

Memorandum



DATE: April 25, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee: Sheffie Kadane (Chair), Adam Medrano (Vice Chair), Dwaine Caraway, Jennifer S. Gates, Sandy Greyson, Scott Griggs

SUBJECT: **Dallas Police Department Volunteer Programs**

Attached is the briefing material on the "Dallas Police Department Volunteer Programs" to be presented to the Members of the Public Safety Committee on Monday, April 28, 2014.



Ryan S. Evans
Interim First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
A.C. Gonzalez, City Manager
Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
Theresa O'Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Shawn Williams, Interim Public Information Officer
Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and Council



Dallas Police Department Volunteer Programs

Public Safety Committee

April 28, 2014



www.dallaspolice.net

David O. Brown
Chief Of Police

Purpose

- To provide an overview of current Dallas Police Department Volunteer programs, including:
 - Goals
 - History
 - Community Partnerships
 - Benefits of each program

History

- The Department's formalized volunteer program began in 1994
 - To provide opportunities for citizens to serve their community
 - To contribute to the efficiency of DPD's operations



Goals

- The Volunteer program is part of a comprehensive strategy to engage the community by:
 - Establishing relationships between DPD and citizens
 - Improve efficiency by utilizing additional resources
 - Providing a positive impact on public safety and quality of life issues

Community Partnerships

- Dallas Police Department began working with the Volunteer Center of North Texas in 2011
 - DPD is able to reach potential volunteers by posting directly to the Volunteer Center of North Texas website at www.voly.org
 - DPD is solely responsible for the screening and training for all volunteers

Current Volunteer Programs

- Citizens Offering Police Support (C.O.P.S.)
- Volunteers in Patrol (V.I.P's)
- Citizens Helping in Parking Solutions (C.H.I.P.S.)
- Dallas Police Reserve Unit

Citizens Offering Police Support (C.O.P.S.)



C.O.P.S. Continued

- Established in 1994, C.O.P.S. work closely with officers at patrol stations and Headquarters
- Duties generally include answering phones, filing paperwork, and shredding paper
- Variety allows volunteers the challenge they desire

C.O.P.S Volunteers and the Police Athletic League (P.A.L.)

- C.O.P.S. volunteers help with P.A.L. activities
- Currently there are several volunteers assisting at P.A.L. events



Volunteers in Patrol V.I.P.

- V.I.P. was established in 1995 as a **Non Confrontational** community-based crime prevention program
- DPD has approximately **1314** active VIP members



VIP Continued

- V.I.P. is an extension of the Neighborhood Crime Watch
- Main purpose is to serve as “eyes and ears” for DPD in neighborhoods
- Positive effects include:
 - Community Pride
 - Safer neighborhoods through increased patrol visibility
 - Volunteers serve as role models for their community
 - Improved communication between DPD and community residents

Citizens Helping in Parking Solutions (C.H.I.P.S.)

- Established in 1995
- Currently there are 30 C.H.I.P.S. Volunteers
- Volunteers issue citations to handicap parking violators



The Dallas Police Reserve Unit

- There are currently 85 Reserve Dallas Police Officers



Reserves Continued

- Reserve officers come from a variety of backgrounds and professions
- Each reserve officer must pass the same state mandated training criteria established for sworn police officers
- Work along side full time Dallas Police Officers
- Render valuable assistance to patrol, traffic, community policing, investigations, etc.

Efforts to Enhance Volunteer Programs

- Chief on the Beat
- Coffee with a Cop
- Citizens Police Academy (C.P.A.)
- Social Media (Twitter, Facebook)
- Partnership with Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T)

Summary

- Volunteers have worked with DPD to reduce crime and addressing quality of life issues
- Partnership with Volunteer Center of North Texas has significantly enhanced our outreach efforts
 - www.voly.org
- Volunteers work side by side with the Dallas Police Department to build stronger communities

Questions?