



Wellington: A Great Hometown!



Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) Village of Wellington

Law Enforcement Services Plan for FY 2017

"TO MAKE WELLINGTON A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE"

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Introduction

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) provides law enforcement services to the Village of Wellington (The Village) and functions as its' *police department*. PBSO has provided law enforcement services to The Village since incorporation in 1996, and throughout the years, has made modifications to the Law Enforcement Services Agreement (LESA) based upon the needs of The Village. This ongoing assessment considers factors like population growth, annexations, commercial expansion and special interest concerns.ⁱ

The Village and the PBSO are in the third year of their current five year LESA contract. Typically, both renew LESA every five years.ⁱⁱ A key element of the current agreement is the requirement for the PBSO to submit an annual Law Enforcement Services Plan (LESP) wherein law enforcement accomplishments, challenges and future goals are presented. This report is the LESP for FY 2017.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2017, The Village is asking for two new sworn personnel for *commercial motor vehicle* (CMV) enforcement and they will be utilized principally to enforce waste disposal regulations and commercial enforcement.

Accomplishments

Annually, law enforcement needs are recognized, addressed and directed as a result of regular meetings between the District Commander and Village Manager. In addition, presentations to the Village Council by the District Commander are done twice a year. These meetings and presentations are productive and have resulted in the successful implementation of programs like the District's Traffic Enforcement Unit, Community Policing / Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, a Street Team, and a JAM Unit.

The Village continues to enjoy a low crime rate, a high clearance rate, a low traffic crash rate, and infrequent occurrences of violent crime.ⁱⁱⁱ The LESP helps ensure these successes continue by outlining *the plan* to be followed going forward.

Past LESP's have focused on property crimes and traffic concerns, and this year's LESP is no different.^{iv} To reduce both, investigative methods and traffic enforcement patterns have been and are continually adjusted according to need. Should ancillary support or equipment be needed, specialty units from PBSO are deployed to assist with security, surveillance and investigations.^v

Challenges

The Village is challenged with low but present juvenile crime issues, with the impact of new development, and with commercial and residential traffic issues. Also challenging are Multi-family Housing neighborhoods identified as needing more Outreach Program assistance (Outreach Program Areas). Juveniles are consistently responsible for most of the property crime in The Village, with 20% of all arrestees in Calendar Year (CY) 2015 less than 18 years of age (see graph below).

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Village of Wellington Calendar Year (CY) Arrest Data							
CY	Pop.	Total		Adult		Juvenile	
		Arrests	% of Pop.	Arrests	% of Total Arrests	Arrests	% of Total Arrests
CY 2011	56,752	865	1.5%	669	77%	196	23%
CY 2012	57,514	1,011	1.8%	820	81%	191	19%
CY 2013	58,108	803	1.4%	680	85%	123	15%
CY 2014	59,136	843	1.4%	707	84%	136	16%
CY 2015	59,860	774	1.3%	620	80%	154	20%

* Source: FDLE Annual UCR County and Municipal Arrest Data

Juveniles most often commit retail thefts and burglaries but have been involved in juvenile related robberies. Juvenile related robberies are defined as incidents where either the victim, or the suspect, or both, are juveniles. In The Village, the height of juvenile related robberies occurred during FY 2015. Of the 13 reported robberies, five cases (38.5%) were juvenile related (see graph below).

Village of Wellington Robbery Cases FY 2015 *				
Month	Case Nmbr	Juvenile Related Y/N	Type Case	Case Description
Oct	14127884	N	Person	Snatched neck chain
Oct	14129250	N	Person	Snatched phone
Nov	14138828	Y	Person	Fight - victim shot
Nov	14140193	Y	Residence	Jewelry by gun
Feb	15042895	N	Person	Snatched phone
Mar	15052136	N	Person	Snatched purse
Jun	15090751	N	Person	Brief case by gun
Jun	15092028	Y	Person	Snatched phone
Jul	15097221	N	Business	Threat to get money
Jul	15103375	Y	Residence	Attempted entry by gun
Aug	15106845	Y	Person	Phone and wallet by gun
Aug	15108906	N	Person	Snatched case
Sep	15124037	N	Vehicle	Carjack by force
Total	13	5		

* Source: PBSO Crime View Database (Robbery Cases)

To combat this trend and mitigate juvenile crime issues, the District has designated two deputies to the JAM Unit. The JAM Unit educates the District's deputies, keeps them informed about juveniles on probation, and ensures those juveniles are frequently monitored. Should any be found violating their probation they are arrested and returned to the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC). The JAM program is likely a major factor in holding The Village's overall crime rate down.

The Mall at Wellington Green (The Mall) attracts juveniles from surrounding communities not just to shop, but to meet, gather and "hang out." Parents drive to The

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Mall, drop off their unsupervised juveniles and return hours later to collect them for the trip home. With the coming arrival of a movie theater, and expanded eateries at The Mall, even larger crowds of juveniles are anticipated. The increased crowds, the more congested roadways, and the more heavily trafficked parking lots will bring associated problems, stressing law enforcement resources. Additionally, increased crowds bring increased criminal activity, increased traffic problems and increased crashes. The District is currently working with both The Mall's Management and Security staffs to devise strategic plans to mitigate these risks.^{vi}

Property crimes consist of business burglaries, construction site burglaries, residential burglaries, vehicle burglaries and incidents of vandalism. Traditionally, as population increases, so do property crimes. A review of FY 2011 through FY 2015 shows that the Property Crime Rate (PCR) has been trending downward 16.8% from a high of 1.36% in FY 2011, to a low of 1.07% in FY 2015 (see graph below). The District continues to focus on The Village's PCR.

Village of Wellington Fiscal Year (FY) Property Crime Rates * (Vandalism and Burglary Incidents)				
Year	Total Property Crime	Annual Population	Crime Rate Annual Population	Annual Increase / Decrease
FY 2011	773	56,752	1.36	N/A
FY 2012	750	57,514	1.30	-4.26%
FY 2013	714	58,108	1.23	-5.77%
FY 2014	632	59,136	1.07	-13.02%
FY 2015	643	59,860	1.07	0.51%
(5) Year Avg.	702.4	58,274	1.21	-5.64%

*** Sources: PBSO Crime View Database (Property Crime Cases) and
FDLE County and Municipal Offense Data (Population)**

A review of FY 2011 through FY 2015 shows that the number of reported vehicle burglaries remained relatively constant between FY2011 and FY2014. Then during FY 2015, there were 75 more reported cases than during FY 2014, a 28.8% increase. Reacting to the increase, the District successfully reversed the upward trend, reducing FY 2016 vehicle burglaries by 18.3% as compared to the same FY 2015 time period (see graph below). The District remains concerned about vehicle burglaries and during FY 2017, will dedicate resources to push education and combat the problem.

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Village of Wellington FY Vehicle Burglary Cases *													
Year	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Total
FY2011	31	32	25	13	19	21	22	11	31	26	23	22	276
FY2012	11	20	25	35	21	31	24	26	13	22	30	16	274
FY2013	27	33	20	17	29	19	29	14	7	39	17	22	273
FY2014	23	21	20	15	18	19	15	32	25	30	28	14	260
FY2015	22	10	20	35	18	26	29	31	43	25	20	56	335
FY2016	26	17	29	19	16	7	15	27					156
Total	140	133	139	134	121	123	134	141	119	142	118	130	1574

* Source: PBSO Crime View Database (Vehicle Burglary Cases)

In The Village, traffic concerns are consistently the most common “complaints” of residents. A review of crashes during the 60 month period, FY 2011 and FY 2015, shows that the number of crashes increased year over year. During this period, The Village’s Crash Rate (CR) averaged 2.99 crashes per 100 residents. During FY 2015 there were 15.24% more crashes than during FY 2011. During FY 2015, total crashes increased by 6.0% as compared to FY 2014, and raised the FY 2015 CR to 3.17 (see graph below).

Crashes on State Road (SR) 7 were separated from crashes on all other Wellington roads and analyzed. During the 60 month period, FY 2011 through FY 2015, 23.33% of all Wellington crashes (8,708) occurred on SR 7 (2,027). During FY 2015, SR 7 crashes increased 63.40% as compared to FY 2011, while during the same time period, crashes on all other Wellington roads rose 3.76 %. When comparing FY 2015 crashes to those during FY 2014, SR 7 crashes rose twice as fast as crashes on all other Wellington roadways; 9.98% as compared to 4.62% (see graph below). The District is committed to traffic safety and pro-active traffic enforcement. During FY 2017, to deter traffic crashes, the District will deploy the two proposed traffic enforcement positions in more targeted traffic interventions.

Village of Wellington Fiscal Year (FY) Crash Statistics *												
Year	Annual Pop.	SR 7				All Other Roadways				Total Roadways		
		Annual Crashes	Avg. Monthly Crashes	% of Total Crashes	Crash Rate Per 100 Residents	Annual Crashes	Avg. Monthly Crashes	% of Total Crashes	Crash Rate Per 100 Residents	Total Crashes	Avg. Monthly Crashes	Crash Rate Per 100 Residents
FY 2011	56,752	317	26	19.25%	0.56	1,330	111	80.75%	2.34	1,647	137	2.90
FY 2012	57,514	320	27	18.87%	0.56	1,376	115	81.13%	2.39	1,696	141	2.95
FY 2013	58,108	401	33	23.91%	0.69	1,276	106	76.09%	2.20	1,677	140	2.89
FY 2014	59,136	471	39	26.31%	0.80	1,319	110	73.69%	2.23	1,790	149	3.03
FY 2015	59,860	518	43	27.29%	0.87	1,380	115	72.71%	2.31	1,898	158	3.17
(5) Year Avg.	58,274	405	34	23.13%	0.69	1,336	111	76.87%	2.29	1,742	145	2.99

* Sources: PBSO Crime View Database (Crash Statistics) and FDLE County and Municipal Offense Data (Population)

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Over time, traffic activity damages roadway infrastructure. So to prolong the useful life of the roadway system, The Village restricts Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) traffic through its borders. Vehicles with more than six wheels are prohibited by section 54 of The Village's Code of Ordinances. CMV traffic is allowed if a delivery is being made or if other permissions are obtained. However, the use of village roads as a "cut through" for CMV operators is strictly prohibited, with dump trucks the most often offenders. Additional challenges are presented by illegal waste disposal on local roads and fields. During FY 2017, The Village has asked for the addition of two CMV enforcement units to manage expected growth in commercial traffic.

Conclusion

Juvenile crime issues, traffic congestion, and crashes will increase with The Mall expansion. Population growth adds to traffic congestion and increased property crimes. Increased juvenile criminal activity, traffic congestion, crashes and property crimes stresses available law enforcement resources. Community Policing remains active and needed within Outreach Program Areas. CMV traffic brings its own set of unique law enforcement challenges.

These challenges/opportunities will be addressed through the action plans proposed for FY 2017. Those plans are: Juvenile Crime Issues, Property Crime and Traffic Safety. To help mitigate these challenges, there will be two new CMV allocations to augment the Traffic Enforcement Unit.

Additionally, the District will continue its work with the Safe Neighborhoods Initiative to improve conditions in Outreach Program Areas; including participating in neighborhood cleanups, landlord/tenant meetings, neighborhood meetings, and code enforcement operations. Juvenile crime issues and property crime, with an emphasis on vehicle burglaries, require the combined and continuing efforts of the Community Policing, JAM monitoring and Street Team tactical operations.

The Village remains one of the safest cities in Palm Beach County and enjoys a low cost for its law enforcement service. Looking ahead to FY 2017 and beyond, the District will continue to provide excellent law enforcement services striving to eliminate property crime, increase traffic safety, reduce juvenile issues, and address equestrian concerns. The District looks forward to working with The Village to make Wellington a *Great Hometown!*

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Action Plans, Goals & Objectives

Plan I- Juvenile Crime Issues

Discussion:

Juvenile crime issues (property crimes and juvenile related robberies) are an ongoing problem and account for at least 20% of all crime in The Village (source: FDLE 2015 Total Arrest by Jurisdiction). Effective supervision of, and intervention with, juvenile offenders provides opportunities to reduce property crimes, to reduce juvenile related robberies and to direct juveniles towards non-criminal lifestyles.

Goal:

- Reduce crime through effective supervision of juvenile offenders.

Inputs:

- The District will deploy two deputies as JAM deputies.
- As of 5/9/2016, a deputy allocation was removed from Community Policing (CP).
- CP deputy reassigned as a JAM deputy.
- Aggressively enforce juveniles on probation and visit each at least monthly.
- Proposal for JAM deputies to have and use drug test kits in the field.
- JAM deputies to assist and train Road Patrol deputies on juvenile probation and enforcement.

Anticipated Outcome/Outputs:

- Reduce juvenile related property crime by 5% in FY 2017.
- Reduce juvenile related robbery by 10% in FY 2017.

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Plan II- Property Crime Reduction

Discussion:

Property crimes consist of business burglaries, construction site burglaries, residential burglaries, vehicle burglaries and incidents of vandalism. Traditionally, as population increases, so do property crimes. The District remains constantly concerned with The Village's Property Crime Rate and will implement the practices below to curtail property crimes in The Village.

Goal:

- Maintain The Village's low Property Crime Rate.

Inputs:

- Combined effort of Road Patrol, Street Team and Detectives
- Use covert surveillance cameras.
- Use GPS technology
- Deploy STOP tags, antitheft and recovery system.
- Conduct preventive patrolling in areas and at times where property crimes are occurring.

Anticipated Outcome / Outputs:

- During FY 2017, property crimes will remain less than 800 cases.
- During FY 2017, vehicle burglaries will be reduced 15%.
- During FY 2017, 10% of burglaries will be cleared by arrest.

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Plan III- Traffic Safety

Discussion:

In The Village, traffic concerns are consistently the most common “complaints” of residents. The District is committed to traffic safety and pro-active traffic enforcement. During FY 2017, to deter traffic crashes, the District will deploy the two newly allocated CMV deputies in more targeted traffic interventions.

Goal:

- To reduce traffic crashes and minimize traffic fatalities.
- Reduce CMV complaints and illegal dumping.

Inputs:

- Ensure District Motor and Traffic Units receive all required training
- Ensure Motor and Traffic units have all necessary equipment.
- Deploy Motor and Traffic Units pursuant to traffic crash patterns and citizen initiated traffic complaints.
- Pay special attention to CMV related challenges.

Anticipated Outcome/Outputs:

- At least 10,000 traffic stops will be conducted during FY 2017.
- Reduce total crashes 7.8% (148 less incidents) during FY 2017.
- The 7.8% reduction will reduce the Villages Crash Rate to 2.92%.

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Staffing: Current FY 2017 and Proposed FY 2018 ^{vii}

District 8 Staffing Allocation: Current FY 2017 Versus Proposed FY 2018				
Position	Current FY 2017		Proposed FY 2018	
	Allocation Funded by Contract	Allocation Provided by PBSO	Allocation Funded by Contract	Allocation Provided by PBSO
Captain	1		1	
Lieutenant	1		1	
Sergeants	7		7	
Road Patrol Deputy Sheriff	39		39	
Lobby Deputy Deputy Sheriff	1		1	
Detective Bureau Detective Detective (TDY from PBSO)	2	1	2	1
Community Policing Deputy Sheriff	2		2	
JAM Unit Deputy Sheriff	2		2	
Street Team Deputy Sheriff (includes a K9 Deputy Sheriff)	4		4	
Motor Units Deputy Sheriff	2		2	
Traffic Unit Deputy Sheriff CMV Deputy Sheriff	2		4	
Administrative Secretaries	2		2	
Law Enforcement Aide	1		1	
Clerical Specialist	1		1	
Criminal Justice Planner	1		1	
Total Paid by Wellington	68		70	
Total Provided by PBSO		1		1
Total Staff	68	1	70	1

ⁱ (Equestrian interests, *Safe Neighborhoods*, and other evolving trends.)

ⁱⁱ The current five year agreement runs from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2019. FY 2017 is the 2nd Addendum (or third year of the five year agreement).

ⁱⁱⁱ The *semi-annual report* that will be presented to The Village in the Fall will illuminate the statistics and facts behind this assertion.

^{iv} These are the two areas that continue to be most problematic.

^v Such assets include: Aviation, Robbery/Homicide, Narcotics Bureau, K-9, Crime Scene, and SWAT.

^{vi} We have met with Mall Management and recommended enhancing the permit deputy schedule. Additionally, the district will look to deploy the Sky Cop surveillance platform at strategic locations on a temporary basis.

^{vii} Annually, the Village provides funding for 73 School Crossing Guards.

Appendix

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