



Fitchburg State University Police Department

Subject: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	
Reference: IACLEA: 12.1.1, 12.1.2, 12.1.3, 12.2.1, 12.3.1, 12.3.2, 12.3.3	
MPAC: 45.1.1, 45.1.2, 45.1.3, 45.2.1, 45.2.3, 45.2.4, 45.2.5	
Effective Date: February 11, 2021	Review Date:
By Order of: Michael J. Cloutier, Chief of Police	

General Order

12.1

PURPOSE:

To establish departmental procedures for implementing crime prevention programs at the university, by crime type and geographical area. The purpose of these programs is to develop partnerships and resources within the community, to build problem-solving coalitions, and to instill a sense of mutual responsibility for enhancing public safety. The department must be aware of community perceptions and misperceptions regarding crime, and evaluate the effectiveness of crime prevention programs toward reducing crime as well as the fear of crime.

The department will assign a supervisory level officer(s) to this responsibility. The supervisory level officer(s) will be responsible for all statistical reporting, strategic operations relative to this policy, and supervision. At the discretion of the responsible supervisor, he/she may request that a police officer be assigned to conduct the day-to-day functions of a "Crime Prevention Officer."

POLICY:

It will be the policy of the Fitchburg State University Police Department to be committed to the development, implementation, and review of crime prevention programs, based on empirical data that reduce crime and increase the general feeling of safety on the university. This commitment is to be a shared responsibility for all members of the department.

PROCEDURE:

I. CRIME PREVENTION

- A. The Fitchburg State University Police Department Crime Prevention Officer(s) shall use

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the Uniform Crime Reports/National Incident-Based Reporting, department incident reports, Fitchburg Police crime intelligence reports, recently completed university surveys, and informal feedback to identify the types of crimes that are being committed on the university as well as the specific geographical areas of the university where crimes are taking place. These specific crimes and geographical areas will then be targeted for crime prevention programs. The department Crime Prevention Officer(s) shall maintain an awareness of public perceptions and misperceptions that could contribute to a fear of crime. These perceptions and misperceptions will then be targeted and addressed by specific crime prevention programs as well as pamphlets, university events such as open houses, and tips on the department website/social media.

IACLEA 121.1.1 a & b / MPAC 45.1.1 a & b

- B. All crime prevention programs will be evaluated at least annually by the crime prevention officer and the Operations Lieutenant to ensure that program goals are being met, are still relevant, and that the community needs are being served. The outcome of this evaluation will be a written report addressed to the Chief, which will list all current crime prevention programs, the goals of each program, how the department is attempting to reach each goal, and any measurements that can be taken to objectively test success. This report will also make recommendations to the Chief for program modifications, eliminations, or the addition of new programs. The Chief will meet with the Crime Prevention Officer and the assigned supervisor who oversees these efforts to review the past year's crime prevention programs and to reset the crime prevention goals and programs for the upcoming year.

IACLEA 12.1.1 c / MPAC 45.1.1 c

- C. The Chief of Police, or designee, shall assign a liaison(s) to work closely with the students and staff members in their particular organization, such as the various student groups and clubs at the university, in order to determine what problems and crimes are affecting their quality of life. That assigned officer shall submit in writing, to the Operations Lieutenant, any suggestions or concerns that had been discussed at meetings. The Operations Lieutenant shall then distribute a written directive to department personnel in regards to the concerns and suggestions.

1. Liaisons for Resident Halls, Campus Clubs, and other organizations will be assigned prior to each semester.
2. The liaisons should seek to cultivate relationships with their designated groups in an effort to infuse crime prevention messaging.

IACLEA 12.1.2 / MPAC 45.1.2

- D. Every officer of the Fitchburg State University Police Department should consider themselves Crime Prevention and Community Engagement officers, and encourage community participation in the identification of problems, and methods to solve those problems. When a problem does arise, officers shall gather as much information as possible and discuss strategies with other officers, and supervisors, at roll call briefings to eliminate or significantly reduce the identified problem. Once an officer has responded with a strategy, they will assess their actions with a supervisor and determine if the problem was eliminated or significantly reduced.

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1. Officers should also assist in advertising or making known the various personal safety offerings of the department, such as CRASE, VIPR, RAD, VIPR, and Until Help Arrives.
2. The department will also utilize its social media platforms to inform the community of various Personal Safety Offerings, programing, and success. (See G.O. 4.1.4 Social Media)
3. Utilizing the chain of command, safety concerns and community input will be forwarded to the appropriate university department or outside agency.

IACLEA 12.3.1/ MPAC 45.2.1

E. A supervisor will be designated by the Chief to provide crime prevention and safety/security input by :

1. Participating as a department representative on the University's Safety Committee.
2. Providing a safety and security perspective on new campus construction and renovations.
3. Participating on conversation or committees reviewing institutional polices affecting campus safety.

IACLEA 12.1.3.b

IACLEA 12.1.3 a/ MPAC 45.1.3

F. The Chief will, when feasible, send a supervisor to training on new developments, technologies, methods, approaches and processes in areas of security as it relates to the academic community. Certifications in this field vary but should come from recognized programs such as the Institute for Community Security and Public Safety (formerly the National Crime Prevention Institute), the American Society of Industrial Security, a recognized state training agency, or other appropriate organization.

IACLEA 12.2.1

G. The Operation Lieutenant will be responsible in preparing a semiannual (at the end of each semester) a report for the Chief of Police and Command Staff that includes:

1. An overview of progress made in addressing previously expressed community concerns and problems;
2. An overview of current concerns voiced by community members;
3. An overview of potential problems that could affect law enforcement, security, and public relations within the community;
4. Recommendations for action that address those concerns and problems identified by the community.
5. The participation level of all community engagement events, personal safety offering, and input fro0m the liaison program.

IACLEA 12.3.2

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H. At least once every four years, the agency shall conduct a documented survey of community attitudes and opinions to include:

1. Overall agency performance;
2. Overall competence of agency employees;
3. Community member's perceptions of agency employee attitudes and behavior;
4. Concerns over safety and security within the agency service area as a whole;
5. Recommendations and suggestions for improvements.

IACLEA 12.3.3 / MPAC 45.2.4

Approval:



Chief of Police

02/11/2021
Date