

# DIRECTIVE 45.1 CRIME PREVENTION

<b>Issue Date: 04/09/2020</b>	<b>By Order of Chief of Police</b>
<b>Rescinds: (Issue 09/10/2015)</b>	<b>CALEA Standards</b>
<b>Pages: 3</b>	<b>Referenced: 45.1.1; 45.1.2 &amp; 45.1.3</b>

**This directive consists of the following sections:**

[45.1.1 Crime Prevention Activities](#)

[45.1.2 Community Involvement and Organizing Community Groups](#)

[45.1.3 Prevention Input](#)

## **POLICY AND PROCEDURE:**

The Miami Township Police Department is committed to crime prevention and integrates the ideas found in various crime prevention strategies for building community relationships. The Support Services Division is assigned the functional responsibility for all crime prevention activities. It should be understood that all members and components of the Department are responsible for enhancing the quality of life of the community, implementing the tenets of the department's crime prevention strategies and for achieving Department crime prevention goals. The Department may use non-sworn personnel including citizen volunteers, senior citizens and youth, as assistants in this process.

Crime prevention duties consist of speaking to various groups on crime prevention methods, distributing crime prevention literature, staffing information booths, alerting victims on how best to avoid future victimization, developing crime prevention materials for use by the media and developing and maintaining liaison with community residential and business groups. The Department is committed to developing partnerships and resources within the community to build problem solving coalitions, to instill a sense of mutual responsibility for enhancing public safety and to increase the community's capacity to resolve issues related to crime and the fear of crime.

### **[45.1.1 Crime Prevention Activities](#)**

#### **[Targeting Programs by Crime Type and Geographical Data Based on Crime Data](#)**

Crime prevention programs are established and implemented after analysis of pertinent data which is completed by the Investigations Supervisor.

The CP/CR Officer shall also consider effectiveness of current crime prevention activities and the need for new or additional programs.

### Targeting Programs to Address Community Perceptions or Misperceptions of Crime

The Miami Township Police Department places an emphasis on crime prevention programs and encourages citizen participation in taking an active role in helping to reduce crime. The Department actively seeks to develop a relationship with the citizenry motivating them in a co-active role with the Department toward crime prevention.

Crime Prevention Programs of the Miami Township Police Department include:

- Business/Residential Security Checks – Conduct security surveys of residences and businesses in order to improve the security of those buildings.
- Neighborhood Watch Programs – Assist in the organization of neighborhood watch groups and maintain liaison with organized community crime prevention groups, as well as, any other interested community organization.
- Ongoing Partnerships with Community & Business Groups – Develop, implement and promote programs and presentations to inform community and business groups about methods to reduce the opportunity for crime occurrence.
- Crime Against Elderly – Meet with individuals, groups and elder care facilities to discuss safety tips and security measures specifically related to the problems of the elderly.
- Program Presentations on Requested Topics – Assist in the preparation and promotion of presentations and materials related to crime prevention, personal safety and other law enforcement issues for distribution to individuals, community groups and businesses. As necessary, these presentations and materials should address the community's perceptions or misperceptions of crime.
- Involvement at Community/Business Gatherings & Events – Set up booths and/or tables at community and business functions to inform citizens about the department and its crime prevention efforts.
- Distribution of Crime Prevention Materials – Distribution of crime prevention materials related to crime prevention, personal safety and other law enforcement issues. These include informative brochures, Night Eyes; Lock it or Lose It and Stop Thief vehicles hangers.
- Information Distribution via Media Sources – Release of information to the community on crime, safety and other issues relevant to Miami Township.

Miami Township seeks information through meetings, community and business contacts, a monthly survey of citizenry and a biennial survey of citizen concerns. Additionally, the Department shall issue media releases, crime prevention tips and information on current safety campaigns in the community.

The Department will be sensitive to community perceptions or misperceptions of crime and address those problems in the community and areas affected by the most effective means.

### *Documented Evaluation of Crime Prevention Programs*

The Support Services Supervisor is responsible for the evaluation of crime prevention programs. Crime prevention programs and activities are reviewed quarterly via Crime Prevention & Community Relations Reports. Biennially, a documented evaluation of crime prevention programs will be conducted by the Support Services Supervisor and submitted to the Chief of Police.

#### **45.1.2 Organized Prevention Groups**

Liaison and general contact by members of the Department with community and business groups are encouraged and are essential in maintaining an effective crime prevention program. Community and business groups may have diverse ideas and needs that may be incorporated into the crime prevention programs and may be of great interest and benefit to the Department.

Interested citizens and groups will be encouraged by members of the Department to contact the Support Services Supervisor and/or the Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officers upon request.

The Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officers will maintain communication with citizen and community groups by way of security surveys, neighborhood watch programs, ongoing partnerships, program presentations and involvement at community/business gatherings and events and media releases.

The Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officers shall actively participate in both local and state sponsored associations and groups such as the Ohio Crime Prevention Association.

#### **45.1.3 Prevention Input**

The Crime Prevention/Community Relations Officers will provide security recommendations upon request to any interested citizen or businessperson who is in the process of planning for or constructing a new building or an addition to an existing structure.

The Chief of Police will make appropriate crime prevention recommendations to the Planning Commission, Zoning Board and to any group considering revision of zoning policies, fire or building codes in the Township.