



**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT
FIFTH DISTRICT**

**Community Action Plan:
Crime Reduction and Community Engagement Strategy
2025**

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PUBLIC INFORMATION PLAN JUNE 2025





**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT
FIFTH DISTRICT**

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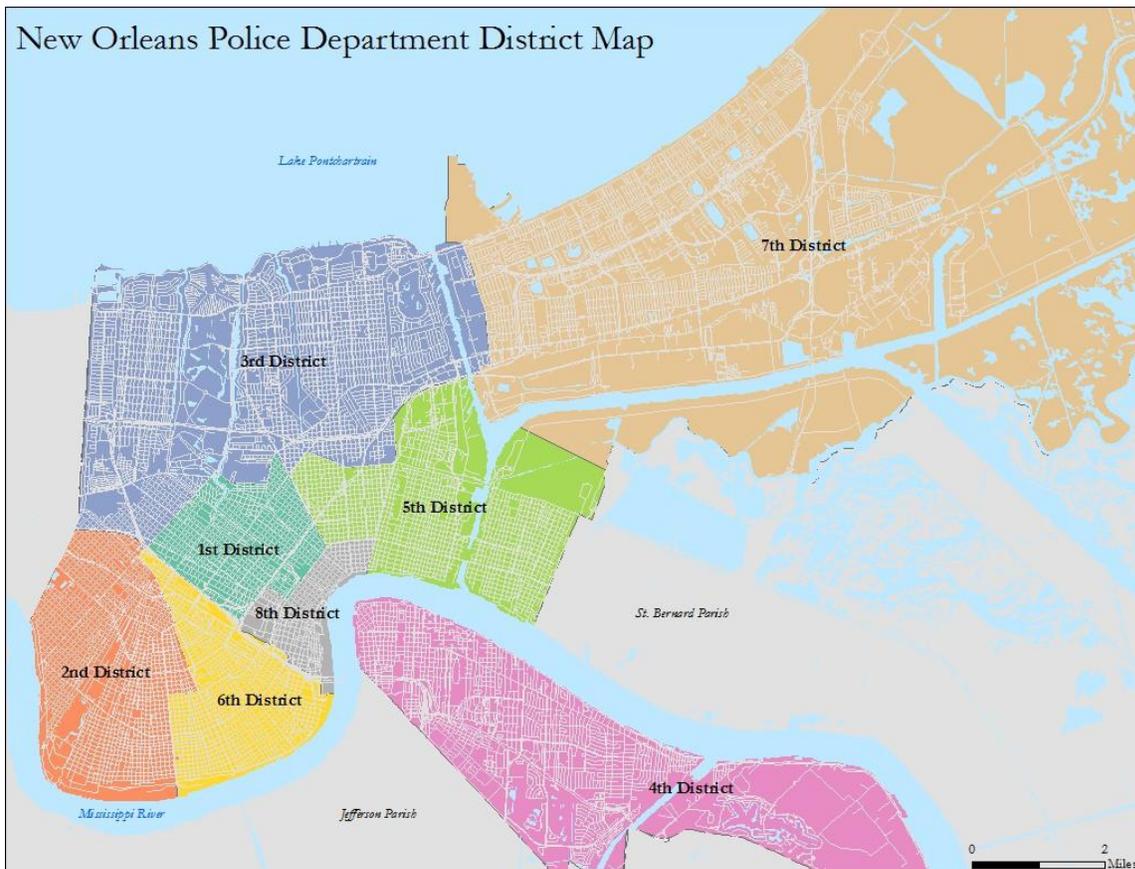
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OVERVIEW

The Fifth District encompasses approximately 8.7 square miles, making it the 4th largest police district in New Orleans. The Mississippi River is from Almonaster Blvd and St. Bernard Ave to the Orleans Parish / St. Bernard Parish Line. Located at 3900 North Claiborne Avenue, the Fifth District employs 63 officers and serves 28,631 residents. To contact the Fifth District by phone, dial (504) 658-6050 or email at nopd5thdistrict@nola.gov. For more information about the work of our officers, please follow our Facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/NOPDFifth> and Twitter account: <http://twitter.com/NOPD5thDistrict>.



LEADERSHIP



Captain Jennifer Dupree, 5th District Commander, a New Orleans native who graduated from Seaton Academy High School and received my Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Southeastern Louisiana University. Captain Dupree is a graduate of the School of Police Staff and Command from Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety, FBI Leadership, and Management, along with the US Department of Homeland Security Incident Command System.

Throughout my 26 years of experience in law enforcement, Captain Dupree has been exposed to a broad range of incidents related to interactions with community groups, non-governmental advocates, the business community, members of city government, and state and federal law enforcement agencies. During my career, I have held several positions within The New Orleans Police Department, which are as follows: Captain of Central Evidence and Property, Commander of the Second District, Assistance Commander of the Second District, District Compliance Manager in the Sixth District, Platoon Lieutenant, Person Crimes Sergeant, Task Force Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Homicide Detective, Person Crimes Detective, Mounted Patrol Officer, Search, and Rescue Diver.

My passion is day-to-day interaction with personnel, community outreach, and providing a vital leadership role to officers and the community I serve. I look forward to the future as Captain of the Fifth District and contributing to the safety of the community and the officers.



Lieutenant Christopher Johnson,

The 5th District Assistant Commander is a 17-year veteran of the New Orleans Police Department. He joined NOPD in 2008, was assigned to the Third District, and served on Patrol and Proactive Task Force in the Third District. He obtained a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Loyola University during the same time. Promoted to Sergeant in 2014, he served in the 4th District as a platoon sergeant. As a sergeant, Lt. Johnson was an investigator with the NOPD Public Integrity Bureau, Assistant to the Deputy Superintendent of the Field Operations Bureau, and the Investigation and Support Bureau. When promoted to Lieutenant in 2022, Lt. Johnson was assigned as the assistant commander of the Central Evidence and Property Division. In April of 2023, Lt. Johnson took over as the assistant commander of the 5th District.

Administrative Staff



Sergeant Bianca Boone, District Systems Administrator,

a 25 1/2-year veteran, was newly assigned to the Fifth District. She is responsible for supervising and managing administrative requirements for the Fifth District and direct supervision of community outreach initiatives done by the Fifth District's community liaison officers and school resource officers. She was previously assigned to the Fourth District.

Senior Police Officer Melvin McCollum, Community Liaison Officer, is an 18-year veteran assigned to the Fifth District for his entire career. He has been newly assigned as the CLO for the Fifth District. Officer McCollum works directly with the community to strengthen relationships and partners with City Agencies to improve the quality of life in the district.



Senior Police Officer Cortez Hankton, Community Liaison Officer, is a 40-year veteran who has been assigned to the Fifth District for two years. Recently, He was assigned to the Fifth District as the CLO. To improve the district's quality of life, he collaborates with city agencies and works closely with the neighborhood to fortify ties.



Senior Police Officer Jacquen Hunter, School Resource Officer and an 8-year veteran, has been newly assigned as the 5th District SRO. The school resource officer works in the Fifth District's elementary, middle, and high schools. She provides security, educational training, and relationship-building services in their assigned schools.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

On December 11, 2024, the Fifth District Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) convened a meeting with the primary agenda being the thorough examination and deliberation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the New Community Action Plan. Members of the PCAB raised inquiries about various ongoing matters affecting the local community. They compiled a comprehensive inventory of challenges that require attention and resolution by the authorities in the Fifth District. They additionally examined citizen complaints discussed during the regular meetings of the New Orleans Neighborhood-Police Anti-Crime Coalition (NONPACC), which had become a recurring pattern within the district. The Community Liaison Officers came together and carefully analyzed the feedback provided by the Police Community Advisory Board to identify common issues that could potentially be developed into practical problem-solving policing approaches.

We will continue to conduct community surveys every two years to keep the information current and establish a ranking of these important matters. To showcase the district's commitment to addressing community concerns, we will persist in developing tangible, practical initiatives and providing weekly updates on their progress.

The New Orleans Police Department's Community Engagement Program consists of a Community Engagement Police, a 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 to guide officers on how to foster positive community engagement interactions between citizens and the NOPD, utilize community policing ideals, and create opportunities for substantive engagement, substantive collaboration, and civic engagement.

DISTRICT COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN: CRIME REDUCTION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY PRIORITIES

Given the issues raised by the community, the primary area of focus in the Fifth District Community Outreach and Public Information Plan, drafted for June 2025, will be to:

- 1. Traffic Enforcement in School Zones**
- 2. Address Public Health and Environmental Concerns**
- 3. Establish Safe Places for Youth**
- 4. Engagement with the Community and Transparency**

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

The district administration will execute the Community Outreach and Public Information Plan by carrying out specific and tangible action items, which consist of detailed and well-defined steps. Actionable elements, which are concrete and particular components, guarantee transparency and facilitate understanding. Data analytics and compelling anecdotes will be strategically employed to quantify or qualify actionable and impactful initiatives effectively. The actionable items and tasks will be regularly updated every month to provide a comprehensive overview of the district's ongoing efforts and initiatives for the betterment and advancement of the local community. These informative pieces will be disseminated to the general public through the Community Policing Dashboard, monthly NONPACC meetings, quarterly PCAB meetings, and various social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter.

Traffic Enforcement in School Zones

The residents residing within the boundaries of the Fifth District have expressed their collective unease and apprehension regarding the prevalent issue of excessive speeding and various other infractions related to traffic within the designated School Zones and in the vicinity of educational facilities. These concerns are particularly heightened during the specified hours as indicated on the prominently displayed School Zones signage and during crucial periods when minors are commuting to and from their educational institutions. Maintaining designated safe zones for travel and effectively implementing comprehensive strategies to prevent and discourage traffic infractions during these crucial periods of the day are of utmost importance.

- The District CLO will collaborate closely with the Traffic Division to conduct thorough monitoring of the areas surrounding the schools, aiming to identify the specific locations that exhibit the highest number of violations to focus on. Afterward, the team members will strategize and develop a comprehensive plan of action to meticulously create a detailed list of school areas that require prioritization. Subsequently, they will systematically work through the list in accordance with the established priorities, ensuring that each area is addressed effectively and efficiently.
- Discuss potential challenges and obstacles when coordinating efforts between the school administration and the School Resource Officer, and brainstorm effective solutions to address these issues. Identify key areas where collaboration between school staff and law enforcement officers can be optimized to enhance school safety and support student well-being.
- Request the immediate implementation of Crossing Guards at the recommended educational institutions where students regularly commute on foot to school and where there is a persistent issue of traffic violations.
- Implement Traffic Direct Enforcement, a strategic initiative aimed at enhancing road safety by deploying platoon officers who will actively conduct regular and systematic traffic patrols within the designated area. The primary objective of this initiative is to effectively monitor compliance with established speed limits and deter and prevent instances of reckless speeding behavior among motorists. Law enforcement officers will issue citations to individuals who violate the established regulations and laws.
- Request the installation of speed cameras and the deployment of traffic control cars in high-priority zones to issue citations during periods of reduced or inactive directed patrols.
- Monitor the reduction of speeding incidents by closely tracking and analyzing the number of citations issued and the feedback and complaints provided by both citizens and school administrators.

Public Health and Environmental Concerns

Law enforcement personnel utilize various proactive crime prevention strategies to deter, prevent, and diminish criminal activities within their communities. One effective strategy to reduce crime rates is to emphasize promoting public health initiatives strongly while considering the impact

on the surrounding environment. By focusing on these interconnected aspects, communities can work towards creating a safer and more sustainable society for all individuals. According to various research studies and reports, it has been consistently demonstrated that the local community is significantly and detrimentally affected by the presence of deteriorated and abandoned properties, as well as the accumulation of an excessive amount of garbage, and various other violations related to the enforcement of local regulations and codes.

To effectively address quality-of-life concerns and enhance the well-being of residents, law enforcement officers work closely and in collaboration with municipal authorities and relevant stakeholders. These issues involved the removal and proper disposal of human waste and the safe extraction of hazardous chemicals from illegal dumping sites, derelict structures, and abandoned vehicles. The law enforcement officers and community members may potentially encounter and be affected by these health-related challenges and conditions.

Discarded syringes, as well as various other drug paraphernalia such as needles, spoons, and tourniquets, are unfortunately a common sight in numerous communities across the country. Both domestic animals, such as pets, and young kids from the surrounding area can effortlessly reach and interact with these items. Places considered abandoned due to neglect or disuse will undergo a process of revitalization and transformation into lush green areas intended to develop local community garden projects or implement various initiatives aimed at fostering community engagement and social cohesion.

The Fifth District leadership has carefully analyzed and identified this issue as a matter of great importance for the community. Consequently, they have decided to uphold and maintain this as a top priority for the forthcoming two-year period.

The Fifth District will continue to take the following actions:

- Monitor places where illegal dumping is known or has been reported to the district by residents and take enforcement action. Municipal Codes such as 17271M.C.S. 66-283.5 Illegal Dumping and 17271M.C.S. 66-282 Littering shall be enforced by the issuance of summonses.
- Officers Melvin McCollum and Cortez Hankton will work with City Code Enforcement to respond to abandoned properties in the neighborhood.

- Officers McCollum and Hankton will participate in twice-weekly sanitation cleanups with the Health and Sanitation Department, where trash, human waste, and drug paraphernalia will be removed. The area will be cleaned using cleaning supplies and water after removal.
- Officers McCollum and Hankton will work with houses of worship and participate in community cleanup projects.
- Together with the Fifth District PCAB members, Captain Dupree, Officer McCollum, and Officer Hankton will participate in civic activities, including job fairs and classes on gardening.
- Through citizen feedback, these activities will aid them in better understanding the problems that the neighborhood is now facing. For patrol officers to be informed and able to enlighten citizens on the scene, Officers McCollum and Hankton will work with the Health Department to gather information about the services available to people with substance use disorders. Captain Dupree will then provide this knowledge at roll call training.
- Monthly progress will be made on the priorities. The community will provide an update at the PCAB and NONPACC live meetings and on the NOPD's website and social media pages.

Safe Places for Youth

The nationwide issue of juvenile delinquency has recurred in New Orleans. According to studies, teenagers are less likely to engage in criminal conduct when allowed to participate in after-school activities. Lack of supervision and guidance significantly impacts this trend because young criminals frequently act criminally unattended. The Fifth District will take the following actions to provide safe settings for children:

- Designating Fifth District officers to be present at juvenile sporting events at St. Roch Park and Hardin Park to prevent violent crime and guarantee that kids aren't exposed to drugs.
- Officer Hunter, the School Resource Officer for the Fifth District, will be present at after-school activities and implement "Conversations with Cops." The District will designate Officers to participate in these conversations with the youth in the community to answer questions regarding

public safety, juvenile crime violations, create mentorship opportunities, career-initiated discussions, cyber-bullying, and the risk of sexting.

- Partner with Neighborhood Stakeholders and City Agencies to identify abandoned parks and revitalize them for their intended use.
- Experience a day in the life of a New Orleans police officer with the high school students. This program will give the students insight into the opportunities available in law enforcement. Students visited the station and police units, took part in roll call and radio transmission, and chatted with investigators, police officers, and senior officers while touring the facility and units.

Engagement with the Community and Transparency

During a PCAB meeting, community members made a request to the 5th District to increase their level of engagement and openness by consistently attending community events, community meetings, and activities. This was recommended by both the PCAB board and the community. To remain committed to this endeavor, the Fifth District will proceed with the following actions:

- Captain Dupree, Community Liaison Officers McCollum and Hankton, and members of the 5th District PCAB will collaborate to participate in community engagements such as job fairs and group painting sessions. Through public feedback, these activities will help them better understand the challenges that the community is now facing.
- Both McCollum and Hankton, both Community Liaison Officers, will be present at neighborhood and community meetings regularly to engage in conversation with our neighbors and educate them on the actions they may take to prevent being victims of crime. Installation of after-market alarms, steering wheel locks, deactivation of proximity keys, and utilization of off-street parking where it is accessible are some of the alternatives that have been suggested. Positive feedback has been received in response to this initiative, as people in our community frequently have the perception that they can take the initiative to become a part of the solution.

- Captain Dupree and her support personnel continue participating in community involvement activities. These events bring together local people and neighborhood groups in a cooperative atmosphere so that they may share information and provide support to one another, improving their communities and their quality of life in general.
- The 5th District will continue to hold weekly MAX and monthly NONPACC meetings, which are available to the public via Facebook Live or Webex.
- Community Liaison Officers McCollum and Hankton compiled a weekly statistical report on crimes committed in the 5th District. This report is distributed to all neighborhood groups and citizens who have signed up for the weekly report.