Purpose

To provide guidelines for the implementation and documentation of planned patrol strategies.

Policy

Documentation of planned patrol strategies is necessary on a continuing basis in order to ensure that the most effective patrol plans are implemented when crime patterns are detected. The following procedure should be utilized when initiating a planned patrol.

Problem Identification

Before planned patrol strategies can be developed or implemented, the nature and extent of the particular problem must be identified. Field officers, or their supervisors, may identify a problem or these problems may be identified by the Precinct Crime Analyst(s) or the Crime Analysis Unit (CAU). Once problems are identified, they should be communicated to all commands via COMPSTAT. In all cases, the problem(s) identified must be related to an area of responsibility for, or shared with, the Virginia Beach Police Department. It must be emphasized that the initial identification of a problem must be as complete as possible with respect to details, description, and facts and the planned patrol response clearly supported in the same manner.

Development of Planned Patrol Strategy

Once a specific problem has been identified and it has been determined that a patrol plan is warranted, an ICS form (ICS 204P) will be used to record:

a. The specific problem by type and area;

b. The particular strategy implemented to effectively address the problem;

c. The parent command must review the merits of full challenges of the mission tasking, the identification of suitable tactical resources, and the appropriate levels of tactical equipment while coordinating with other responsible department assets.

d. If the situation involves high risk and/or potentially violent encounter the parent command shall also include notification of a SWAT team supervisor. The SWAT team supervisor and the parent command shall determine if additional resources are needed to ensure a safe operation.

e. The source of information on which the plan is based; sources should be specifically indicated;

f. The time frame over which the patrol plan is to be applied;

g. The Incident Command Structure in place for the patrol plan;

h. Upon termination of the patrol plan, the results i.e., number of arrests, field interviews, etc. will be documented on an After Action Review (ICS Form AAR-01), which will be forwarded to the respective Precinct Crime Analyst or the Crime Analysis Unit.
Supervisory personnel should use their creativity and resourcefulness in developing planned patrol procedures to effectively deal with specific problems. Moreover, subordinate personnel (especially those assigned to those zones where the problem has been identified) should be consulted on a regular basis in order to contribute ideas and suggestions. Examples of available strategies are as follows:

- Field interviews;
- Traffic enforcement;
- Decoys;
- Plainclothes patrol
  - On foot
  - On bicycles
  - In unmarked or non-police vehicles
- Saturation patrol by marked units;
- Stakeouts;
- Surveillance
- Crime Prevention - C.P.T.E.D
  - Canvassing of neighborhoods
  - Concentrating security surveys in affected areas
  - Conducting security surveys in homes and businesses

**Implementation of the Planned Patrol Strategy**

Once the problem has been identified and the patrol strategy developed, the following steps should be taken in order to ensure that the patrol plan is effectively implemented:

- Notify the E911 Emergency Communications and identify those personnel who will be involved in the planned patrol tactics;
- Thoroughly brief all patrol personnel who will be on duty during that time period the plan is to be executed as to the specific details of the planned patrol procedure;
- Inform the supervisor on the subsequent shift as to what particular tactics were utilized to carry out the patrol plan so that any follow-up activity can be initiated;
- Closely monitor the results of the planned patrol procedure in order to evaluate its operational effectiveness.
- If the patrol plan will be in effect more than 3 days, daily activity reports should be given by the Reporting Officer to the Commanding Officer via the Precinct Crime Analyst or Crime Analyst Unit of the affected command as well as the Commanding Officers of all-supporting commands. The daily activity reports will be documented on ICS 204D.
- If a patrol plan will be in effect for a period exceeding 10 days, consideration should be given to forming an Investigative Task Force
- Upon termination of the patrol plan, the results i.e., number of arrest, field interviews, etc. will be documented on an After Action Review (ICS Form AAR-01) which will be forwarded to the respective Precinct Crime Analysis Unit.

**Evaluation of the Planned Patrol Strategy (After Action Review) and Records Retention**

In order to ascertain the overall effectiveness of any planned patrol strategy, relevant data must be collected and analyzed. More specifically, these types of data include, but are not limited to:

- The number of arrests that stem directly from implementing the specific patrol plan
- The frequency with which the offense(s) specified in the original identification of the problem are perpetrated following the implementation of the patrol strategy
c. The frequency with which other types of criminal activities occur in the area following the execution of a patrol plan

d. The overall workability of the strategy including any problems encountered during its implementation

e. The relative efficiency of the patrol plan (the number of arrests per man-hours expended).

Planned Patrols will be routed to the Precinct Crime Analyst and reviewed by the training Lieutenant of the Command. Recommendations by the training Lieutenant shall be made to Professional Development and Training for consideration. After the evaluation of the patrol plan has been routed to the Precinct Crime Analyst, the original ICS form and the After Action Report shall be maintained on the network by the Precinct Crime Analyst. The Crime Analyst Unit will be responsible for maintaining the records as required by the Library of Virginia Records Retention and Disposition Schedule.

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU) shall utilize the completed patrol plan to:

a. Compare pre and post patrol plan crime statistics;

b. Identify if the problem has been resolved or moved to other locations;

c. Identify all persons arrested or field interviewed during the planned patrol.