

Wellington: A Great Hometown!



# Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Village of Wellington

Law Enforcement Services Plan for FY 2022

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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.

The Village and the PBSO LESA contract was auto-renewed for FY (Fiscal Year) 2020 and are in the third year of the current five-year contract. Typically, both renew LESA every five years<sup>i</sup>. 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 2022.

#### 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 reporting and interactions with the Village Council have resulted in the exchange of ideas that have yielded successful results. These meetings and presentations will continue as an integral part of our LESP in 2022.

As in years past, 2021 has continued to demonstrate that the Village enjoys a low crime rate, a high *clearance rate*, a low traffic crash rate, as well as infrequent incidents of violent crime. Consequently, as with past LESPs, the reduction of property crimes and traffic crash mitigation, will be 2022's primary focus. The use of statistical data to identify crime trends and crash patterns, along with investigative methods should assist in keeping the low rate in both categories. A continuous review of the data will allow enforcement to be deployed in the areas with the highest demand of resources. Should ancillary resources or equipment outside of the district be necessary, specialty units shall be deployed to assist and support the District 8 Deputies.

#### Juvenile Crime

The Village, as in previous years, continues to enjoy low but persistent juvenile crime issues, property crimes, and traffic related problems. Juveniles continue to be responsible for a significant portion of the property crimes in the Village, albeit this ratio continues to trend downward (*See graph on the following page*). Another persistent challenge is the fact that residents leave their cars unsecured, which contributes to the higher incidents of vehicle thefts and burglaries.

Village of Wellington Calendar Year (CY) Arrest Data									
Calendar		To	otal		dult	Juvenile			
Year (CY)	Pop.	Arrests	% of Pop.	Arrests	% of Total Arrests	Arrests	% of Total Arrests		
CY 2016	60,308	651	1.1%	554	85%	97	15%		
CY 2017	61,775	812	1.3%	688	85%	144	18%		
CY 2018	62,304	545	0.9%	455	83%	90	<b>17</b> %		
CY 2019	62,373	480	0.8%	427	89%	53	11%		
CY 2020	62,650	342	0.5%	308	90%	34	10%		

<sup>\*</sup> Source: FDLE UCR Arrest Data - Total Arrest by Jurisdiction

To address all juvenile related crime issues, District 8 will continue to utilize the Juvenile Arrest and Monitoring (JAM) deputy to 1) educate the District's deputies in keeping them informed about juveniles on probation, and 2) to ensure those juveniles are frequently monitored. Any juveniles found violating their probation are arrested and returned to the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC). Additionally, we will work with the State Attorney's Office to address particularly troublesome juvenile cases.

The Mall at Wellington Green (The Mall) continues to attract juveniles from surrounding communities, not just to shop, but also 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. However, most activities have been impacted by COVID-19 and we will closely monitor as *normal* activity levels resume.

In addition to our enforcement strategies, the District's Community Policing Unit will proactively look to identify families that have *juvenile-related* problems and work with the Village to support these families with programs. Feeding South Florida was the longest-running effort, a large-scale weekly food distribution that PBSO was always present and supported.

As we emerge from COVID-19, Community Policing activities and events are starting to resume, starting with Harmony in the Streets Summer Camp.

#### **Property Crime**

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 2016 through FY 2020 shows that the Property Crime Rate (PCR) has been trending downward with a dramatic 17.91% decrease in FY 2020 as compared to FY 2019. The District continues to focus heavily on the Village's *PCR*, as it is the principal crime occurring in the Village, the downward trend notwithstanding. Comparing FY 2019 to FY 2020, residential burglaries was the only property crime that saw an increase.

**Vehicle burglaries** remain a challenge to the Village (and surrounding jurisdictions), even though there was a 15.95% decrease in reported cases during FY 2020 than during FY 2019 (see graph below). Construction burglaries decreased 100% (from 2 to 0), business burglaries slightly decreased 8.33% (from 12 to 11) and residential burglaries increased 18.18% (from 44 to 52).<sup>ii</sup>

The District does continue to monitor vehicle burglaries and in its FY 2022 plan, will dedicate crime prevention resources to educate the public on how to mitigate the risk of being victimized and combat the problem with overt and strategic covert operations including the License Plate Reader (LPR) system.

Year	Business	Construction	Residential	Vehicle	Vandalism	Graffitti	Total Property Crime	Annual Population	Per 100 Residents	Increase / Decrease
FY 2016	16	3	112	253	137	29	550	60,308	0.912	N/A
FY 2017	23	4	80	363	108	10	588	61,775	0.952	6.91%
FY 2018	3	4	42	320	100	6	475	62,304	0.762	-19.22%
FY 2019	12	2	44	257	84	3	402	62,373	0.645	-15.37%
FY 2020	11	0	52	216	48	3	330	62,650	0.527	-17.91%
(5) Year Total	65	13	330	1,409	477	51	2,345			
(5) Year Avg.	13	2.6	66	281.8	95.4	10.2	469	61,882	0.758	-11.40%

<sup>\*</sup> Source: PBSO Crime View Database (Property Crime Cases) and FDLE UCR Arrest Data - Total Arrest by Jurisdiction (Population)

#### Crashes

A review of crash cases during a 60-month period - FY 2016 through FY 2020 - reveals that crashes in the Village trended downward 20.25% (from 1,491 to 1,189 cases). During this 60-month period, The Village's Crash Rate (CR) averaged 2.1958 crashes per 100 residents. During FY 2020, total crashes decreased 11.80% vis-a-vis FY 2019, decreasing the CR to 1.8978 from 2.1612 (see graph below).

The District is committed to traffic safety and pro-active traffic enforcement. During FY 2022, the District will continue to deploy traffic enforcement staff to high priority areas to help minimize traffic related crashes.

Village of Wellington Fiscal Year (FY) Case Number Crash Statistics *									
Year	Annual Population	Total Crashes	Monthly Average	Crash Rate Per 100 Residents					
FY 2016	60,308	1,491	124	2.4723					
FY 2017	61,775	1,440	120	2.3310					
FY 2018	62,304	1,320	110	2.1186					
FY 2019	62,373	1,348	112	2.1612					
FY 2020	62,650	1,189	132	1.8978					
(5) Year Total	309,410	6,788	599	2.1939					
(5) Year Average	61,882	1,358	120	2.1958					

#### \* Source: PBSO Crime View Database (Crash Statistics)

Over time, traffic activity damages roadway infrastructure. 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 2020, the District's CMV deputies stopped 479 trucks and placed 56 vehicles and 16 drivers out of service (see graph below). During FY 2022, the CMV deputies will be utilized for targeted traffic interventions as well as manage expected growth in commercial traffic.

District-8 Village of Wellington Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Report: FY 2020														
	Vehicles Vehicle Type							Out-of-Service Warr		nings Ci		ions		
Month	Stopped	Inspected	Post Crash Inspection	Weight Case	Other	HazMat	Manure	Driver	Vehicle	Verbal	Written	DOT	State	Arrests
Total	479	386	1	0	400	40	39	16	56	220	1016	10	22	1

\* Source: District-8 - Monthly CMV Unit Statistics

#### Conclusion

Juvenile crime, vehicle burglaries, and traffic crashes will continue to be our priorities. The Street Team, Community Policing, and Traffic Units will remain an active component of our LESP. The following action plans are proposed for FY 2022: Juvenile Crime Issues, Vehicle Burglaries, and Traffic Safety.

Additionally, the District will continue to work with Wellington Community Services and Strategic Planning departments to improve conditions in focus areas. Initiatives such as neighborhood cleanups, landlord/tenant communication, neighborhood meetings, walk and talks, and code compliance operations will remain a key part of our strategy.

The Village remains one of the safest municipalities in Palm Beach County and enjoys a low cost for its law enforcement services. Looking ahead to FY 2022 and beyond, the District will continue to provide excellent law enforcement services striving to reduce 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."

#### Action Plans, Goals & Objectives

#### Plan I- Juvenile Crime

#### **Discussion:**

Juvenile crime issues (property crimes and juvenile related robberies) are an ongoing problem and account for at least 11% of all crime arrests in The Village (source: FDLE 2020 Total Arrest by Jurisdiction). A percentage of these juveniles are not Wellington residents. 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.
- Use current Village of Wellington programs to redirect the juveniles.

#### Inputs:

- The District will continue to use the JAM monitoring and enforcement Deputy.
- Aggressively enforce juveniles on probation and visit each at least monthly.
- The JAM Deputy to assist and train Road Patrol Deputies on juvenile probation and enforcement.

#### **Anticipated Outcome/Outputs:**

- Reduce juvenile probation re-entry by 5% in FY 2022.
- Reduce juvenile related robberies by 5% in FY 2022.
- Reduce Juvenile related crimes.

#### Plan II- Property Crime

#### **Discussion:**

The District remains focused on the crime rate and will target vehicle burglaries, robberies and thefts. The information below will be instrumental to curtail crime in the village.

#### Goal:

- Maintain a low crime rate.
- Educate the citizens to protecting their property.

#### **Inputs:**

- Combined effort of Road Patrol, Street Team, Community Policing and Detectives.
- Use GPS technology.
- Use covert surveillance techniques and equipment.
- Utilize the LPR system.
- Utilize crime mapping and trends to focus efforts on neighborhoods, businesses, 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 2022, maintain the robberies to 12 or less in The Village.
- During FY 2022, property crimes to remain less than 800 cases.
- During FY 2022, 10% of burglaries to be cleared by arrest.

#### Plan III- Crashes

#### **Discussion:**

Speeding and crashes are consistently the most common complaint. The District is committed to traffic safety and pro-active traffic enforcement. During FY 2022, traffic enforcement staff will be deployed in targeted locations that were identified as hazards.

#### Goal:

- To reduce traffic crashes and minimize traffic fatalities.
- Reduce CMV complaints and illegal dumping.
- Target enforcement of seatbelts and texting while driving.

#### 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 2022.
- Maintain the Village's Crash Rate at 3.00 or below.

## District 8 Staffing Allocation: FY 2021 versus FY 2022<sup>ii</sup>

District 8 Staffing Allocation Current FY 2021 Versus Proposed FY 2022									
	Current	FY 2021	Proposed	Proposed FY 2022					
Position	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)	3	1	3	1					
Community Policing Deputy Sheriff	4		4						
JAM Unit Deputy Sheriff	1		1						
Street Team Deputy Sheriff	4		4						
CMV Deputy Sheriff	2		2						
Motors Deputy Sheriff	2		2						
Traffic Deputy Sheriff Community Service Aide	3		3						
Crime Prevention Deputy Sheriff	1		1						
Administrative Secretaries	2		2						
Law Enforcement Aide	1		1						
Clerical Specialist	1		1						
Criminal Intelligence Analyst	1		1						
Total Paid by Wellington	74		74						
Total Provided by PBSO		1		1					
Total Staff	74	1	74	1					

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup>The current five-year agreement runs from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025. FY 2022 is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Addendum (or third year of the five-year agreement).

ii Additionally, the Village provides funding for 73 School Crossing Guards.

# Appendix

