



Cambridge Police Department

Effective Date: May 2, 2006

New Policy # 415
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Policy and Procedures

2006-4

The Assignment and Maintenance of Preventive Patrols

I. Purpose

This policy will:

- A. State the department policy regarding the assignment and maintenance of preventive patrols.
- B. Provide a definition of Preventive Patrols
- C. Explain how to request a directed patrol.
- D. Describe the responsibilities of officers performing preventive patrols.

II. Policy

It is the policy of the Cambridge Police Department to adopt and maintain the initiatives contained in community, problem oriented and intelligence driven policing philosophies. These approaches frequently prevent crime and disorder. Consultation, adaptation and mobilization are what community policing is all about. In order to promote these methods, the Cambridge Police Department will provide special attention, directed patrols, park and walks, and selective enforcements for legitimate community concerns and problems.

III. Definition

Preventive Patrol is a designation given to the following activities:

- A. Directed Patrols
- B. Selective Enforcements
- C. Special Attentions
- D. Park and Walks

IV. Requests for A Preventive Patrol

- A. A request for a Preventive Patrol may be submitted by a member of the community, a member of the police department, or a member of city government. The request should be reduced to writing by the person receiving the request in either a P-650 or an e-mail through the chain of command.
- B. The request will be forwarded to the shift commander in Operations, or to the Crime Analysis Unit or to the Community Relations Unit.

- C. The request for police services will be evaluated by the Shift Commander in Operations, or the Crime Analysis Supervisor or the Community Relations Supervisor to ensure that there is a legitimate public safety reason for the Preventive Patrol and to ensure that the request contains an explanation of the problem and the expectations for the officer(s) assigned to perform the Preventive Patrol. It will also include a contact name and telephone number in the event that there is a question about the accuracy or goals of the work to be performed by the officers.
- D. If the shift commander, the supervisor of Crime Analysis or a supervisor in the Community Relations Unit approves the request, it will be forwarded to Crime Analysis to be entered in the CAD. Crime Analysis will maintain a master list for ECC.
- E. In general, Preventive Patrols should be limited in time to two weeks. However, there may be situations that require constant monitoring and will not be limited in time.
- F. The Superintendent of Operations or his/her designee will assign an officer of supervisory rank to review the Preventive Patrols every two weeks to ensure that the assignments remain current and effective. If a member of the Investigations Division submitted the request, consultation with the Investigations Division should occur before eliminating or continuing the Preventive Patrol activity.
- G. Where the problem is long standing and complex, the Superintendent of Operations or his/her designee may propose the application of other problem solving strategies.

V. Responsibilities of Officers Performing Preventive Patrols

- A. Officers will be assigned Preventive Patrols by ECC. If the officer does not know the nature of the problem, or the type of police action required, he/she will request clarification from his/her supervisor. If the supervisor is not aware of the situation, the supervisor may contact the ECC supervisor for the specific information.
- B. Officers should direct their activities in order to perform proactive activities to deter the violations, nuisances, or crimes that are at the source of the problem(s). If additional information is developed that may modify these patrols, the information should be passed onto the responsible supervisor without unnecessary delay.
- C. Officers should keep ECC informed as to their location and activities.
- D. Patrol Supervisors may override the assignment of 86's on an individual basis or for a shift when there is a higher priority need for available personnel



Police Commissioner