

Community Engagement Quarterly Report

Quarter 3, 2016

Within 240 days of the Effective Date, NOPD agrees to develop measurements to assess the effectiveness of its community partnerships and problem-solving strategies, including the effectiveness of the Community Coordinating Sergeant program. NOPD agrees to prepare a publicly available report on at least a quarterly basis detailing its community policing efforts in each District, including developing community partnerships and participating in public meetings, and its problem-solving activities, including specific problems addressed and steps taken by NOPD and the community toward their resolution. This report also shall identify obstacles faced and recommendations for future improvement. At least annually, NOPD agrees to issue a publicly available report that summarizes these problem-solving and community policing activities. [Consent Decree ¶228]

The purpose of this report is to assess the effectiveness of NOPD's community partnership and problem-solving strategies in accordance with Consent Decree paragraph 228.

Key Definitions

New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) — The New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council meetings occur monthly and are attended by the District Commander and other district personnel. The meetings facilitate conversations regarding neighborhood crime concerns and crime prevention strategies.

Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) — Each District is assisted by a Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB). The PCAB consists of seven citizen volunteers from their respective police Districts. PCAB members serve a two-year term and meet quarterly to address crime and quality of life issues.

Community Partnerships — Collaborative problem-solving activities and engagement activities between the Department and the individuals and organizations the Department serves to develop solutions to problems and increase trust in police.

Findings

NOPD Community and Youth Engagements Partnerships and Events

Per Consent Decree ¶448(c), the Department shall provide collection and analysis of community engagement including the number and variety of community partnerships, including particular partnerships with youth.

In the third quarter of 2016, the NOPD participated in 14 partnerships. NOPD partnership participants include city agencies, civic groups, neighborhood associations, and many more. The purpose of NOPD partnerships are to engage with the community and youth, and to problem-solve with the community to address crime. Many of the partnership activities listed below can be reviewed on Nopdnews.com, NOPD's YouTube page, or NOPD's District Facebook pages.

The partnerships and events are listed below.

1. Franklin Avenue Baptist Church Community Forum: The purpose of the community forum was to have an honest discussion about how police officers interact with members of the New Orleans community. The program featured a panel of police officers, community leaders and activists as well as questions from audience members. Chief Harrison also offered the possibility of an internship to a concerned community member. After the forum, the community member applied for an internship with the police department. The community member officially became a community engagement intern within NOPD. The intern's role was to help the department increase its outreach strategies to the community.
2. Job Corps Peace March: On September 21, 2016, NOPD Superintendent Michael Harrison made remarks to more than 100 New Orleans Job Corps Center students. The remarks followed a Peace March was held in the neighborhood as part of Job Corps' national student-led anti-violence initiative, Youth 2 Youth, Partners for Peace.
3. Interfaith Committee Meeting: Chief Michael Harrison meets quarterly with a group of local pastors to discuss policing issues and community relations.
4. NORDC Partnership: In summer 2016, the New Orleans Recreation Development Commission (NORDC) and NOPD partnered to form a Teen Basketball Sports League for youths 14-18 years old. Eight NOPD officers volunteer as coaches for youth sports teams across the city. Each team played one or two games per week.
5. Back 2 School Event: The Second District partnered with Jesus Project Ministries to participate in a back-to-school event with students. Officers interacted with the students and answered any questions the students had about policing.

6. Back-to-School Event: Third District officers interacted and distributed back packs and school supplies to the Kindergarten class of Mary McLeod Bethune School.
7. Free Riders Peace Walk: On July 09, 2016, the Fourth District Commander and officers participated in a peace walk held by The Free Riders motorcycle club.
8. Heroes Day: On July 14, 2016 members of the Police and Fire Departments participated in heroes day held at Behrman Summer Camp. The kids learned how fire and police trucks operate.
9. Student Forum: On September 7, 2016, NOPD officers participated in a school forum on policing at Arthur Ashe.
10. Back-To-School Giveaway: On August 27, 2016, the Seventh District Station hosted a back to school give-a-way. The District partnered with local Sorority and Fraternity Chapters to assist with the event, which included a bouncy house, DJ, Grilled hot dogs and burgers, and 2 resource tables.
11. Pledge Against Gun Violence: Schaumburg Elementary School hosted a “Pledge Against Gun Violence” event where Seventh District officers were in attendance

NOPD Collaborative Problem-Solving Partnerships

The information below highlights NOPD’s problem-solving activities, including specific problems addressed and steps taken by NOPD and the community toward their resolution [Consent Decree ¶228].

1. New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC) Meetings: Each District is assisted by a New Orleans Neighborhood Police Anti-Crime Council (NONPACC). The NONPACC meets monthly, facilitating conversation and a forum for residents to voice their concerns directly to the District Commander and other key NOPD personnel. In particular, the District Commander presents key activities and information related to crime prevention and community policing in order to receive feedback and additional information from the community.
2. Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB) Meetings: Each District is assisted by a Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB). The PCAB consists of seven members who are citizen volunteers from their respective police districts. PCAB members serve a two-year term and meet quarterly to address crime and quality of life issues. In 2016, the PCABs continued to host quarterly meetings to problem-solve with NOPD leaders. PCABs provide written recommendations to NOPD Commanders.
3. NOPD, Office of Neighborhood Engagement (ONE), the Department of Justice (DOJ) Partnership: A working group consisting of NOPD, ONE and the DOJ redrafted the PCAB manual. The new manual formalized the PCAB recommendation process to ensure that the

process is efficient and effective. A new recommendation form template was drafted and a timeline for response to recommendations by NOPD. Also, a training course was drafted for existing PCAB members as well as new PCAB members newly selected in an open enrollment conducted in September of 2016.

Obstacles and Recommendations

NOPD is working to develop additional tracking mechanisms for documenting community policing activities more consistently and thoroughly. Improving the collection of community engagement and policing data, reporting on this data in internal and external meetings, and utilizing this data to improve our community engagement and policing are critical goals for NOPD in 2016 as we strive to improve our partnerships with the community and our community engagement efforts.