 7<sup>th</sup> District should address. 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 continue to survey the Community every 2 years to update and prioritize these issues. Thus, we 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 PRIORITES**

Given the issues raised by the community, the primary area of focus in the 7<sup>th</sup> District Community Policing Plan, drafted for June 2021, will be to:

- Focus on Youth Engagement
- Enhancing the Quality of Life

- More Patrol Visibility

## **ACTIONABLE ITEMS**

Actionable items are specific steps the District will take to implement the District Community Policing Plan. Actionable items will be quantified or qualified through data analytics. The purpose of actionable items is to ensure transparency. To that end, the actionable items will be updated monthly to demonstrate to the community the exact steps that the District executed.

### **1) The Seventh District will enhance youth engagement activities.**

Task # 1: SRO Dabney will develop a district level police-youth dialogue program, in partnership with district schools in which Officers will physically check on students who have excessive absences, such as

- a) Flag football event,
- b) Pop up event or a bike ride with youths.
- c) Youth-Officer Olympics (such as 3-legged race)
- d) Citizens Academy for youth
- e) Partnering officers with high school graduates to build positive relationships.
- f) Brother Sister Program in which Officers physically check in on youths (mentorship)
- g) Play basketball with youths
- h) Painting canvas with youths
- i) Being able to manage stress when faced with difficult tasks

Task # 2: Document each step-in implementation using the Community Policing Form, specifically noting when the SRO met with school principals to build the program and gather names of students.

Task #3 Seventh District Social Worker will provide necessary references regarding programs in which each student could further benefit from.

- a) The School Resource Officer will partner with the Social Worker on actionable tasks to complete each month and follow up on progress to assist youth who have issues that become apparent through these mentorship and youth engagement activities.

Task #4: Report outcome of youth dialogues and include which schools and officers from the District participated.

Task #5: Include pictures in the appendix.

**2) The Seventh District will enhance prevention strategies specifically targeting Illegal Dumping of tires/ debris/abandoned cars**

Task #1: The Seventh District will develop a partnership with Entergy with hopes to install better lighting in high dumping areas.

Task #2: Develop partnerships with City Agencies and community groups in erecting privacy fences around high dumping areas primarily focusing on City Owned Property.

Task #3: Strategize with RTCC (Real Time Crime Center) to install additional cameras in high dumping areas which RTCC will monitor and report activity to police.

Task #4: Coordinate with Parks and Parkways to plant privacy trees in high dumping areas which will prohibit access to these areas.

**3) The Seventh District will enhance patrol strategies to increase visibility within neighborhoods to deter auto burglaries, shootings, and other trending crime**

Task #1: Partner with Louisiana State Police (LSP) in a joint "Operation Golden Eagle," which will increase the visibility of patrols within the 7<sup>th</sup> District.

Task #2: Document arrest and enforcement activities and report findings to the Community through weekly MAX meetings and monthly NONPAC meetings.

Task #3: Actively conduct foot patrols, bicycle patrols and Mounted Patrols in areas of high crime.

- a. At least one foot patrol, bicycle patrol, or mounted patrol weekly
- b. Sharing crime trend data at NONPACC and PCAB that demonstrated the need for additional patrols.

Task #4: Document nearest intersection where high crime, including auto burglary is occurring weekly based on crime trends to track officer patrols and monitor reductions in those areas.

Task #5: Track whether any crime was decreased as a result of the visibility.



## **APPENDIX**

### **Annual Survey Results**

The first question posed was, In your opinion, what are the greatest problems in your district and how can the police dept help? Please provide specific examples. Responses were:

a) Officers need to have a better response time to auto burglaries

2. The Second question posed was How can the community collaborate with the Police Department to address these issues?

a) I think it will be effective if Officers stopped in and spent more time at Community Block Parties or other Community Events

b) Officers could be present with more Neighborhood Associations and make a presence at more meetings.

3. What does the Police Dept do well in terms of community engagement? Please provide specific examples.

a) NOPD 7<sup>th</sup> Districts are doing great especially with different outreaches. How the Officers interact with the Community is an Asset. 7<sup>th</sup> District has an advantage over other districts.

b) Officers could attend/participate in the PCAB March which will be scheduled later on this year (2021)

4. What could the Police Dept do better in terms of community engagement. Please provide specific examples.

a) What's going on with PAL's (Police Athletic Leagues)

5. What activities should the department undertake to improve relationships with youth?

a) Flag football event, Pop up event or a bike ride with youths.

b) Youth Officer Olympics (such as 3-legged race, shotput, (anything without close contact)

c) Citizens Academy like education for The Community

d) 35 Officers with 35 high school graduates.