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**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE # 1.1**

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**GOAL # 1: PUBLIC SAFETY**

*Maintain a safe and healthy community in which to live.*

INITIATIVE 1.1: DEVELOP AND CONTINUE PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE CAUSES OF CRIME (EX. DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING)

**Fiscal Year 2011 Quarterly Updates:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report (October 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010)**

The Gainesville Police Department continued to report decreases in UCR Part 1 crime in 2010 for October, November and December. The formal FBI statistics for this quarter will verify that the department was once again far ahead of the 2010 goal of a 5% reduction in crime. The Department is in the process of verifying our overall reduction in Part 1 crime for 2010.

For an extended period of time, the Gainesville Police Department has been planning a renovation of its main facility at 721 NW 6<sup>th</sup> St. During this quarter, we began that process. As a result, our main police building is closed as the work is being completed. In order to vacate the building so that the construction can be completed, some of the functions of the Police Department are being relocated to other City facilities. The transition has been smooth with no reduction in services to the public.

GPD officially accepted the US Department of Justice COPS grant award for \$2.8 million dollars for the purpose of hiring up to 15 sworn law enforcement officers. The hiring process will begin for 5 sworn law enforcement officers during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Two positions allocated through this grant will be assigned to gang prevention/intervention activities.

We currently have one Detective assigned to gang prevention/intervention activities. By dedicating him to gang related issues, a profound impact has been made on the education and prosecution of gang activities. The Gainesville Police Department was the first agency in the State of Florida to get DOC time on an individual for recruiting gang involvement on the internet. In addition, more educating is being done with police officers, dispatchers and other law enforcement agencies on gang issues and awareness.

GPD will host a regional training for the development of an inter-agency Critical Incident Stress Management team in February 2011. Planning for this training was completed in December 2010. It is anticipated that up to 30 members of city, county and municipal law enforcement, fire and combined communication staff will be trained to provide oversight and support to these agencies and their communities should a critical incident arise. The training will address short-term crisis intervention for staff and their families following a critical incident, provide referrals to mental health professionals under the direction of the CISM Clinical Director, participate in follow-up staffing activities that will include mental health professionals. The CISM team will also assist in promoting awareness about psychological support services including managing stress and coping strategies following an incident.

GPD received funding for two on-going initiatives during this quarter including the Mobile SAFE-T Kiosk project that addresses critical safety issues in the downtown hospitality district and Sexual Offender/Predator Tracking that monitors documented sexual offenders and

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predators in the city. This funding cycle will also address the identification and removal of firearms that may be in the possession of offenders/predators. GPD also received funding for an initiative entitled "You and the Law" that will work collaboratively with the University of Florida's College of Law, the State Attorney's Office, the Black on Black Crime Task Force and the Reichert House to develop outreach programming for youth and adults on their civil rights. GPD also received funding for the COPS competitive grant program through the Department of Justice for \$2.8 million dollars to hire up to 15 sworn law enforcement officers. The grant provides funding for a three-year period for salaries and fringe benefits.

We have continued to expand our Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) program. Two front line field teams were implemented with patrol officers. These officers received training and used this training to conduct crime prevention surveys. One survey was completed on specific areas downtown. This survey was presented to Downtown partners, governmental entities, and the statewide Florida Design-out crime association. More of these CPTED programs are forthcoming so we can identify and prevent crime before it happens.

In October, we supplemented our Drug Task Force with the implementation of the Highway Enforcement Team. The team is comprised of two members of the Florida Highway Patrol, two members of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and one member of the Gainesville Police Department. The officer from the Gainesville Police Department also has a trained narcotics canine assisting him. They primarily conduct traffic enforcement along the major corridors throughout the county. During this quarter, the Highway Enforcement Team has intercepted several drug deliveries into Gainesville on the interstate and confiscated money, firearms and stolen merchandise.

In an effort to strengthen and reinvigorate existing crime watch groups, we have focused on the Pineridge neighborhood. Our target is to offer resources within the community to increase parental awareness of the educational process and develop a parental mentoring program. Some of these outreach efforts to establish a rapport within this community have been opening the Pineridge Community Center, Tutoring Drive, Reading Nights, Book Donations, Homework help, and Math programs. Since implementation, residents are more approachable and are beginning to utilize our services more. We hope to continue these crime watch groups in an effort to break-through walls of mistrust, fear and poverty.

During this quarter, we continued to improve on ways to disseminate information to the public. We are constantly updating our GPD Facebook page with crime prevention information while also highlighting officer and specialty team accomplishments. Through Talk Fusion, we are able to not only write about topics but also create videos explaining the information. We have received positive citizen feedback from our Facebook page. Our involvement with the crime reports website has been instrumental in reporting crime statistics. This is an excellent tool for both citizens of Gainesville and parents of college students to have up to date crime statistics for any area in the city of Gainesville. In addition, GPD has implemented "Moments with the Chief", which is a series of weekly messages that run on channel 4 television. The Chief discusses topics including operations within the department, crime prevention promotion, holiday greetings and other topics keeping the Gainesville citizens informed about their police department.

### **Fiscal Year 2010 Quarterly Updates:**

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 12/16/2010 Consent Agenda)**

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The Gainesville Police Department continued to report decreases in UCR Part I crime in 2010 for all three months this quarter. Formal FBI statistics for this quarter were down a tremendous approximately 11% for the year to date over double the 2010 GPD goal.

One significant aspect of this reduction has been due to deployment of an increased amount of road patrol officers. Crime reduction continues to center around 4 shift times and deployment directives provided by analyzing crime on a weekly basis in a formal "Tactical Briefing" forum. All areas of the Department are represented in these Tuesday meetings and utilize information led and community policing concepts to make it effective.

This quarter, more aggressive partnership with Parole and Probation and a partnership with the State Attorney's office focusing on problematic criminal offenders and successful prosecution was added to police efforts.

Operationally, the largest event handled this quarter proved to be one of the largest pre-planned special critical events in the City of Gainesville in years. A small fringe church, Dove World Outreach, announced plans to burn the Quran on Sept 11. This led to international attention, at least one month of pre-planning with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, and extensive logistical partnerships with other entities like Public Works, Gainesville Fire Rescue, the Muslim community, and counter protest organizations such as the Students for a Democratic Society. Ultimately, the EOC was activated for this weekend worth of events with four separate command posts and Gainesville Police were point on operations designed to minimize conflict and keep everyone safe. Four Commendations for City efforts were received almost universally.

National night out against crime in August continues to be a huge community policing event. This year 23 neighborhoods participated with multiple partners and a showcase of GPD resources. The event also portrays the need for citizen partnership and provides crime prevention information, literature, and presentations in a celebratory format.

The budget process resulted in flattening of the GPD organization with one captain and three lieutenants being eliminated. This necessitated reorganizing, streamlining, and combining the Department into three bureaus where GPD previously had four.

In this difficult budget climate, GPD has continued to apply and utilize grants and monetary awards to help fight crime. The Reichert House Youth Academy completed a rigorous application and became a United Way Impact Partner. An Edward Byrne Grant was awarded to GPD for 3 programs. GPD was notified that we are approved for a COPS grant totaling up to 15 funded patrol officers through 2013. City discussion of this award and whether it will be accepted is ongoing. Other grant awards being utilized included domestic violence, computer crimes against children, Operation Capulet and Project Safe Neighborhood violent crime prevention monies.

Youth prevention, intervention, education, and enforcement efforts continued agency wide. School resource and gang education officers remained in financial partnership with the School Board assigned to schools. A gang specific detective remained committed in a Joint Gang Unit with the Alachua County Sheriff's Office. The Reichert House Youth Academy completed summer programming with an all time high average of over 70 youth most Mondays through Fridays and 50 youth attending a week long boot camp at Parris Island Marine Corp Base in South Carolina.

For the third year in a row, a financial, in kind, and resource partnership with Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs resulted in summer event programming called Operation Heat Wave and Operation Respect Yourself. This involves basketball and other recreation Monday through Thursday nights and large pool centered and in one case football camp events with positive messaging on 3 separate Saturdays during the summer.

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A GPD citizen's academy began the preceding quarter graduated over 30 participants this quarter after several months of training. It has led to an extremely active over 25 strong volunteer group in all areas of GPD. A fledgling Citizens on Patrol group with 3 members began patrolling without police escort. Members have a well marked "Citizens on patrol" vehicle and wear uniforms that clearly distinguish them from law enforcement.

Extensive public information and crime prevention continued via Police Beat, print, audio, and written media and social networking. GPD's renovated Facebook has become a very popular internal mechanism for dissemination of positive information and crime prevention. Four additional public service announcements featuring the Chief were created and will begin running on TV outlets the first quarter of FY 2011.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 11/4/2010 Consent Agenda)**

The Gainesville Police Department continued to report decreases in UCR Part I crime in 2010 for April, May, and June. Formal FBI statistics for this quarter will be available by end of July but are expected to be down by 5% or more in line with the most important agency wide stated 2010 goal.

One significant aspect of this reduction has been due to deployment of an increased amount of road patrol officers. Crime reduction continues to center around 4 shift times and deployment directives provided by analyzing crime on a weekly basis in a formal "Tactical Briefing" forum. All areas of the Department are represented in these Tuesday meetings and utilize information led and community policing concepts to make it effective. One statistical example of success out of this process is that GPD made 796 arrests and wrote 2,466 traffic citations in June, 2010.

Key crime prevention components aimed at the root causes of crime featured this quarter included the car burglary "lock it or lose it" campaign placed on the GPD phone system. Persons calling the agency hear this message whenever they are placed on hold. Using Federal stimulus dollars, an interactive robot that can be a boy, girl, or dog was received and 3 schools named them. This robot has been highly requested at community events & is extremely effective. Crimereports.com, a crime mapping and reporting program, was purchased and added to the GPD website which allows real time crime information within 24 hours to be accessed and reported community wide.

In a difficult budget climate, GPD has continued to apply and utilize grants and monetary awards to help fight crime. GPD applied for 4 Edward J. Byrne grants during this quarter to support youth, agency and community initiatives, a COPS Hiring Grant through the Department of Justice for approximately 2.8 million dollars and a Youth Mentoring Program through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) that would benefit the Reichert House Youth Academy. The department also partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of Alachua County in submission of a grant that provides Youth Gang Prevention and Intervention programming through OJJDP.

Additionally, the department is addressing at-risk neighborhoods in the Gainesville/Alachua County area by applying for a grant through the US Department of Education's Promise Neighborhood Planning initiative and a Project Safe Neighborhood grant to include the apprehension of weapons and weapons that may be held by Sexual Predators/Offenders.

Youth prevention, intervention, education, and enforcement efforts continued agency wide. School resource and gang education officers remained in financial partnership with the School Board assigned to schools. A gang specific detective remained committed in a Joint Gang Unit with the Alachua County Sheriffs Office. The Reichert House Youth Academy began summer programming with an all time high average of over 70 youth most Mondays through Fridays. Innovative programming and education this quarter included extensive class credit remediation, computer lab work, field trips to colleges in the region, archery, chess, and rites of passage into manhood.

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For the third year in a row, a financial, in kind, and resource partnership with Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs resulted in summer event programming called Operation Heat Wave and Operation Respect Yourself. This involves basketball and other recreation Monday through Thursday nights and large pool centered and in one case football camp events with positive messaging on 4 separate Saturdays during the summer. This quarter, 3 of the events had taken place with total attendance of over 780.

A GPD citizen's academy began the preceding quarter graduated over 30 participants this quarter after several months of training. It has led to an extremely active over 25 strong volunteer group in all areas of GPD. A fledgling Citizens on Patrol group with 3 members also began patrolling. Members have a well marked "Citizens on patrol" vehicle and wear uniforms that clearly distinguish them from law enforcement. This will further develop as a core goal of GPD 2010.

Extensive public information and crime prevention continued via one additional original Police Beat episode. Additionally, media and public information via radio and regular interaction with print, radio, and television outlets has been extensive. While crime is clearly reported, proactive media dissemination has focused on the positive and building trust in GPD by the community and even putting out disciplinary information when possible. Several examples include highlighting agency member accomplishments, GPD training, and statistical drops in crime. Two new crime prevention and public information markets included dissemination to the Hispanic and Latino radio market (Previously had no dissemination) via Radio Kuva and retooling an existing facebook social networking page. Lastly and importantly, 4 professional public service announcements (15 second videos) reinforcing reporting crime and instilling trust to GPD have been created and began running on network TV and via email and internet outlets.

#### **2nd Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 6/3/2010 Consent Agenda)**

The key prevention components aimed at the root causes of crime featured this quarter include the car burglary "lock it or lose it" campaign which was featured in the monthly GRU bulletin. Using Federal stimulus dollars, an interactive robot that can be a boy, girl, or dog was received and 3 schools had contests to give it a name. In this quarter, the girl was named Kristy the Cop by Duval Elementary School students. This robot attended 2 college safety fairs and has the potential to be an incredible crime prevention tool.

As part of a program designed to focus on youth crime, Gainesville Police were assigned this quarter to a combined "gang intervention unit" with the Alachua County Sheriffs Office. Their efforts focus on identifying gang members, gathering intelligence, and youth curfew/probation checks. A new program in the Investigations Bureau is designed to reduce crime using a new "lethality assessment" protocol which identifies victims at risk of further domestic violence. This program, modeled after a national program, utilizes a checklist to determine if immediate further interventions are needed.

A GPD Citizens Academy began this quarter with over 30 civilian participants. This group will be trained for almost three months on law enforcement with expectations of leading into a key initiative, the Citizens On Patrol volunteer program. At the end of this quarter, over 10 screened volunteers had begun to provide service in several areas of the Department.

In anticipation of budget shortfalls expected for FY 2011, grant applications and awards were developed this quarter. To address potential funding shortfalls at the Reichert House, two awards & foundation grants were developed this quarter which will be submitted in the next quarter.

The Gainesville Police Department completed reorganization with 5 Bureaus reporting through a Major to the Chief. More police officers were deployed to front line service delivery as part of a comprehensive strategy to reduce UCR Part I crime in 2010 by 5%. Preliminary statistical analysis indicates that while robberies occurred at similar levels as compared to 2009, violent crime as a whole was down 7.6%, property crime was down over 2%, and total overall Part I crime decreased 3.25% this year as compared to the same period of time in 2009.

#### **1st Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 3/18/2010 Consent Agenda)** Reorganization

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The Gainesville Police Department began and completed the process of preparing a comprehensive reorganizational plan to be implemented at the beginning of 2010. This process involved four internal committees studying the GPD mission, community policing and organizational and district structure. This plan also involved community input and incorporated the final report from the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives which was completed in December, 2009.

Reorganization of the Department was centered around goals of reducing Uniformed Crime Reporting (UCR) Part I crime in 2010 and improving customer service. During this period, front line service was bolstered by a patrol “redeployment” which began in September. It streamlined the agency and placed approximately 30 personnel back on the road in uniformed patrol. Personnel came from administrative positions, existing operational positions that were not in uniform, and specialty units such as the Traffic Safety Team and Tactical Impact Unit. This redeployment was designed to focus on the increased crime pattern reflected in year to year comparisons.

#### Tactical Briefing

The tactical briefing concept continued to evolve. Tactical briefings provide weekly trend and crime information to command staff and shift commanders, who then develop a weekly plan to combat those crimes. Robberies and burglaries continued to be the primary focus of the tactical briefings. Preliminary statistical analysis indicates that robberies decreased substantially the last quarter of 2009 as compared to 2008 and that burglaries had a negligible increase.

New grants that went into effect on October 1 totaled just under \$2 million dollars. These include the 21st Century School Board grant for approximately \$120,000, Byrne Grant funding for three programs totaling approximately \$74,000, a second Byrne County grant to fund in-car cameras for \$109,000, a CAPP grant through the County for approximately \$55,000, a bullet proof vest award for \$27,500, a Project Safe Neighborhood for \$31,000, and two large grants via the Federal Byrne Recovery Act funding the Internet Crimes Against Children for \$727,000 and an additional \$449,000 for many different items through the Memorial Act.

#### Partnerships

One large partnership with the University of Florida Police Department continued through mid-December. UPD provided two party patrol trained officers to handle party patrol matters in areas around the University of Florida on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday nights. UPD also provided two officers who patrolled the corridors around the University of Florida and the College Park and University Park neighborhoods.

#### Awards

The Reichert House Youth Academy won first place from the International Association of Chiefs of Police for community policing programs, a very prestigious honor. Gainesville also received the Safety City award from the national Responsible Hospitality Institute. This was received for the manner in which GPD handled the University of Florida national championship celebrations and hospitality district initiatives such as the underage drinking ordinance championed by City Commissioner Jeanna Mastrodicasa.

#### Innovation

Innovative programs operating to reduce crime during this quarter include; a specialized restorative justice training program for mediators, safety kiosk, and an officer trained in gang resistance education geared toward elementary school children. Extensive public information on crime prevention continued via three original Police Beat episodes, the weekly SKY radio show, and regular media interaction with all outlets.

#### **Fiscal Year 2009 Quarterly Updates:**

##### **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (Received by CCOM on 1/7/2010 Consent Agenda)**

During the fourth quarter, The Gainesville Police Department (GPD) continued with “Tactical Briefing,” the department’s newest crime analysis program. This briefing is designed to use a quantitative approach to deploy limited resources to areas with recognizable crime patterns based on crime analysis data. The day of the week and the time of day can be gleaned from statistical information allowing for surgical precision in

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placing resources dealing with Gainesville's crime issue. During the quarter, GPD conducted 12 Tactical Briefings.

Also, during this period GPD arrested 2,331 individuals and issued 5,998 traffic citations. GPD's Safety Kiosk Program provided safety and alcohol information to hundreds of college-aged individuals. GPD's Party Patrol responded to 728 calls for service of which 604 of them were related to noise issues within the city.

The GPD Public Information Office produced three, thirty-minute television programs which dealt with a wide range of crime prevention topics including an in-depth look at the issues regarding narcotic problems and party patrol activity in the City of Gainesville. Additionally, during the quarter, GPD broadcasted nine live one-hour radio shows involving all facets of crime prevention and community policing.

The department has received approximately \$2 million in grants. The bulk of the grants will be used for the continuation of the department's Internet Crimes Against Children unit, as well as numerous capitol purchases involving crime prevention.

During the quarter, GPD's Community Conflict Coordinator conducted four conflict mediations. These mediations were designed to deal with repeat community issues which have been unable to be solved through current law enforcement responses. The mediations have involved citizens, police, business owners and neighborhood associations.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter (Received by CCOM on 8/20/2009 Consent Agenda)**

During the third quarter, the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) implemented a new crime analysis program called the "Tactical Briefing." This briefing is designed to use a quantitative approach to deploy limited resources to areas with recognizable crime patterns based on crime analysis data. The day of the week and time of day can be gleaned from statistical information allowing for surgical precision in placing resources to deal with Gainesville's crime issue.

Also during this period, GPD arrested 2236 individuals and issued 6438 traffic citations. Furthermore, GPD's Tactical Impact Unit conducted 17 investigations which involved illegal firearms which led to the arrest of 21 individuals, and our Safety Kiosk Program provided safety information to over 300 college age individuals. GPD's Party Patrol responded to 403 calls for service of which over 300 of them were related to noise issues within the City.

The GPD Public Information Office produced three thirty minute television programs which dealt with a wide range of crime prevention topics and included an in-depth look at the problem of alcohol facilitated sexual batteries in our college age population.

The department also applied for 14 different grants which, if all funded, could involve over 6 million dollars. The largest of the grants we applied for was the COPS Universal Hiring Grant. If funded this grant would involved the hiring of up 20 new full-time officers.

GPD's Community Conflict Coordinator conducted seven conflict mediations. These mediations were designed to deal with repeat community issues which have been unable to be solved through current law enforcement responses. The mediations have involved citizens, police, business owners and neighborhood associations.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (Received by CCOM on 5/21/2009 Consent Agenda)**

During the second quarter, the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) has implemented new crime analysis techniques to develop and continue programs to reduce the causes of crime.

Crime Analysts are working in partnership with the Alachua County Sherriff's Office (ASO) to share crime analysis information on suspects, crime bulletins and alerting each other with regards to crime sprees and

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patterns. As a result of this partnership there has been an increase in arrests and identification of suspects. Additionally, the Crime Analysts are establishing a County-wide model to distribute crime analysis information to neighboring agencies.

During this quarter, GPD Officers have also utilized information from crime analysis snapshots to conduct directed patrols in problem areas. Officers then initiated directed patrols to deal with on-going juvenile gang violence and illegal narcotics activity in and around the Gardenia Gardens Apartments area.

In another proactive effort to reduce the causes of crime, GPD deployed special details to the Florida Invitational Step Show and Gatornationals weekends. GPD also deployed directed patrols to police events that drew substantial crowds to the downtown area.

To prevent crime in Gainesville neighborhoods, College Park residents were trained as Citizens on Patrol during the second quarter. They helped distribute flyers in the neighborhood following a residential burglary spree during college spring break in March.

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report (Received by CCOM on 2/5/2009 Consent Agenda)**

This quarter, the Gainesville Police Department (GPD) continued its goal of making Gainesville one of the safest cities in which to live. This quarter also featured a continued emphasis on the burglary and robbery issues in the City. Numerous strategies were developed to combat both of these problems ranging from directed patrols to using local media to assist in alerting members of the community.

GPD's Tactical Impact Unit (TIU) has focused much of its resources on Gainesville's robbery problem. During this quarter, TIU initiated 24 illegal firearm investigations resulting in the arrest of 28 individuals. In 2008, TIU made 75 arrests for individuals who used firearms during the commission of their crimes and seized 48 firearms.

Also during this quarter, GPD continued its commitment to community oriented policing through the use of crime prevention programs. One of these programs is Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), which is designed to empower community members to battle crime by making environmental adjustments, such as lighting and landscaping. These adjustments make neighborhoods and the community a safer place to live and play.

Two recent examples where the CPTED program was used are Tree Trail Apartments and Gardenia Gardens Apartments. Both of these complexes have historically been plagued with narcotics and violence issues. The adjustments made by the management and property owners have begun to make those areas undesirable for the criminal element to congregate.