

**SUMMARY NOTES FOR THE
POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

June 11, 2014
Greenville, NC

The Police Community Relations Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at the City Hall Building, third floor Gallery Room, 200 West 5th Street, Greenville, NC 27834.

The meeting begins at 6:30 pm.

There was not a quorum for the meeting.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Crisp; District 4	Belinda Perkinson; District 3
Lennard Naipaul; District 2	

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Shawan Sutton; Chairperson, District 1	Marcus Jones; Mayoral
Brian Paiz; At-Large	Aaron Lucier; District 5

CITY STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Assistant City Attorney, Bill Little; Sgt. Dale Mills, Platoon C; Sylvia Horne, Administration Services Support Specialist; Kristen Hunter, Public Information Officer; Devinder Culver, Community Project Coordinator; Sgt. Joe Friday, Investigations/Focused Deterrence.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

None

OTHERS:

Several Citizens and Community Groups

SPEAKER TOPIC:

Focused Deterrence – Sgt. Joe Friday, Greenville Police Department

Sgt. Dale Mills introduced himself to the committee members and others that attended the PCRC meeting. He stated that he was excited about the topic that Sgt. Joe Friday was going to present. He reminded the committee that PCRC will not meet in July and August, but in September Kristen Hunter, Public Information Officer (PIO) will talk about Social Media. Lastly Sgt. Mills asked the committee and the citizens to spread the word in their districts regarding the PCRC meetings.

Chief Aden thanked everyone for coming to the PCRC meeting. He stated that Focused Deterrence is the theory behind the police actions and what the police

department is going to do. David Kennedy, who is a world famous criminologist, started the concept. The concept has been used all over the United States at varying levels of success for 20 years. Chief Aden stated that High Point has been using the program successfully for 17 years; they dropped their violent crime by 63 percent. Chief Aden stated that he was sold on the program, but the biggest piece that concerns him in turns of the failure of the initiative is the assistance that the police department can continuously give once someone makes the decision to stop offending. Chief Aden stated that Sgt. Friday was going to go through the nuts and bolts of the program.

Sgt. Friday stated that he attended a briefing in December about Focused Deterrence. He stated that he had never heard of the program, but became interested and wanted to become involved with the program, so he sent Chief Aden an email of interest to become involved with the program. Sgt. Friday stated that he works with Ms. Culver and the detectives. Sgt. Friday stated that Greenville Regional Offender Watch is what the police department is calling their approach and the term is being used because of the mobility of the offenders. The offenders just don't live and work and commit crimes here in Greenville, but they may stay in Ayden, Winterville or Bethel and come to Greenville. The closest agencies to us using the program are Goldsboro and Rocky Mount.

Sgt. Friday began his presentation by asking the question:

What is Focused Deterrence? He stated that it is an;

- Enforcement strategy that uses criminal and arrest records to identify and select a community's most dangerous threats and chronic offenders, and then directly confront them about their crime
- Applies limited LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) resources to specific targets
- A partnership approach that is highly visible, upfront and transparent
 - involves your civilian community
 - LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) partnerships are critical
- Proven and effective at preventing and reducing crime
 - High Point PD has been using this model for 17 years
 - Boston Ceasefire since early 1990s

Sgt. Friday stated that **Focused Deterrence is not:**

- Focused deterrence is NOT a government program
- Focused deterrence is NOT a grant
- Focused deterrence is NOT a warm & fuzzy project
- Focused deterrence is NOT a short-term enforcement campaign
- Focused deterrence is NOT a deal or truce with gangs

Sgt. Friday gave the definition of **FOCUS & DETERRENCE**. He stated that

FOCUS: a point at which rays of light, heat, or sound converge; a center of activity, attraction, or attention; a point of concentration

DETERRENCE: The act of making someone decide not to do something; preventing a

particular act or behavior from happening; the process of deterring; the inhibition of criminal behavior by fear, especially of punishment

Sgt. Joe Friday stated that the **Greenville/Regional Offender Watch** is:

References the transient nature of offenders and the abilities of law enforcement to communicate across jurisdictions and track them. Title is not “heavy-handed” or “enforcement only” approach and is sensitive to public concerns.

Sgt. Joe Friday reviewed **how Focused Deterrence works**

- LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) and community identify small number of repeat offenders based on their past behavior, documented by criminal records.
- Identified groups and individuals receive focused attention
- Offenders are notified with direct communication (Call-In)
- Community’s moral voice message
 - Resources for help
 - Violence must stop
 - Personal message from a victim respected by offender group
- LEO (Law Enforcement Officer) message
 - Your actions will have consequences
 - All LEOs (Law Enforcement Officer) are watching you and you cannot hide
 - We are sharing information about you
 - You are responsible for your choices
- Notification removes offender’s anonymity
- Offenders take away knowledge of their presumptive prison sentence for reoffending

Sgt. Joe Friday reviewed **How Does Focused Deterrence Work?** There is a

- Strict follow up by LEO after the call in
- Intense focus and enforcement against those who re-offend
 - Remember we are focusing on a small number of people
- Fast-track prosecution (partnership with District Attorney)
 - First appearance
 - Bond hearing
 - Grand jury
 - Fewer continuances
 - No plea arrangements for trigger offenses
- Probation violations (partnership with Probation Officers)
- “Pulling Levers” – law enforcement partnerships
 - Local and State
 - Federal prosecution

Sgt. Joe Friday asked the citizens and committee. **How does the Police Department Track the Offender?**

CJ LEADs watch list currently sends automatic alert when a person on specified watch list is added to AOC data or status is changed:

- Court dates / Schedule / Continuances
- Arrest
- Probation
- Watch list request for email to be sent when encountered by other LEO
- GPD agency Records Management System watch list is also designed to alert officer of status change – built in for redundancy

Sgt. Joe Friday Mentioned these **Focused Deterrence Key Points**:

- Emphasis on the word focused in focused deterrence strategies. Strategies were successful because they create a credible deterrent threat.
- Deterrence message is applied to relatively small, specific audience, rather than to a general audience
- Overall idea is that law enforcement can increase the certainty, swiftness, and severity of punishment
- These approaches focus solely on high rate offenders, gang members, drug sellers, or other specific individuals

Sgt Joe Friday gave these **On-Line Resources** to everyone in case if they wanted to learn and study more about Focused Deterrence

Pulling Levers Focused Deterrence Strategies to Prevent Crime. Anthony Braga; David Weisburd. <http://cops.usdoj.gov/Publications/e041218460-508.pdf>

Focused Deterrence: High Point, North Carolina
<http://www.smartpolicinginitiative.com/library-andmultimedia-resources/crime/focused-deterrence-highpoint-north-carolina>

Center for Evidence-Based Policing: Focused Deterrence Strategies <http://cebcp.org/evidence-based-policing/whatworks-in-policing/research-evidence-review/focuseddeterrence/Online>

Lastly, Sgt Joe Friday presented the **Staff Contact Information** to everyone.

Sgt. Joe Friday
252-329-4357

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Mrs. Devinder Culver
252-329-4180

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Cpl. Phil Rollinson
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Public Expression and Questions

The citizens asked several questions, made comments and expressed their concerns.

(#981870)

