

**Stevensville Police Department
General Orders**

Chapter 23

Crime Prevention and Community Involvement

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By The Order of: M. Sosa, Jr., Chief of Police

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The Stevensville Police Department shall work to promote the prevention, resistance, and suppression of crime through a variety of crime prevention/community involvement efforts. The Agency shall seek to establish and maintain community involvement and awareness of crime prevention practices through informal contacts and formal programs.

23.1.1 COMMITMENT TO CRIME PREVENTION

CALEA Standard: 45.1.1, 45.1.2, 45.1.3

The Stevensville Police Department is committed to the principles of crime prevention and to the development, implementation, and perpetuation of comprehensive, pro-active programs and procedures that identify and assess crime risks and formulate positive responses to reduce criminal activity. It is the responsibility of every member of the Agency to work toward achieving the Agency's crime prevention goals and objectives.

Crime Prevention Function

The Crime Prevention Function is the responsibility of each individual Officer. The Crime Prevention Function is responsible for, but not limited to the following activities:

- ☐ Presenting crime prevention programs upon request to community groups
- ☐ Selecting, developing, maintaining, and promoting a variety of programs relating to crime prevention, security, and personal safety in residential and commercial areas
- ☐ Conducting home and business security surveys/risk assessments upon request
- ☐ Disseminating informative literature related to crime prevention, personal safety, and other law enforcement concerns of interest to the general public

All employees of the Stevensville Police Department are responsible for:

- ☐ Providing basic crime prevention information to citizens when answering calls for service
- ☐ Encouraging citizens to participate in crime prevention activities

- ☐ Providing good community involvement and ensuring that each contact with the public inspires respect for the Officer and the Stevensville Police Department
- ☐ Identifying sources of conflict between the Agency and the community, encouraging efforts to resolve them, and forwarding all information concerning this matter to through the chain of command

All personnel may be assigned to conduct crime prevention activities depending upon Agency and community needs.

Selection of Priority Crime Prevention Programs

One of the priorities of the Crime Prevention Function is to disseminate information to the citizens about methods for reducing and preventing crime. The Stevensville Police Department will prioritize available crime prevention programs and practices and target program selections by identifying community perceptions or misperceptions of crime. Information produced and provided by Supervisors, and Officers identifying crime types, trends, activities and geographic areas will be used to determine crime prevention strategies and programs that may help address those identified problems. Based on the information provided, the Stevensville Police Department will provide support and assistance with initiating prevention responses to identified problems.

Where there is sufficient community interest, Supervisors and Officers, and other appropriate Agency, and Town components shall attempt to establish appropriate community groups and organizations and assist them with the accomplishment of their goals and objectives. The Stevensville Police Department shall maintain contact with interested community groups, Community Watch Block Captains, the business community, civic organizations, schools, and other Agencies, in order to further improve the effectiveness of the crime prevention/community services activities available to the citizens served.

Program topics will include, but are not limited to:

- ☐ Business security
- ☐ Residential security
- ☐ Sexual assault
- ☐ Senior citizen crime awareness
- ☐ Domestic violence
- ☐ Child safety
- ☐ Operation Identification
- ☐ Security surveys
- ☐ Financial crimes
- ☐ Shoplifting

Prevention Input

When the opportunity exists the Stevensville Police Department shall provide crime prevention input whenever necessary or when requested.

Crime Prevention Program Evaluation

The effectiveness of crime prevention programs shall be evaluated annually. The evaluation may be reported in qualitative terms and will be used to determine the operational value of crime prevention programs implemented or under consideration. Evaluations may include the viewpoints of the citizens involved and the overall effectiveness of the resources being utilized. After each evaluation, the Chief of Police shall determine whether existing crime prevention programs should remain functioning, be modified, or be discontinued.

23.2.1 COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

CALEA Standard: 45.2.1

The Stevensville Police Department is dedicated to developing policies and implementing programs and services that will establish a positive relationship between the citizens of the community and law enforcement in order to provide a safer environment.

The following value statements of the Stevensville Police Department further support the Agency's commitment to the community.

- ☐ The Stevensville Police Department actively solicits citizen participation in the development of law enforcement activities and programs that impact the Town.
- ☐ The Stevensville Police Department is committed to participating in programs that incorporate the concept of a shared responsibility with the community in the delivery of services.
- ☐ The Stevensville Police Department believes integrity and professionalism are the foundations for trust in the community.
- ☐ The Stevensville Police Department is committed to an open and honest relationship with the community.

Information concerning the Stevensville Police Department Mission Statement, Value Statements, goals, objectives, problems, successes, and any other information lawfully appropriate for public release will be made available to citizens through:

Press conferences and press releases authorized by the Chief of Police and Mayor

- ☐ Forums, meetings, and speaking engagements with community and civic groups and organizations
- ☐ Streaming video
- ☐ Monthly Police Community Relations meetings
- ☐ Stevensville Police Department website

Shared Responsibility for Community Involvement Function

Through the general discharge of their law enforcement duties and through proactive interaction with citizens and community groups, all Stevensville Police Department personnel

share the responsibility for achieving the Agency's community involvement objectives. Through facilitation of, and attendance at Town meetings, community functions, and similar events, Supervisors and Officers share community involvement responsibilities.

23.2.2 REPORTING ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES

CALEA Standard: 45.2.2, 45.2.3, 45.2.4, 45.2.5

Citizen Surveys

The Chief of Police or their designee is responsible for conducting periodic surveys of residents served. Results of the citizen survey will be considered in the development of Stevensville Police Department policies and procedures. The survey, which must be conducted at a minimum of every three years, shall include questions to determine citizens' attitudes and opinions with respect to:

- ☐ Overall agency performance
- ☐ Overall competence of agency employees
- ☐ Officers' attitudes and behavior toward citizens
- ☐ Concern for safety and security within the Stevensville Police Department's service area
- ☐ Concern for safety and security within the Town
- ☐ Recommendations and suggestions for improvements