

DUNCANVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS

SUBJECT: Community Relations	SECTION: 6.01
EFFECTIVE DATE: March 6, 2017	APPROVED:
AMENDS/SUPERSEDES: Reg. 6.01 ISSUED: May 7, 2009	Robert D. Brown, Jr. Chief of Police

I. COMMUNITY RELATIONS POLICY STATEMENT

Police/community relations are not only the central point of attention for any law enforcement agency, but also the focus of any scrutiny when any police procedure, process of personnel is judged to be amiss. Therefore, unity of common purpose in the principle of positive, proactive interaction between the police department and the community at large shall be the standard by which the conduct of the Duncanville Police Department is judged. Further, and through this standard, the Duncanville Police Department is firmly committed to correcting any actions, practices or attitudes that may contribute to community tensions and grievances.

A. Community Relations Function

1. The Crime Prevention/Community Relations Division shall be in charge of coordinating the Community Relations function of the Duncanville Police Department. The Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officer, a certified position, and the Volunteer Coordinator, a civilian position, shall share said division's responsibility.
2. The ultimate responsibility for achieving all Community Relations goals shall rest with each and every member of the Duncanville Police Department.

B. Community Relations Plan

In order to achieve and maintain effective Community Relations within the Duncanville Police Department, certain objectives must be followed.

1. Establishing liaison with formal community organizations and other community groups. The organizations and groups may include, but are not necessarily limited to:
 - a. Duncanville Independent School District
 - ~~b. American Association of Retired Persons (AARP)~~
 - b. Parent-Teacher Association
 - c. **Champions Cove**
 - d. Neighborhood Watch groups
 - e. Special Olympics - Texas
 - f. Various church groups
 - g. Individual school groups and organizations
 - h. Duncanville Chamber of Commerce
 - i. Duncanville Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association
 - j. Duncanville Police Department Volunteers

- k. Duncanville Outreach Ministry
 - l. D.L. Hopkins, Jr. Senior Center
 - m. Duncanville Community Theater
 - n. Faith Based Outreach
 - o. Various business groups and association
2. Developing Community Relations Policies for the Duncanville Police Department may include, but are not limited to:
- a. Operation or participation in Crime Prevention, Community Relations or school education programs, including, but not limited to:
 - (1) Neighborhood Crime Watch
 - (2) Citizen Police Academy
 - ~~(3) Crime Web~~
 - (3) Citizens on Patrol
 - (4) Personal Safety Awareness
 - (5) Operation Identification
 - (6) Operation H.E.A.T. (Help End Auto Theft)
 - (7) VIN Etching
 - (8) National Night Out
 - (9) Operation C.A.L.M. (Call and Leave Message)
 - ~~(10) Operation C.A.R.E. (Crimes Against Retired & Elderly)~~
 - (10) Drug Drop Off Box Dispenser
 - (11) Crime Tracker Pin Maps
 - (12) Hand-In-Hand Program
 - (13) Homeowners' Insurance Reduction Inspection
 - (14) Home Security Surveys
 - (15) Drug and Alcohol Awareness
 - (16) Robbery Awareness
 - (17) Print-A-Child Fingerprint Program
 - (18) Auto Theft/Burglary Prevention
 - (19) Police Department Station Tours
 - (20) Vacation Check Program
 - ~~(21) TRIAD with AARP~~
 - (21) Safe Exchange Zone
 - (22) Duncanville Police Department Volunteer Services Program
 - (23) McGruff Safety Program
 - (24) Bicycle Safety
 - (25) National Child Safety Council Programs
 - ~~(26) Stranger Danger Awareness~~
 - ~~(27) Police Explorers~~
 - (26) Partners for a Safe Duncanville
 - (27) Coffee with a Cop/Ask a Cop
 - (28) Police Station Open House
 - (29) Faith Based Outreach
 - (30) Santa Cop
 - b. Encouraging participation and awareness of all listed programs on the part of all department personnel.
 - c. Developing and maintaining good public relations by encouraging all personnel to present a positive, professional and helpful image to the public.

3. Publicizing department objectives, problems and successes shall be accomplished by, but not limited to:
 - a. Media releases
 - b. Neighborhood Watch Group meetings and information advisories
 - c. Duncanville Police Department monthly reports
 - d. The Champion newsletter
 - e. Police and city web site
 - f. Facebook
 - g. Twitter
 - h. NEXTDOOR.COM
 - f. Other awareness and prevention programs presented by Crime Prevention/Community Relations personnel or assignees.
4. Information transmitted from various citizen organizations may be conveyed to the Chief of Police as follows:
 - a. Informally, from any employee receiving the information or suggestion
 - b. Formally, via memorandum routed through the chain of command
 - c. Formally, in a report format
5. Improving departmental practices relating to Police-Community Relations.
 - a. Input may be obtained by a variety of means. Whatever the source it is imperative that a criticism, positive or negative, be conveyed to the proper personnel.
 - b. It is only by learning from others' perceptions that the Community Relations mission of the Duncanville Police Department can be realized.
6. Training needs may be identified as a result of citizen input, consultation with patrol officers and from supervisory recommendations. By quickly identifying training deficiencies, the Duncanville Police Department can take necessary corrective action.
7. Community groups are a vital link in successful community relations. Therefore, the Duncanville Police Department shall actively work with as many different and diverse community groups as possible and seek to establish community groups where groups do not exist and a need is perceived.

C. Reports

1. The Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officer shall prepare a monthly report to the Chief of Police that includes:
 - a. A detailed description of current concerns voiced by the public.
 - b. A description of potential problems that have a bearing on law enforcement activities within the city.
 - c. A statement of recommended action that addresses identified concerns and problems.

D. Evaluation

1. As communities are in a constant state of flux, Police/Community Relations Programs should also be constantly changing and adapting to the community around them. Therefore, Duncanville Police Department programs should

be evaluated regularly to better serve the community at large. To that end, the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officer shall:

- a. Review all Community Relations programs on an annual basis.
- b. The purpose of evaluation shall be to ensure that the various community relations programs are effectively addressing community concerns and needs.
- c. Results of all evaluations shall be included in a report directed to the Chief of Police.

E. Public Information Officer

All media contact and press releases will be handled by the city's Public Information Officer. In lieu of the Public Information Officer's absence, the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officer will prepare press releases and all contact with the media.
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