



MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

003 – COMMUNITY POLICING

GENERAL ORDER: 2020-XX
ISSUED: August 20, 2020

EFFECTIVE: August 20, 2020

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:
Assistant Chief Regina Howard
DATE: June 30, 2020

ACTION: Creates SOP

WILEAG STANDARD(S): NONE

003.00 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to reaffirm the Milwaukee Police Department's commitment to community policing and how community policing principles should be incorporated into the department's training, policies, and standard practices.

003.05 POLICY

It is the policy of the Milwaukee Police Department that all organizational functions will be conducted in accordance with the underlying philosophy of community oriented policing. The Milwaukee Police Department is committed to working with individuals, individual groups, and both public and private organizations. Building and establishing community partnerships is paramount to building trust and improving public safety through collaborative problem solving.

003.10 DEFINITION

COMMUNITY POLICING

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

003.15 COMMUNITY POLICING

A. All department members are responsible for engaging in community and problem-oriented policing on a daily basis to include the following, but not limited to, activities:

1. Maximizing positive interactions with the public throughout their shift and building positive relationships with residents, community groups, and businesses in their assigned squad area.
2. Conducting daily park and walks in accordance with SOP 310.15 (Foot and Bicycle Patrol) to ensure members are engaging with individuals and businesses in their assigned squad area.
3. Notifying a supervisor regarding recurring problems in a neighborhood that may

require a more in-depth problem-oriented policing approach through sustained action with the community or inter-agency collaboration.

4. Building public trust during enforcement-related contacts by following the requirements listed in SOP 085 Citizen Contacts, Field Interviews, Search and Seizure.
- B. Commanding officers shall ensure that community and problem-oriented policing principles and training are carried out by all members under their command by ensuring the following, but not limited to, activities are completed:
1. Continually emphasizing the importance of community policing principles to all members.
 2. Ensuring members have a deeper understanding of neighborhood conditions while promoting community collaboration to enhance problem solving capacity.
 3. Working with department leaders to ensure community priorities and engagement are included in deployment strategies.
 4. Ensuring members are educated about relevant community resources that can address community needs and problems.
 5. Ensuring officers are recognized for outstanding community policing efforts.
 6. Conducting monthly crime and safety meetings at the district level to work collaboratively with residents in order to identify current issues within the community.
 7. Working to build and sustain relationships and partnerships with community members and entities throughout the district.

C. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

1. The Milwaukee Police Department and individual work locations are responsible for establishing collaborative partnerships with the individuals and organizations we serve to develop solutions to problems and increase trust with the department.
2. The department recognizes the importance of the role the public should play in helping prioritize and addressing public safety concerns. Work locations are encouraged to establish partnerships with the following, but not limited to, below groups and entities:
 - a. Community members and groups including block watches
 - b. Non-profits and service providers including advocacy and community-based organizations
 - c. Private businesses

D. TRAINING AND POLICIES

The Milwaukee Police Department will ensure training and policies reflect community policing principles and provide members with the necessary resources to help foster community engagement and enhance problem solving.

E. PROBLEM SOLVING

1. Department members should collaboratively engage with the community to address public safety issues and identify solutions to neighborhood problems. Public safety issues typically revolve around factors that reflect broad underlying issues that contribute to crime, fear, and disorder. The department recognizes that it requires citizen participation to effectively address public safety concerns.
2. Department members should utilize the SARA (scanning, analysis, response, and assessment) model of problem-solving to help address neighborhood safety issues in collaboration with the community. Members shall notify a supervisor regarding recurring problems in a neighborhood that may require a more in-depth problem-oriented policing approach and may also work with their work location's Community Prosecution Unit and/or Community Liaison Officer in developing a plan.
3. The SARA model incorporates the following principles:
 - a. Scanning

Members can identify, prioritize, and select reoccurring problems in a specific area in collaboration with community input and data analysis. Members should confirm the problem exists, identify the consequences of the problem, and determine the frequency.
 - b. Analysis

Members should identify and analyze relevant data to learn more about the problem, including potentially narrowing its scope, and identify possible explanations as to why the problem is occurring, including understanding the underlying root cause(s) of the problem.
 - c. Response

Determine and implement a response that is contextual to the specific problem through problem solving and crime prevention techniques. Members should work with community partners to select and implement the appropriate responses. Members may utilize the Problem Oriented Policing (POP) response guides located from the [Problem Oriented Policing Center](#) to assist in selecting the appropriate response(s).

d. Analysis

Members should evaluate if the responses were implemented in a way that was consistent with the response plan and whether the responses achieved their intended effects.



ALFONSO MORALES
CHIEF OF POLICE

AM:mfk