DIVISION DIRECTIVE

I. PURPOSE

This directive outlines the duties and responsibilities of the Crime Analysis function of the Investigative Operations Unit.

II. POLICY

This Division's policy is to systematically examine crime, criminal behavior, and other events affecting activities within Prince George's County Parks in order to provide information to support operational decision-making and criminal investigations.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Employee(s) assigned to Crime Analysis is responsible for the collection of crime data and related information from both internal and external sources. The Crime Analyst will have complete access to and use of all written reports, investigative files/reports, field interview reports, inter-component memoranda and outside information for the purpose of providing Operational Duty Officers with current data necessary for deployment decisions. Once collected, these information factors will be collated and analyzed to develop the following:

1. Crime Trend Forecast

The crime trend forecast is designed to identify the frequency of crime for particular geographic areas for purposes of projecting future crime trends. This helps to identify any additional police personnel and resources needed to counteract these trends.
Information factors utilized:

- Regional intelligence information
- County growth and development statistics
- Demographic projections
- Department of Parks and Recreation planned activities
- Crime frequency information

2. Crime Series/Pattern Detection

The crime series analysis is designed to identify offenses committed by the same person or persons with the objective of developing sufficient information leading to apprehension. The crime pattern analysis is designed to identify offenses having common characteristics, i.e., target type, area, method, time, property taken, and so on, in order to develop recommendations for suppression strategies.

Information factors utilized:

- Crime frequency information
- Geographic factors
- Chronological factors
- Victim and target descriptors
- Physical evidence information

3. Suspect - Crime Correlations

Suspect-crime correlations are developed to construct investigative leads by systematically matching suspect physical, vehicle, or modus operandi information from crime reports with related information from the databases. This information is compared to existing crime files to determine whether additional open cases may be associated with an arrested person.

Information factors utilized:

- Suspect descriptors
- Suspect vehicle descriptors
- Modus operandi factors

4. Target Profiles

Target profiles attempt to identify and forecast the nature of persons or objects that may fall victim to criminal activity.

Information factors utilized:

- Types of structures victimized for a given crime
5. **Crime Potential Forecast**

The crime potential forecast attempts to determine future crime events through historical analysis of cyclical, periodic, or special event crime data and the correlation of this information with present and anticipated settings. The focus is on probable locations, target types, and time ranges.

Information factors utilized:

* Chronological factors
* Geographic factors

B. Employees assigned to Crime Analysis are responsible for preparing and disseminating the following periodic reports:

1. **As requested:**

   * Special searches of database information.
   * In-house publication of semi-confidential information for staff

2. **Periodic Reports**

   * Quarterly Crime Report (the reporting period begins each year on January 1 - due 4/15, 7/15, 10/15, 1/15)
   * Annual Crime Report (the reporting period covers January 1 thru December 31 - due 1/15)

C. The following rules and controls covering the distribution and control of all such reports will be carefully followed:

1. All periodic reports shall be distributed to all sworn personnel.

2. The Assistant Chief, Investigative Operations, shall be directly responsible for the review and approval of all Quarterly and Annual Crime Reports prior to their distribution.

3. Crime Analysis information shall be made available to other criminal justice agencies upon request. However, no information shall be released in violation of applicable State or Federal laws. The Investigative Operations Manager shall review and approve all requests for crime analysis information before it is released to any person outside this Division.

4. The Assistant Chief, Investigative Operations, shall brief the Park Police Division Chief quarterly on all crime patterns and trends identified by Crime Analysis. The Park Police Division Chief shall also be briefed on all operational activities undertaken as a result of Crime Analysis inquiries.
D. The Assistant Chief, Investigative Operations shall submit regular reports to the Park Police Division Chief evaluating the utility and effectiveness of operational deployments made as the result of Crime Analysis supplied information. Reports may be in the form of Commander's Reports or other appropriate memoranda.

E. Crime Analysis information will be utilized in developing tactics for operational components, general crime suppression strategies, and personnel and resource projections for the Division as they impact future operating budgets.

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