

Raleigh Police Department



2008

**Response to Homicide &
Robbery Increase**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Memo.....	2
Homicide & Robbery Overview.....	4
Current Initiatives Established.....	9
Proactive Strategies Currently Under Development.....	14
Addendum.....	16
• Summary of Individual Homicide Cases	
• Robbery Suppression Initiative Problem Analysis Report	
• Community Police Officer Pilot Program Update	

In order to effectively respond to the Councilor's request and present a comprehensive review, I will divide this report into three primary areas: Homicide and Robbery Overview, Current Initiatives Established to Respond to Homicide and Robbery Crime Rate Increases, and Proactive Strategies Currently Under Development. You will note that we have included a review of our increase in robberies in combination with homicides because of the frequent connection.

I. HOMICIDE AND ROBBERY OVERVIEW

The Raleigh Police Department has investigated twenty-six (26) homicides to date. Twenty (20) of these cases were cleared by arrest while six (6) remain unsolved but still under investigation. Two separate cases involved an officer who fatally wounded a suspect while attempting to make an arrest and these are recorded as homicides consistent with UCR reporting requirements. In 2007, there were fourteen (14) homicides at this time last year.

There have been a range of homicide motives. The following chart outlines identified motives.

Homicide Motives – 2008

Type	Number
Robbery	3
Justifiable	2
Home Invasion Robbery	5
Argument	2
Domestic Related	3
Gang Related*	3
Assault	2
Unknown	4
Infant Death	1
Involuntary Manslaughter	1

(Source: Raleigh Police Department)

**Includes one gang related home invasion robbery.*

Homicide Race/Age Victims - 2008

Homicides	Race	Sex	Age of Victims	Homicides	Race	Sex	Age of Victims
1	W	M	Unknown	14	B	F	22
2	H	M	33	15	B	M	15
3	B	M	24	16	H	M	37
4	B	M	22	17	H	M	24
5	B	M	24	18	H	M	20
6	B	M	33	19	B	F	44
7	H	M	27	20	W	M	27
8	B	M	31	21	H	M	26
9	B	F	39	22	B	M	20
10	B	M	52	23	W	M	28
11	B	M	2	24	H	M	47
12	B	M	64	25	H	M	19
13	B	F	22	26	B	M	34

This represents a total of 22 males and 4 females. This represents 3-White Males, 4-Black Females, 8-Hispanic Males and 11-Black Males.

Homicide Age Range – 2008

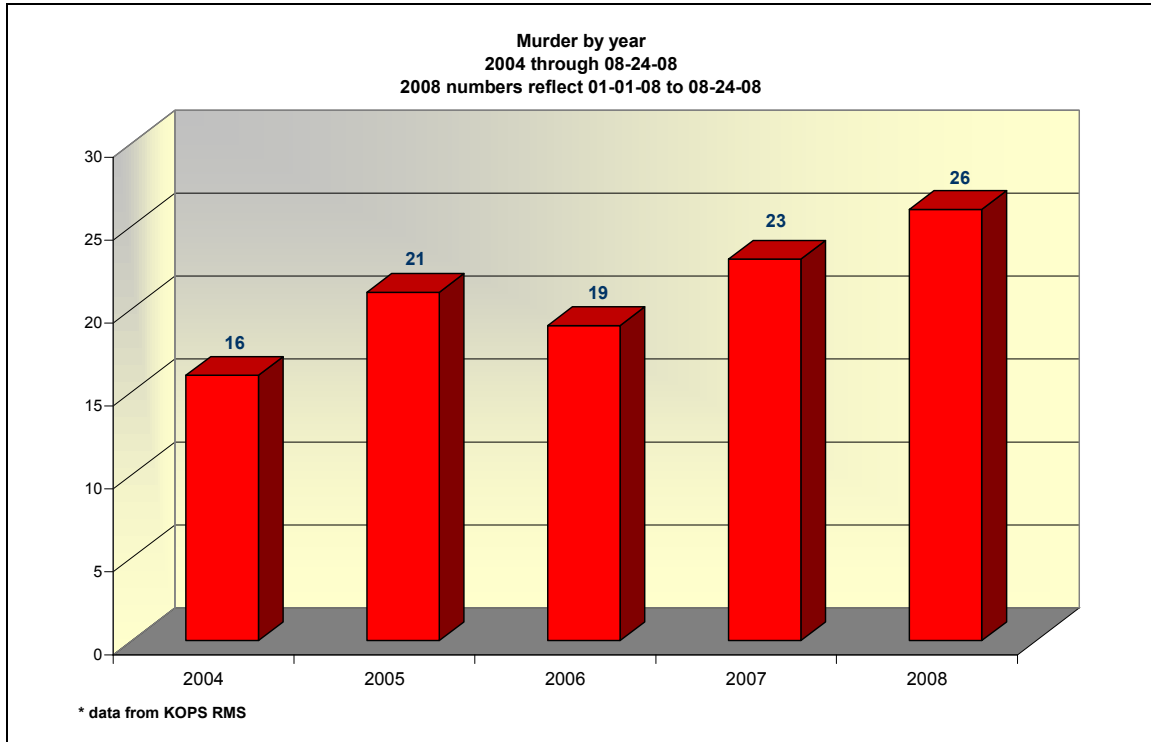
Ages	Number of Homicides
Unknown	1
Age 1-10	1
Age 11-20	2
Age 21-30	12
Age 31-40	6
Age 41-50	2
Age 51-60	1
Age 61-70	1

The following is the number of 2008 homicides to date per policing district:

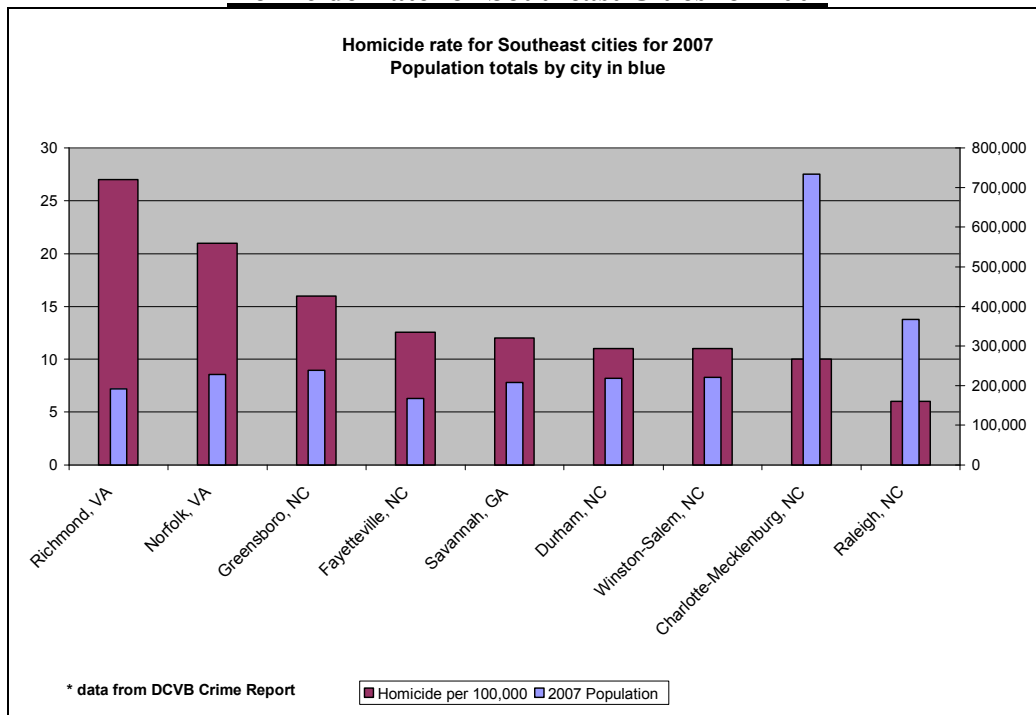
- Southeast-17
- Southwest-4
- North-2 (Includes officer involved shooting)
- Northwest-1
- Northeast-1
- Downtown-1 (Officer involved shooting)

A brief summary of the individual homicide cases is noted in (Addendum 1 – [Homicides in Raleigh 2008 to Date](#))

Murder by Year 2004 thru 8-24-08

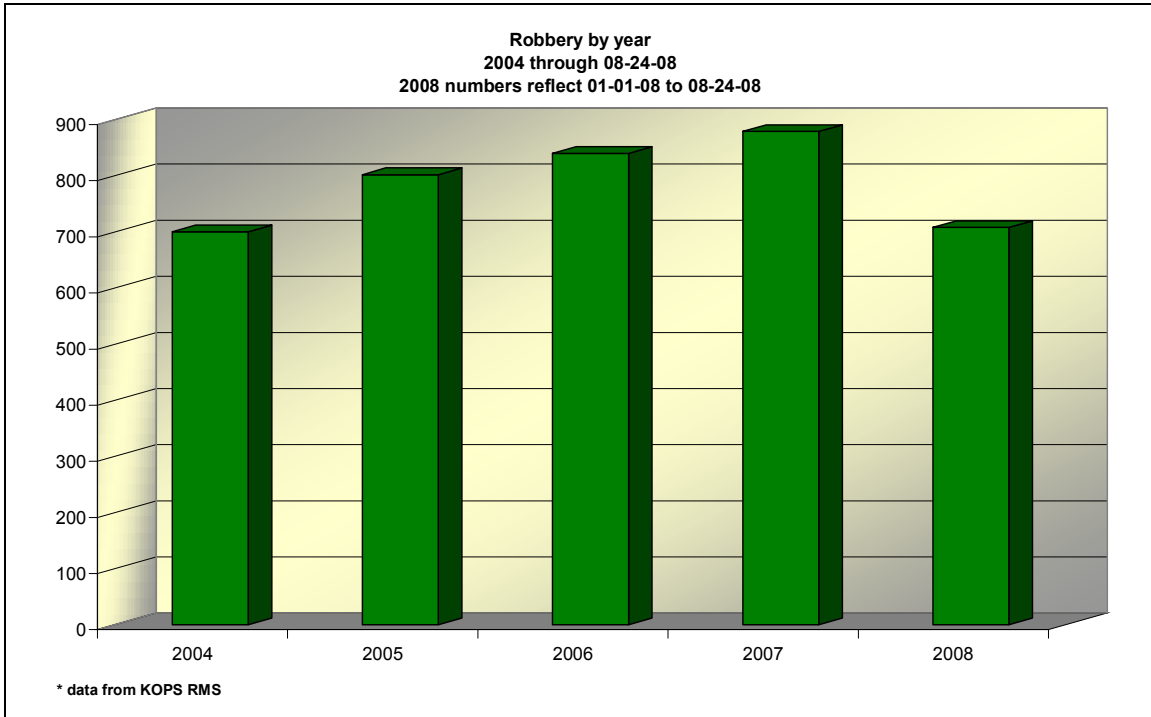


Homicide Rate for Southeast Cities for 2007

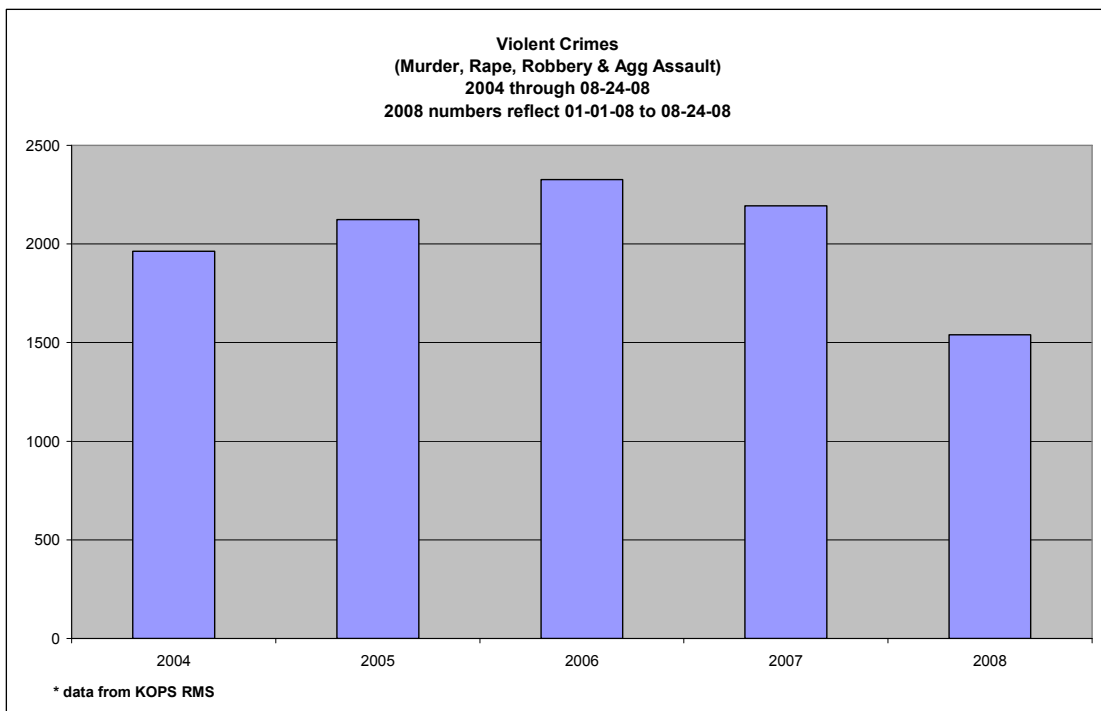


Robberies have climbed steadily since 2004. It is important to note that nine (9) of our 2008 homicides have robbery as a motive.

Robbery by Year 2004 thru 8-24-08

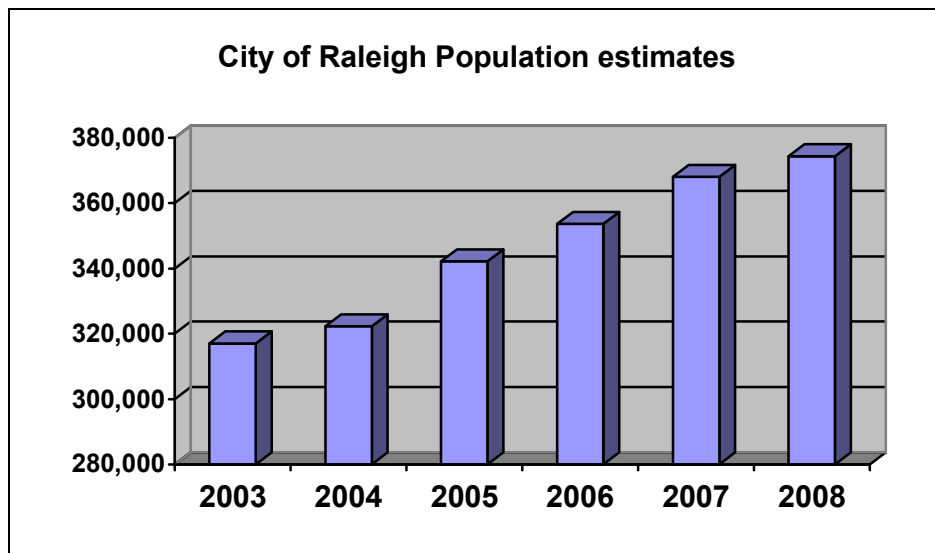


Violent Crimes 2004 thru 8-24-08

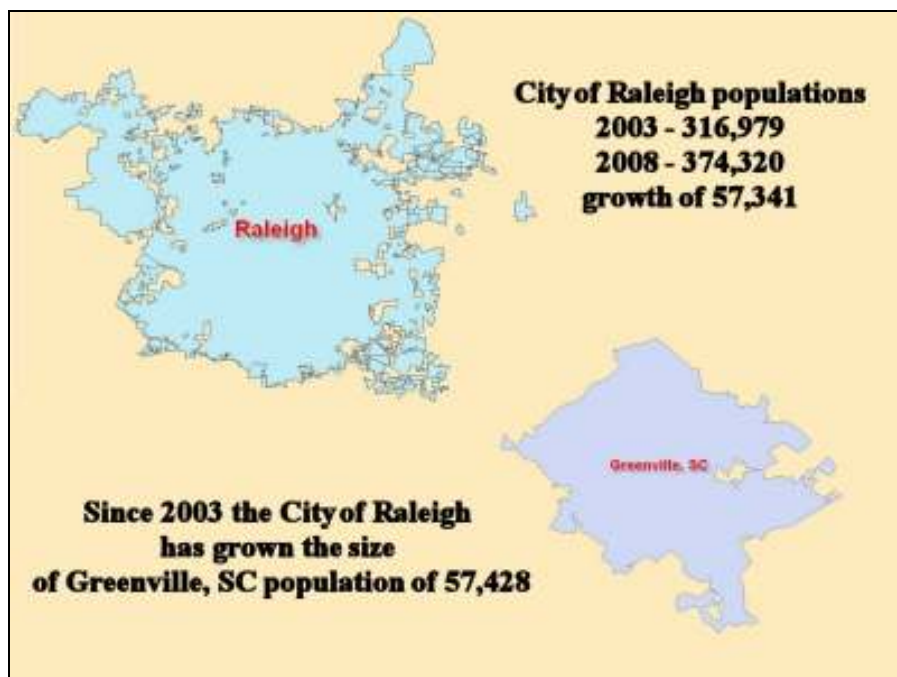


The City of Raleigh continues to experience a historical population growth. In a recent television news story, it was reported Raleigh and Charlotte were among the top 10 cities in new residents nationwide. United States Census estimates Raleigh added 15,148 people in the time period between July 2006 and July 2007.

Currently, Raleigh covers 140 square miles and serves a residential population estimated to be 374,320 as of January 1, 2008. Since 2003, the City of Raleigh has grown the equivalent size of Greenville, SC which is 57,428. Raleigh's population does not include commuters who travel into the city each day for employment and/or educational purposes.



(Source: City of Raleigh Planning Department)



II. CURRENT INITIATIVES ESTABLISHED TO RESPOND TO HOMICIDE AND ROBBERY CRIME RATE INCREASES

Major Crimes Task Force/Robbery Squads/Fugitive Squad/Career Criminal Unit

The Raleigh Police Department has incorporated strategic initiatives in response to the rise in homicide and robbery cases. The Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) assumes the primary investigative responsibility for all homicides, suspicious deaths and deceased persons. In late 2007, in response to the rise in violent crime, the department added another team of detectives to the MCTF. Each of the two teams has one Sergeant and five Detectives assigned to respond to the scene of any reported homicide or life threatening assault. Currently, the Robbery Unit consists of two teams of Detectives with each being supervised by a Sergeant. Each of the two teams has five Detectives as well as one officer from the Field Operations Division assigned for specialized training in robbery investigation. The Robbery Unit rigorously investigates all reported robberies that occur from person (street robberies), at commercial/retail establishments, and those that, due to their location and characteristics, are classified as home invasions. To date, the squads have been assigned 708 robberies to investigate.

In addition, uniformed officers and other detectives assist in the investigation to ensure all resources are readily available to solve the crime. This includes crime scene security, locating and interviewing witnesses, issuing notices on suspects, neighborhood canvass, contacting informants, crime scene processing, crime analysis, follow-up on leads and issuance of media bulletins.

The June 28, 2008 double homicide at 316 Sunnybrook Road is a good example of the extensive and thorough investigation by members of the department and the coordinated effort with other agencies to bring a successful resolution to the case. This investigation resulted in the arrest of three suspects that resided in Durham and the recovery of two firearms used in the murder. The assistance of the Durham Police Department and the Durham County Sheriff's Office was a valuable part of the investigation. At least one additional home invasion robbery in the City of Raleigh involving these suspects will be cleared by arrest. Another example of extensive investigative follow-up and coordination with other agencies is the successful resolution to the July 26, 2008 homicide at 5600 Bringle Court. This particular homicide resulted in nine persons being charged as either principals or accessories to murder and the case itself had a clear gang nexus. The assistance of the Clayton Police Department, U. S. Marshals Service and State Bureau of Investigation was vital to the successful outcome.

The department's Fugitive Squad is responsible for locating and arresting suspects who have outstanding felony warrants and are actively avoiding apprehension. Their primary focus is on violent offenders and to date they have apprehended over 200 wanted persons in 2008.

The Fugitive Squad is comprised of a Sergeant and eight Officers with two of the officers being deputized as U. S. Marshals and assigned to the local U. S. Marshals Violent Offender Task Force.

It should be duly noted that members of the Fugitive Squad were involved in the apprehension of all nine suspects from the Bringle Court homicide and the three suspects from the Sunnybrook Road homicide. They are relentless and there is no way to calculate or quantify how many crimes may have been prevented by their arrests of fugitives who likely would have committed other violent offenses unless apprehended.

The Career Criminal Unit (CCU) is tasked with identifying high rate recidivists and violent offenders who adversely impact the community due to their propensity to engage in habitual criminal acts. Once these criminal elements are identified, CCU will employ various investigative measures to build a case against the individual and/or to augment an existing case. The unit is comprised of a Sergeant and six Officers/Detectives. CCU works closely with both State and Federal prosecutors in a relationship that places emphasis on monitoring a case through the entire judicial process with the primary mission of achieving post-arrest sentence enhancement. In furtherance of this mission, one member of CCU is assigned to the Wake County District Attorney's Office. There is also a firearms component within CCU that evaluates all firearms cases for criteria that may lead to Federal prosecution. This involves two Detectives who are assigned to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

Robbery Suppression

The department is committed to the suppression of robberies and has developed and is implementing a comprehensive *Robbery Suppression Initiative* (RSI) focused upon prevention, aggressive enforcement and education.

Recently, all field operations personnel attended a specialized training course that combined street-level enforcement techniques and crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) concepts. This training stressed the critical role patrol officers occupy regarding proactively conducting field interviews, providing random security checks of locations and businesses vulnerable to becoming robbery victims.

By increasing the police presence at convenience stores and emphasizing proven strategies, RSI places considerable attention on prevention through the development of a unique business education program. The department will assist in educational and prevention initiatives to assist Raleigh's convenience store owners by helping them become more aware of their vulnerabilities and opportunities for improvement. Through this initiative, specialized and focused robbery prevention training will be offered to convenience store managers and personnel. Training classes will be followed-up with additional Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) surveys conducted at participating businesses. Once businesses have complied with the training and surveys, they must then meet the minimal security standards in order to receive the official RSI notification placard to affix to their entry/exit doors.

The placards indicate compliance with recommended strategies of the RSI initiatives. The department will have brochures printed entitled “Robbery Prevention for Businesses”. The brochures will be aimed at awareness and education and will be distributed by beat officers to encourage communication and interaction with store employees. This will help increase police presence at convenience stores and provide interaction.

We have allocated overtime funding to support officers being assigned to robbery suppression enforcement activities during peak times and locations where robberies have plagued the community. Funding has been allocated from General Fund and Project Safe Neighborhood sources. In addition, we have applied for additional funding from the Department of Justice to meet our total FY09 goal of \$298,000. This renewed focus has already yielded significant results in apprehending robbery suspects along with the recovery of illegal possessed firearms and contraband.

The success of the robbery suppression training is noted in the recent arrests of three people for a series of armed robberies in the city that began on March 24, 2008 involving two suspects wearing bandanas. Starting July 5, 2008, the pair continued to rob every night until July 9, 2008. On July 9, 2008, the pair robbed the La Generensense Convenient Mart. After the robbery, two very alert uniform officers spotted the suspect vehicle on Crabtree Blvd. and arrested the driver and recovered two guns. This arrest led detectives to two other suspects. The three suspects are responsible for committing ten robberies in the City of Raleigh thus far. It is possible several 2007 cases and at least two other 2008 cases will be linked to these suspects. In addition, these suspects are responsible for robberies in other surrounding jurisdictions.

Another recent example of how the robbery suppression training is working was displayed on July 10, 2008. An armed robbery of a person was reported in the 400 block of Buck Jones Rd. The victim was beat with the butt of a shotgun and his wallet was stolen. One suspect was armed with a shotgun and the other with a handgun. An alert uniform officer was circulating in the area after this robbery and observed two people matching the description of the suspects. One suspect was detained and the other fled on foot. This suspect was subsequently located later in the night. These suspects have been charged with Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon, Carrying a Concealed Weapon and Felony Assault with both firearms recovered. (Refer to Addendum 2 – [Problem Analysis Report Form RSI](#))

Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative

Due to the increase in gang activity, the department implemented a full time Gang Investigative Unit and Gang Suppression Unit. These positions were funded by the City Council. Recently, the department received notification of being awarded grant funding to combat gang crime. The *Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative* (CAGI) will focus on suppression, prevention, intervention and re-entry strategies to combat gang activity. This is a 3-year federally funded project under the U. S. Department of Justice. Raleigh and Durham received the joint \$2.5 million dollar grant. The Raleigh Police Department’s portion of \$385,750.00 will be used for overtime, equipment and training.



Project Safe Neighborhoods

The department plays an active role in Project Safe Neighborhoods. The initiative includes partnerships among federal, state and local law enforcement agencies; strategic planning incorporating such technologies as crime mapping, gun tracing, and ballistic analysis; training that brings together federal, state and local officials to build effective teams; outreach to communities; and accountability for impact on community safety.

Under the leadership of the United States Attorney, nine PSN sites have been developed in the Eastern District of North Carolina. Each site is comprised of a partnership between local, state and federal law enforcement agencies as well as community resource providers.

10-Point Plan in Reducing Firearm Violence

The department is committed to dismantling drug and gang activity in the city. Firearms have been used in eighteen (18) of the twenty-three (23) homicides to date. In 2006, the department developed the *10-Point Plan in Reducing Firearm Violence*. The purpose of the 10-point plan is to reduce firearm violence in Raleigh by getting guns out of the hands of those who use them to commit crimes. In addition, it incorporates tracking down and arresting armed criminals and working with the community to prevent firearm violence. Shooting data identified connections between guns, drugs and gangs. Many of the victims and suspects in shootings had ties to youth gangs, which continue to be an escalating and dangerous threat in Raleigh and throughout Wake County.

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership

In 2005, the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership (WCGPP) developed the “Plan to Prevent Gang Activity & Violence in Wake County” in response to the escalating youth gang problem in the county. This plan outlined priorities, strategies and action steps to achieve the Partnership’s vision of a community where youth and their families reject gangs and where gangs can no longer exist. The planning process included the assessment of the gang problem in Wake County and the development of a strategic plan for addressing the key issues.

The plan is based on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model “A Guide to Assessing Your Community’s Youth Gang Problem.” Research that the OJJDP model is based upon finds that in implementing a comprehensive strategy to address issues related to gangs, communities must integrate prevention, intervention and suppression activities and strategies to respond most effectively to the many aspects of the gang problem.

Key partners of the WCGPP include:

4-H Youth Development	NC Attorney General’s Office
Alianza Latina Pro Educacion en Salud (ALPES)	NC Department of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention
Boys & Girls Club of Wake County	NC Governor’s Crime Commission
Cary Police Department	NC State Advisory Council
Centro para Familias Hispanics/Catholic Social	NCSU/Recreational Resource Svcs.
Curtis Media Group	Neighbor-to-Neighbor
El Pueblo, Inc.	Parentscope
Fuquay-Varina Citizens Against Drugs	Radio One WQOK-K97.5 FM
Cary Parks & Recreation	Raleigh Parks & Recreation
Fuquay-Varina Police Department	Raleigh Police Department
Fuquay Youth Initiative	Re-Entry, Inc.
Garner Parks & Recreation	South East Raleigh Weed & Seed
Garner Police Department	Southlight
Garner Road YMCA	Strengthening the Black Family
Haven House	Triangle Family Services
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies	Triangle United Way
Hip Hop Haven	UNC-Chapel Hill School Nursing
Hispanic Advocate & Activist	US Attorney’s Office - Eastern
HopeLine	Wake County Human Services
Interact	Wake County Public Schools
Knightdale Public Safety	Wake County Sheriff’s Office
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council	Wake County Smart Start
Latin American Resource Center	WakeMed
Methodist Home for Children	
Multicultural Community Advocate	

III. PROACTIVE STRATEGIES CURRENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT

The most decisive step we must now take, as a police department and community, is to continue to advance our city's proud tradition of successfully establishing community oriented policing strategies. As we go forward, our primary focus should be enhancing partnerships with public and private community service providers so that we may be positioned to provide wide-ranging support for the needs of youth and families.

Strategic Planning

In August, we will begin the process of developing our first Five Year Strategic Plan. Strategic planning is the foundation for the future of any police department. The development of long term initiatives serves to guide the department to assist in new strategies to develop police service to meet unique neighborhood needs. These initiatives will focus on a five year period (2009-2014). For the Raleigh Police Department, the plan will not only serve as the foundation for providing future services and programs, but also as the department's vehicle for accomplishing needed change. Considerable time will be invested in gathering input from the community, city government agencies and police department personnel in order to establish goals and priorities.

We shall place emphasis on maintaining a progressive response to crime experienced by a dynamically growing community, expanding where needed units and teams which target violent crime reduction. However, essential attention will be placed upon allocating considerable organizational resources to improve the quality of life for youth and families. We are convinced that the future of our great city rests with the attention we all give to the needs of our youth and families in crisis.

Community Police Officer Program Expansion

The Community Police Officer (COP) pilot program was launched in the Southeast District of the city. Two community officers have been assigned to geographical beats long plagued by violent crime.

The Community Officers are serving as the department's outreach specialist working in partnership with the community to identify and solve contemporary neighborhood problems. They have been empowered to work directly with city departments and other helping agencies to improve the quality of life within their permanently assigned neighborhood. An expansion of the COP program will occur throughout the city as the RPD fills current vacancies. (Refer to Addendum 3 - [Community Police Officer Pilot Program Update](#))

Family Services

The department's goal has been the development of programs to assist families in breaking the cycle of violence by responding to calls for service, coordinating services to victims, preparing for court, recognizing patterns of violence, educating our employees and others in the community who work with victims/abusers and most importantly, maintaining a sense of urgency in addressing the problems.

The department's Family Violence Intervention Unit (FVIU) combines a coordinated effort through a proactive program of direct law enforcement intervention and available support and referral services in the community. It incorporates counselors to work in conjunction with law enforcement officers to provide a higher level of service to domestic violence victims.

FVIU partners with Interact of Wake to assist families in the area. Interact of Wake is a private, non-profit United Way agency that provides safety, support and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault. Interact fulfills this mission through the support of its volunteers and community.

Interact has purchased a large facility (former YWCA on Oberlin Road) and beginning this fall the department's FVIU will move into this facility to become a part of an initiative that will provide holistic, wraparound services for families striving to live free of domestic violence and sexual assault.

Victims of domestic violence will be able to come to one location to meet with a family violence officer to discuss the crimes committed, work with the department's crisis counselors/social workers, have a safe place for children to be cared for while working with the staff and have a safe shelter, if necessary. The other non-profit service providers such as SafeChild will have room on site to provide their services.

Future endeavors have included the discussion of the implementation of a Children's Assessment Center. This would include a team of doctors, nurses, counselors and detectives in providing a professional, compassionate and coordinated approach to the treatment of sexually abused children and their families.

Homicides in Raleigh for 2008 to Date

Date	Case Number	Location	District	Weapon	Status	Narrative
1/4/08	P08-001405	5401 Alpine Dr	N	Handgun	Justifiable Homicide	WCSCO and ALE were executing a drug search warrant when gun fire was exchanged in which one Deputy was injured and the suspect was fatally shot.
1/6/08	P08-002161	4300 Bland Rd	N	Bat/Knife	Arrest Made (6)	Suspect(s) went to victim's location to fight rival gang members. A fight soon escalated in which the victim was fatally wounded.
1/8/08	P08-003041	1319 Walnut St	SW	Handgun	Arrest Made (1)	Victim armed with a firearm was attempting to assault a group of people in retaliation for a previous incident. Suspect then fired shots at the victim. The victim was fatally wounded. Determined to be self-defense.
1/9/08	P08-003697	5900 Damon Ct	SE	Rifle	Arrest Made (1)	EMS responded to a sick person call. Witnesses stated they thought the victim was having a seizure. Further investigation revealed a gunshot wound to the hip. The victim died from internal bleeding. Suspect was later arrested for the shooting.
1/13/08	P08-004699	119 Idlewild Ave	SE	Handgun	Pending	Victim was loitering with two females when two unknown suspects approached and began assaulting the victim. One suspect retrieved a firearm and fatally shot the victim.
2/13/08	P08-017798	508-4 Tartan Cir	SW	Handgun	Pending	During a home invasion, the suspects shot the victim and fatally wounded him.
2/22/08	P08-021299	1207-A E. Jones St.	SE	Handgun	Arrest Made (1)	During a home invasion robbery, the suspect fatally shot the victim.

3/23/08	P08-032964	636 Coleman St.	SE	Handgun	Arrest Made (2)	Victim and friends were at the stated location and while exiting the vehicle multiple shots were fired. The victim was fatally wounded.
4/10/08	P08-040377	1741 Trawick Rd	NE	Handgun	Pending	Suspect entered business and while committing a robbery, fatally shot the victim.
4/21/08	P08-045210	1149 Brighton Rd	SE	Knife	Arrest Made (2)	Victim picked up the suspect in his taxi cab. Suspect robbed and fatally stabbed the victim.
5/14/08	P08-053977	3320-104 Hewberry Ln	SE	Physical Force	Arrest Made (1)	EMS was dispatched to a possible deceased infant. After further investigation it was determined to be a homicide. Suspect was taken into custody shortly after.
5/15/08	P08-054457	202 Lincoln Ct.	SE	Handgun	Arrest Made (4)	Victim arranged to meet a female subject. When the victim arrived numerous suspects robbed and fatally shot victim.
6/7/08	P08-064331	2124-205 Larson Dr.	SE	Handgun	Arrest Made (2)	Victim and suspect were involved in a domestic dispute. Suspect fatally shot the victim.
6/10/08	P08-065410	1000 S. Blount St.	SE	Handgun	Warrant Pending (1) Arrest Made (1)	Victim was talking to a friend when a drive by shooting occurred. Victim was fatally shot during the incident.
6/13/08	P08-066647	1028 Walnut St	SW	Handgun	Arrest Made (2)	Victim was hanging out with a group of friends. A firearm was being passed around when the suspect unintentionally discharged the weapon. The victim was fatally wounded.
6/14/08	P08-066768	511 Peyton St	SE	Handgun	Warrant Pending (1)	The victim was outside his apartment when he was shot and fatally wounded.
6/28/08	P08-072393	316 Sunnybrook Rd	SE	Handgun	Arrest Made (3)	During a home invasion robbery, the suspects fatally wounded the victim. Suspects were soon taken into custody.

6/28/08	P08-072719	316 Sunnybrook Rd	SE	Handgun	Arrests Made (3)	During a home invasion robbery, the suspects fatally wounded the victim. Suspects were soon taken into custody.
7/7/08	P08-076335	734 S. State St	SE	Knife	Arrest Made (1)	Victim and the suspect were involved in a domestic dispute. The fight escalated and resulted in the victim being fatally stabbed.
7/12/08	P08-078068	3010 Spanish Ct	SW	Handgun	Pending	Victim was exiting his vehicle when he was approached by an unknown suspect. The suspect opened fire on the victim. The victim was fatally wounded.
7/23/08	P08-082995	1400 North Hills Dr	NW	Knife	Pending	RPD was called about a possible body in the water. The victim was found near Crabtree Creek greenway. Investigation continues.
7/24/08	P08-083571	2040-104 Booker Dr	SE	Handgun	Arrest Made (1)	Victim was found in road with a life threatening gunshot wound. He later was pronounced dead at the hospital. Suspect located and arrested.
7/26/08	P08-084152	5600 Bringle Ct	SE	Rifle	Arrests Made (9)	During a home invasion robbery, the suspects fatally wounded the victim. Suspects were located and taken into custody. Investigation continues.
8/5/08	P08-088631	200 N. Dawson St.	DD	Handgun	Justifiable Homicide	RPD officer pursued car jacking suspect. Suspect crashed, ran on foot, and threatened officers with knife. RPD officer shot and wounded suspect. Suspect later died at hospital.
8/6/08	P08-088786	1900 Hawkins St.	SE	Handgun	Pending	The victim was found shot behind a convenience store.
8/24/08	P08-096577	1500 Oxleymare Dr.	SE	Knife	Arrest Made (1)	The victim and suspect were engaged in an argument and the suspect stabbed the victim.



RALEIGH POLICE DEPARTMENT
PROBLEM ANALYSIS REPORT FORM

SUBMITTED BY: Lt. A.D. Nichol

DATE: April 17, 2008

REVISED: August 21, 2008

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION (SCANNING)

Describe the Problem: (Who, What, When, Where, How and Why?)

Convenience stores throughout the city of Raleigh have experienced a noticeable increase in robberies since the beginning of 2008 (an overall increase of 222% / 29 robberies in 2008 compared to only 9 robberies in 2007 for the first 3 months). Although no particular day of the week seems to be favored, there is definitely a noticeable time of day when a large majority of robberies committed. In fact, 12 of the 29 convenience store robberies (41%) committed since January 1st have been committed between the hours of 2000 and 2200. The Southwest and Southeast Districts have been most affected with these areas experiencing 15 (52%) of the 29 committed offenses. Firearms have been used in all but two of the robberies. There are several symptomatic reasons that may account for this increase in robberies to include economic strain, substance abuse problems, spontaneity or impulse by the offender when presented with an opportunity for quick easy cash, and gang involved youth. Therefore, as this problem is rigorously addressed, it will be necessary to focus on more substantive reasons as to why these offenses are being committed. In doing so we must expand our avenues of approach in seeking a unified effort from all stakeholders in order to address the increase in convenience store robberies.

Problem Reported By: *POP Project Committee / Increase in 2008 Convenience Store Robberies*

Location of Problem: *Raleigh, North Carolina*

Beat / Work Area: *All*

Date(s) and Time(s) Problem(s) Occurring: *As indicated above*

PROBLEM EXAMINATION (ANALYSIS)

Hours (Example: 0800 – 1300) *The majority (41%) occurring between 2000 - 2200 hrs*

Information Sources: (This list does not include all possible information sources. There may be other places where you can get information. Please indicate all sources.)

*Crime-Analysis Personnel
Related Literature Search*

*Detective Division Case Reviews
Personal Observations*

*Uniform Crime Reports
Officers
Records Division*

*Surveys Conducted by Crime Prevention
Local Businesses*

*Other Law Enforcement Agencies
Department of Corrections*

*AOC and the District Attorney's Office
Police Attorney Dawn Bryant*

*Problem-Oriented Policing Guides for Police / POP Website – Robbery of Convenience
Stores*

Convenience Store Corporations, Owners, and Staff

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design; Crowe, Tim. (2000)

Related Ordinances and Statutes Instituted in the State of Florida

*Related Ordinances and Statutes Instituted in Hartford, CT, Houston, TX, and other
jurisdictions*

Findings: (Based on the information you have collected, describe the problem.)

Convenience store robberies are on the rise in the City of Raleigh. As stated, they are up 222% from last year during the same time period (January 1st thru April 17th). Crime prevention officers have personally visited 18 of the affected convenience stores and have conducted a short survey and interview to ascertain the type of robbery deterrents in place and their likelihood to prevent such an event. Officers found that most store personnel had never received any specific or focused training on what to look for or what to do either before or after a robbery has taken place. Most locations were found to have adequate lighting, but there was very little “natural surveillance” for the employees to use to their advantage while working at most locales.

Comparing our UCR numbers with other U.S. cities of comparable populations, we are either at or below the national average of convenience store robbery occurrences. Some cities have ordinances/statutes that were enacted to help reduce the number of robberies. When reviewing their effectiveness to positively affect the actual number of robberies in these jurisdictions, the actual number of convenience store robberies did, in fact, initially decrease. However, the long-term effect of such a statute's implementation is mostly still being measured. Furthermore, this particular plan was met with resistance due to money being spent by store executives/owners in order to comply with the new ordinance while seeing no readily observable or significant drop in robberies.

STRATEGIES (RESPONSES)

Goals and Objective: (What do you expect to accomplish?)

Our problem oriented policing team has developed a comprehensive approach in addressing the spike in convenience stores robberies that have occurred over the first four months of 2008. The strategies that we have developed focus on education, prevention and suppression.

Educate Raleigh's convenience store owners, helping them become more aware of their vulnerabilities and opportunities for improvement. This will be accomplished through one on one contact with sworn Raleigh Police Officers who will provide them with reference material on robbery prevention for businesses. This initial contact will be used to introduce the convenience stores operators to the Raleigh Police Department's Robbery Suppression Initiative (RSI).

Through this initiative specialized and focused robbery prevention training will be offered to the convenience store managers and personnel. Training classes will be followed up with additional CPTED surveys conducted at participating businesses.

Once each business has complied with the training and surveys they must then meet minimal security standards in order to receive our official Departmental RSI notification placard to affix to their entry/exit doors indicating compliance with recommended strategies of the RSI initiatives.

We will institute a proactive Robbery Suppression instructional class for our agencies law enforcement officers that will fuel a "back to the basics", street-level approach to combating robbery trends. This block of training will be mandated for Field Operations and Special Operations personnel and will be comprised of a 4 hour block of instruction along with CPTED & Characteristics of Armed Persons training. The classes will also emphasize the usage of standardized forms such as the suspect description form and robbery checklist.

Provide officers with paid overtime opportunities in order to participate in robbery suppression projects. These projects will allow them to refine their learned skills while simultaneously arresting and identifying Raleigh's criminal element.

By focusing on our goals and objectives and implementing the below listed strategies we expect to see a reduction in the number of convenience store robberies that more closely mirror past years' crime numbers.

Recommended Strategies: (How do you expect to obtain the above results?)
--

1st Increase police presence at convenience stores through security checks and officer interaction with store owners, management and employees. This strategy will be emphasized during roll calls, training, crime strategy meetings and the chief's management meetings. The strategy will be monitored thru CAD as patrol officers check out "Code 18" at vulnerable convenience stores.

2nd Place spare or "Out of Service" patrol vehicles in parking lots of area convenience stores to develop and maintain a sense of police "omnipresence". A list of convenience store locations and past victimized businesses will be forwarded to district command staff for review and allocation of resources.

3rd *Develop a comprehensive training program for store owners, management and employees on how to deter and react to a robbery. The training will stress CPTED principles, robbery education, and needed methods to employ in order to positively affect the outcome of convenience store robberies.*

This strategy will involve the creation of a brochure entitled “Robbery Prevention for Businesses” (addendum A) aimed at awareness & education. The pamphlets will be distributed by officers to encourage communication with store employees and will give police personnel added opportunities to meet store employees thereby reinforcing the first strategy while simultaneously encouraging business owners to participate in the Raleigh Police Department’s Robbery Suppression Initiative (RSI).

7-1-08 *Sgt. Cherry and Officer Lundy created a PowerPoint training program for convenience store operators.*

7-23-08 *Sgt. Cherry conducted the first RSI training program for Handee Hugo employees at their facility.*

7-28-08 *Sgt. Cherry & Officer Weber-Brglez conducted the first RSI training program open to all convenience store employees. 5 people attended. Future training dates are scheduled for August 25 at 1900 hours, September 29 at 1000 hours, October 27 at 1900 hours, November 17 at 1000 hours and December 29 at 1900 hours.*

Businesses that participate in the training program and have CPTED evaluations completed on their business and meet mandatory security standards will be eligible to display the RSI placard (addendum B). This placard will be date compliant and will have the RPD badge affixed as well as an actual photograph of a uniformed RPD officer.

7-24-08 *Held a meeting with all District Crime Prevention Officers to discuss progress of convenience store contacts and CPTED evaluations. RSI placards were distributed to those in attendance. Criteria for obtaining placards was discussed. Officer Weber-Brglez volunteered to maintain the convenience store database.*

In conjunction with this strategy, team members will develop a training program focused on the prevention of robberies targeting pizza delivery drivers and how not to become a victim of a robbery.

7-22-08 *Lt. Nichol met with Officer Lundy and Officer Taylor to initiate the development of the Pizza Delivery Driver Educational Strategy.*

7-23-08 *E-mail sent to Jane Kirkpatrick requesting assistance from the RTN video crew.*

7-25-08 Ms. Kirkpatrick responded to our request and would be delighted to assist and offered us the assistance of Mike Williams and Karyn Thomas.

4th Develop a comprehensive educational and motivational In-Service Training Program for RPD officers which will include a mandatory block of instruction on Robbery Suppression taught by Sergeant Carswell encouraging officers to maintain intense, assertive, and alert street patrol. This class will be taught in conjunction with CPTED taught by Officer Weber-Brglez & Characteristics of Armed Persons taught by Lt. Carrigan. Training dates and times are as listed and will be conducted at the RPTC.

5-27-08	0800-1200 & 1300-1700	5-28-08	0800-1200 & 1300-1700
6-4-08	0800-1200 & 1300-1700	6-6-08	0800-1200
6-10-08	0800-1200 & 1300-1700	6-23-08	1300-1700
6-25-08	0800-1200 & 1300-1700	6-26-08	0800-1200

5th Develop and implement overtime initiatives that will allow officers to work robbery suppression on an overtime basis. Officers will be given the opportunity to sign up to work on selected dates. Officers will be required to abide by current off-duty work policies and must have attended the mandatory block of robbery suppression training in order to participate in this opportunity.

This overtime initiative will require the staffing of 10 Officers and 1 Supervisor per 6 Hour Shift with Crime Analyst Support. A project run time of 6 months (24 weeks) working 4 evenings per week is projected.

7-1-08 Available funds were identified by Jim Wooten in the amount of \$75,000 to start the suppression effort. Acct #100-4040-60002-392

7-10-08 Correspondence sent to RPD sworn staff notifying them of the RSI OT Pay Off-Duty opportunity.

7-17-08 Project worked this evening for the first time under RSI. Projects were scheduled for Thursday thru Saturday over 4 consecutive weekends.

6th Provide officers and detectives with standardized suspect description forms (addendum C) and robbery checklists (addendum D). Suspect description forms in both English and Spanish will help eliminate confusion and more accurately describe suspects, vehicles and weapons. The robbery checklist may be used as a tool to insure that protocols are adhered to and documented accordingly while also offering suggestions for crime scene management.

Forms were immediately made available on Pol-share

7th *Reestablish the Crime Stoppers Program utilizing the dedicated line for the Raleigh Police Department, (919)834-HELP (834-4357). An initial meeting was held on 5/23/08 to revitalize the program with an additional follow-up meeting scheduled for 7/8/08. The RPD crime stoppers number should be displayed upon brochures disseminated by the department. Utilize media outlets to publicize phone number.*

7-8-08 *Follow-up meeting held.*

7-16-08 *Chief Dolan spoke of exploring the feasibility of employing Capt. Mise as the Crime Stoppers coordinator for our agency upon his retirement from the RPD later this fall.*

8-18-08 *Captain Daigle coordinated a video conference with the software company Citizen Observer. Citizen Observer is an integrated solution that provides communication with the public via text messaging and email alerts. This solution offers concerned citizens a way of providing us with crime information and tips through electronic means while maintaining their anonymity.*

8th *Collaborate with the Wake County District Attorney's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office in order to prioritize prosecution of robbery cases. Case investigators should coordinate with assigned ADA and AUSA in order to ensure that a case is properly prepared for prosecution.*

Chief Dolan and Major Grayson have expressed our concerns to the Wake County District Attorneys Office over the recidivism rate involving our identified robbery suspects along with the noted progression of criminal activity these individuals are involved in.

7-17-08 *Upon a robbery suspect's arrest and interrogation, Sgt. McLeod and Sgt. Cherry will review the suspect's modus operandi in an effort to develop the individual as a suspect in previous robbery cases. A review of the case will also be conducted in order to identify missed opportunities in developing the identity of the suspect.*

8-5-08 *Formed a team (Carolyn White, Lauren Williams & Mary Ann Propst) to research the criminal histories of suspects charged with robbery by the RPD during the last 6 months of 2007. Upon review of the data, team members will determine whether the robbery offense charged was a first offense or was part of a much broader progression of criminal activity. Our findings will be discussed with the Command Staff and the Wake County District Attorney's Office. (addendum E).*

8-13-08 *Major Grayson, Captain Hurst and Lt. Nichol met with AUSA Higdon & AUSA Jackson of the US Attorney's Office, Eastern District of North Carolina, in order to collaborate on the prosecution of robbery offenders.*

- 8-21-08 *Major Grayson met with Wake County District Attorney Colon Willoughby to discuss the prioritization of prosecuting robbery cases.*
- 9th *Collaborate with the City County Bureau of Investigation (CCBI) and the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) to ensure that all forensic opportunities for suspect identification have been thoroughly exhausted dependant upon case priority. On-going effort by all agencies.*
- 10th *Conduct analytical research upon robbery offenders in order to determine the when, who and why. Team members will develop a questionnaire to be completed by the interviewing detectives in order to determine an individual's propensity to commit robbery.*
- 7-23-08 *Crime Analyst Carolyn White and Sgt. McLeod developed an offender questionnaire that will be used during suspect interviews in order for us to collect analytical data on our robbery perpetrators (addendum F). The questionnaire was forwarded to NCSU Researcher Dr. Deborah Weisel for recommendations and review.*
- 7-28-08 *The criminal histories of robbery offenders for the latter half of 2007 will be reviewed as well in order to determine whether the charged robbery offense reveals an escalation of criminal activity on the part of the offender or if it was a first offense. Reinforces strategy #8.*
- 11th *Increase the number of Crime Prevention Officers within the Raleigh Police Department with a goal of having a full time position allocated to each District and Special Operations. Crime Prevention Officers will be able to provide enhanced community service with their intimate knowledge of past, current and future police initiatives and strategies.*
- Crime Prevention Officers are responsible for conducting business security evaluations (addendum G) and checking for business compliance measures (addendum H) associated with the RSI project along with distribution of a robbery identification form (addendum I) upon business inspections.*
- 7-30-08 *This issue was brought to the Command Staffs attention due to noticed inconsistencies within the strategy upon implementation of the convenience store assessments. Chief Dolan authorized overtime pay for current crime prevention officers to address this concern.*

SUPERVISORY REVIEW OF STRATEGIES

Date and Time for Implementation: July 1, 2008, 0900

Expected Date and Time for Termination: December 30, 2008, 0000

REQUIRED SUPPRESSION RESOURCES

Expected Number of Officers Needed:

10 Officers and 1 Supervisor per 6 Hour Shift-with Crime Analyst Support.

Projected Overtime Expenditures:

Departmental identified funds of \$75,000.00

Expected Number of Vehicles needed: 5-8 Type: Marked and Unmarked

CONVIENANCE STORE TRAINING PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

RSI Brochure Costs (1500) Color: \$1,000.00

RSI Placard Costs (1000) Color (Double Sided): \$2,000.00

Versions printed for 2008-2009 & 2009-2010.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS: \$78,000.00

SUPERVISORY REVIEW OF STRATEGIES

APPROVED

DISAPPROVED

Recommendations: _____

Date: _____ Supervisor: _____

EVALUATION (ASSESSMENT)

Did you get the results you expected?

Yes

No

Partially

Temporarily

Actual number of officers used: _____

Actual number of vehicles used: _____

Actual number of hours used: _____

Describe the results of what happened:

Is any further action required? If yes, explain:

Additional Comments:

**CITY OF RALEIGH
NORTH CAROLINA
INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

**To: T. L. Earnhardt
Captain**

**From: J. A. Naylor Date: 8/4/08
Sergeant**

Subject: Community Police Officer Pilot Project

Message:

Please find the attached updated Community Police Officer Pilot Project. This report contains an overview of this project and activities to date. In addition, the report contains an overview of the results of the citizen survey.

Raleigh Police Department Community Police Officer Program

Officer P.C Ford and J.M. Ortiz were chosen for the positions of Community Police Officers for the pilot program. Officer Ford currently lives in beat 2411 and is an active member of that community.

The first order of business for the CPO's (Community Police Officers) was to communicate with the public that the program existed and how they could better serve the citizens in their assigned areas. This was done by the officers attending the CAC meetings and explaining the program as well as distributing their contact information. They also visited all of the businesses located within their areas to insure the business owners were aware of the program and had their contact information. They have also spent large amounts of time on foot patrol in the area talking with citizens through voluntary encounters and have put the criminal element on notice that their actions will not be tolerated any longer. With the help of the Southeast District Strike Team they have worked several projects to target street level drug dealers and prostitutes in their areas.

They have partnered with Wake County Social Services and now have a social worker assigned to assist with obtaining services for prostitutes so they will have options other than life on the streets. The first joint project where the social worker is scheduled to ride along during the sting operation is scheduled for Thursday 7-10-08.

The CPO's immediately started to identify the problem areas on their beats and realized that some of the problems were originating from rental properties. They have built landlord databases for each beat area, with the contact information for all of the property owners. They are obtaining e-mail addresses for the landlords so an e-mail distribution list can be used for general information and announcements. This database, when complete, will give an accurate account of the landlords that have attended the PROP landlord training program. The landlords that have not participated will be encouraged to attend.

Community Surveys were conducted for a portion of 2411's beat area totaling 15 city blocks, around the Idlewild Ave. /Jones St. intersection. The focus was on obtaining community input about their fears and concerns about crime in their neighborhood. The survey results will be attached to this document. The survey data shows that prostitution is the issue that the community is concerned with the most, with 78% of the citizens listing this as an issue. That is compared to 50% of the citizens listing the open air drug market as an issue. Follow-up surveys will be completed in approximately six months to check the progress of our initiatives. Surveys for 2410's beat area will be forthcoming to include the area around Martin St. and Camden St. intersection.

The CPO's are in the process of partnering with community leaders in 2411's beat area to pilot a program to provide services and programs for the citizens of the area. Ms. Octavia Raney is coordinating the civilian side to bring community leaders to the table to discuss the services they can offer and how the CPO's can refer into these programs.

Officer Ford has started an investigation on 203 and 203 ½ Idlewild as well as 925 E. Jones St. in reference to a possible nuisance abatement case. The owner of these properties has been contacted and a meeting has been requested to address the issues with these locations.

Attachment A
Citizen Survey

Homes owners	32%
Renters	68%

Major Problems

Prostitution	78%
Drug Violations	50%
ABC Violations	28%
Trespassing	24%
Speeding	24%
Weapon Violations	19%
Noise Violations	1%
Parking Violations	0.05%
Humane Violations	0.05%
Gangs	0.02%

Prostitution 11% seldom see Prostitution
20% sometimes see Prostitution
66% regularly see Prostitution

Drug Sales 49% seldom see Drug Sales
15% sometimes see Drug Sales
34% regularly see Drug Sales

Safety

31% Feel very safe

45% Feel somewhat safe

22% Feel unsafe

76% feel either very safe or somewhat safe