



Wellington: A Great Hometown!



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

Law Enforcement Services Plan for FY 2019

"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 fifth 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 Fiscal Year (FY) 2019.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, neither The Village nor the District is asking for an increase to current staffing levels.

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, ongoing presentations to the Village Council have resulted in the successful exchange of information and ideas. These meetings and presentations will continue to be an integral part of our LESP going forward.

As in years past, 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 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 persistent juvenile crime issues, with the impact of new development, and with commercial and residential traffic issues. Juveniles are responsible for many of the property crimes in The Village. Also challenging are the number of crimes whereby the victims leave their cars unsecured, leading to high incidents of vehicle burglaries. In the past, "illegitimate sober homes" was an issue with at least one nearby armed robbery committed by their residents. With the assistance of The Village and the Sober Home Task Force many were closed and related complaints have almost completely ceased.

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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 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%
CY 2016	60,308	651	1.1%	554	85%	97	15%
CY 2017	61,775	812	1.3%	688	85%	144	18%

* Source: FDLE UCR Arrest Data - Total Arrest by Jurisdiction

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, robberies decreased from 19 in FY 2016 to 12 in FY 2017 (36.8% decrease). Of those, juvenile related robberies decreased from 11 in FY 2016 to 5 in FY 2017 (54.5% decrease). FY 2017 robbery cases are shown with juvenile incidents highlighted in blue (see graph below).

FY 2017 Village of Wellington Robbery Cases *						
Cases (12): Adult (7), Juvenile (5)						
Committed by Strangers: Yes (6), No (6)						
Month	Case Number	Juvenile Related	Type Case	Description	Strangers	Arrest
2017 Jan	17032254	No	Business	By force - phone	Yes	Yes
2017 Feb	17040375	No	Business	By gun - cash	Yes	No
2017 Mar	17055073	No	Person	By gun - property	Yes	Yes
2017 May	17079071	No	Person	By gun - cash	Yes	Yes
2017 Jan	17033020	No	Carjacking	By gun - vehicle	Yes	No
2017 Aug	17114009	No	Person	By Taser - cash	No	No
2017 Sep	17122772	No	Person	By force - property	No	Yes
2016 Dec	16170559	Yes	Person	By knife - wallet	Yes	No
2017 Jan	17028366	Yes	Person	By gun - cash and property	No	Yes
2017 Feb	17043622	Yes	Person	By gun - cash and property	No	No
2017 Jun	17091192	Yes	Person	By gun - cash	No	Yes
2017 Aug	17118174	Yes	Person	By gun - cash	No	No

* Source: PBSO Crime View Database (Robbery Cases)

To continue this trend and to mitigate juvenile crime issues, the District continues to use Juvenile Arrest and Monitoring (JAM) trained deputies to educate the District's deputies, to keep them informed about juveniles on probation, and to ensure those juveniles are frequently monitored. Should any be found violating their probation they are arrested and returned to the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC).

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The Mall at Wellington Green (The Mall) continues to attract juveniles from surrounding communities, not just to shop, but to meet, gather and “hang out.” As in past years, entertainment and eatery expansion attracted crowds of juveniles and related traffic congestion. Expansion related problems were handled by increased patrolling, traffic enforcement and partnering with The Mall’s management and security staff. The District will continue working with both to devise strategic plans to mitigate risks associated with the changing mall dynamic.

Property crimes consist of all burglaries (business, construction site, residential, vehicle) and incidents of graffiti and vandalism. Traditionally, as population increases, so do property crimes. However, a review of FY 2013 through FY 2017 shows that the Property Crime Rate (PCR) has been trending downward 24% from a PCR of 1.25 in FY 2013, to a PCR of 0.95 in FY 2017. The District continues to focus on The Village’s PCR.

Vehicle burglaries remain a constant challenge to PBSO, the District and The Village. A review of vehicle burglaries showed that there were 110 more cases reported in FY 2017 than during FY 2016, a 43.5% increase (see graph below). However, other property crime categories showed significant decreases; residential burglaries down 28.57%, vandalism down 21.16% and graffiti down 65.61%. The District remains concerned about vehicle burglaries and during FY 2019 will dedicate resources to push education on how to mitigate the risk of being victimized, and to combat the problem with strategic covert operations such as *Operation Vigilance*^{vi}.

Village of Wellington Fiscal Year (FY) Property Crime Rates * (Burglary, Graffiti and Vandalism Incidents)										
Year	Burglaries				Vandalism	Graffiti	Total Property Crime	Population	Crime Rate	
	Business	Construc.	Residential	Vehicle					Population	Increase / Decrease
FY 2013	17	16	232	273	176	11	725	58,108	1.25	N/A
FY 2014	28	9	195	260	140	26	658	59,136	1.11	-10.82%
FY 2015	11	2	114	335	181	28	671	59,860	1.12	0.74%
FY 2016	16	3	112	253	137	29	550	60,308	0.91	-18.64%
FY 2017	23	4	80	363	108	10	588	61,775	0.95	4.37%
(5) Year Total	95	34	733	1,484	742	104	3,192			
(5) Year Avg.	19	7	147	297	148	21	638	59,837	1.07	-6.09%

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

In The Village, traffic concerns are consistently the most common “complaints” of residents. A review of crash cases during the 60 month period, FY 2013 and FY 2017, shows that crashes trended upward 13.9% (from 1,280 to 1,458 cases). During this 60 month period, The Village’s Crash Rate (CR) averaged 2.42 crashes per 100 residents.

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During FY 2017, total crashes decreased by 2.99% when compared to FY 2016, and reduced the FY 2017 CR to 2.42 from 2.51 (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 2013 through FY 2017, there were 7,181 crash cases of which 25.41% (1,825) occurred on SR 7.

During FY 2017, SR 7 crashes increased 37.45% when compared to FY 2013, while during the same time period, crashes on all other Wellington roads rose 6.97%. Comparing FY 2017 crashes to those during FY 2016 there was a 7.02% crash reduction on all roadways other than SR 7. On SR 7 crashes increased 9.58% (see graph below). The District is committed to traffic safety and pro-active traffic enforcement. During FY 2019, to deter traffic crashes, the District will deploy all traffic enforcement staff to more targeted traffic interventions.

Village of Wellington Fiscal Year (FY) Case Number 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 2013	58,108	291	24	22.73%	0.50	989	82	77.27%	1.70	1,280	107	2.20
FY 2014	59,136	369	31	26.02%	0.62	1,049	87	73.98%	1.77	1,418	118	2.40
FY 2015	59,136	400	33	26.28%	0.68	1,122	94	73.72%	1.90	1,522	127	2.57
FY 2016	59,860	365	30	24.28%	0.61	1,138	95	75.72%	1.90	1,503	125	2.51
FY 2017	60,308	400	33	27.43%	0.66	1,058	88	72.57%	1.75	1,458	122	2.42
(5) Year Total		1,825				5,356				7,181		
(5) Year Avg.	59,310	608	30	25.35%	0.61	1,785	89	74.65%	1.81	2,394	120	2.42

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

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 with certain exceptions. 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 District's CMV deputies stopped 907 trucks and placed 119 vehicles and 32 drivers out of service (see graph below). During FY 2019 the CMV deputies will be utilized for targeted traffic interventions as well as manage expected growth in commercial traffic.

Village of Wellington Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Report: FY 2017													
Vehicles			Vehicle Type				Out-of-Service		Warnings		Citations		Arrests
Stopped	Inspected	Post Crash Inspection	Weight Case	Other	HazMat	Manure	Driver	Vehicle	Verbal	Written	DOT	State	
907	904	3		704	38	165	32	119	449	1724	6	56	2

* Source: District-8 - Monthly CMV Unit Statistics

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Conclusion

Juvenile crime issues, vehicle burglaries, traffic congestion, and crashes will likely increase with population growth. These increases in turn, will impact available law enforcement resources and we will strategically shift our plan to address these concerns. The Street Team, Community Policing and Traffic Units will remain an active and necessary component of our LESP. These challenges/opportunities will be addressed through the action plans proposed for FY 2019, and they include: Juvenile Crime Issues, Vehicle Burglaries and Traffic Safety.

Additionally, the District will continue to work with the Safe Neighborhoods Initiative to improve conditions in Outreach Program Areas. Initiatives such as neighborhood cleanups, landlord/tenant meetings, neighborhood meetings, and code enforcement operations will remain a key part of our strategy.

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 2019 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 keep 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 18% of all crime arrests in The Village (source: FDLE 2017 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 continue to deploy its JAM Deputy.
- Aggressively enforce juveniles on probation and visit each at least monthly.
- JAM trained 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 2019.
- Reduce juvenile related robberies by 5% in FY 2019.

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Plan II- Crime Rate

Discussion:

Focus should be vehicle burglaries, robberies and thefts. The District remains concerned with the crime rate and will implement the practices below to curtail crime in the village.

Goal:

- Maintain a low crime rate.

Inputs:

- Combined effort of Road Patrol, Street Team, Community Policing and Detectives.
- Use GPS technology.
- Use covert surveillance techniques and equipment.
- Will utilize newly approved tag-reader camera system.
- Utilize crime mapping and trends to focus efforts on neighborhoods, businesses, sober homes, etc. where crimes have occurred or complaints have been received.
- Utilize Walk and Talk, Public Service Announcements (PSA) and CEPTD Surveys (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) of businesses and shopping centers to aid crime prevention and getting the word out "not to be an easy victim."

Anticipated Outcome / Outputs:

- During FY 2019, maintain the robberies to 12 or less in The Village.
- During FY 2019, property crimes to remain less than 800 cases.
- During FY 2019, 10% of burglaries to 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 2019, its traffic enforcement staff will be deployed in selectively 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 in FY 2019.
- Maintain the Village's Crash Rate at 2.49 or below.

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Current FY 2019 Unchanged from FY 2018 ^{vii}

District 8 Staffing Allocation: Current FY 2018 Unchanged For FY 2019				
Position	Current FY 2018		Unchanged FY 2019	
	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	40		40	
Lobby Deputy Deputy Sheriff	1		1	
Detective Bureau Detective Detective (TDY from PBSO)	3	1	3	1
Community Policing Deputy Sheriff	4		4	
JAM Unit Deputy Sheriff	1		1	
Street Team Deputy Sheriff (includes a K9 Deputy Sheriff)	4		4	
CMV Deputy Sheriff	2		2	
Motors Deputy Sheriff	2		2	
Traffic Deputy Sheriff	1		1	
Administrative Secretaries	2		2	
Law Enforcement Aide	1		1	
Clerical Specialist	1		1	
Criminal Justice Planner	1		1	
Total Paid by Wellington	72		72	
Total Provided by PBSO		1		1
Total Staff	72	1	72	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 2019 is the 4rd Addendum (or fourth year of the five year agreement).

ⁱⁱⁱ The *annual report* that will be presented to The Village 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} Operation Vigilance: to suppress stolen vehicles and vehicle burglaries. It resulted in 19 cases cleared and 36 arrests (11 Misdemeanor, 10 Felony, 13 Traffic and 2 Warrant).

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

Appendix

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