



**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
FIRST DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY POLICING PLAN JUNE 2021**





**NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**First District**

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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

The New Orleans Police Department's Community Engagement Program consists of: A Community Engagement Policy, a Community Engagement Plan, and Community Policing Plans.



### **Community Engagement Policy**

The New Orleans Police Department shall promote and strengthen community partnerships, engage constructively with the community, ensure collaborative problem solving, ensure ethical and bias-free policing, and increase community confidence in the Department.

### **Community Engagement Manual**

The Community Engagement Manual is designed to be a long term, aspirational document that will enhance the NOPD's community engagement, community policing and problem-oriented policing procedures. The objectives of this manual are meant to guide officers on how to foster positive community engagement interactions between citizens and the NOPD, utilize community policing ideals, create opportunities for substantive engagement with the community, substantive collaboration with the community, and civic engagement.

## Community Policing Plan

This is a district-specific collaborative partnership with the community. The Community Policing Plans will be specific to each District and address the unique needs of the community serviced in each District.

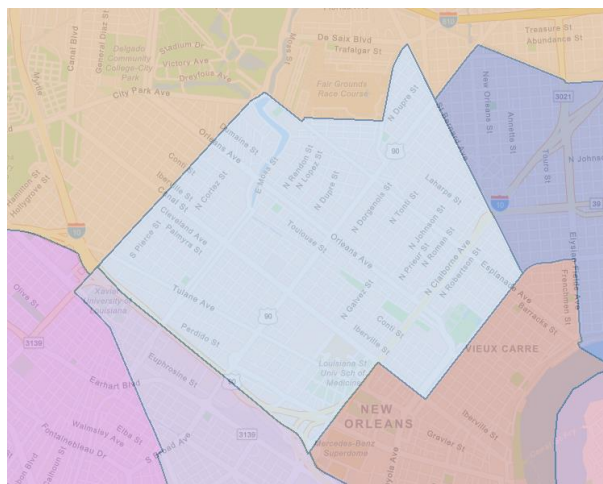
On May 27, 2021, the NOPD hosted a special PCAB Community Meeting in the First District via WebEx at 6:00PM. The purpose of the event was to identify and prioritize public safety concerns voiced by the community members present. The community priorities were utilized to develop the Community Policing Plans.

The First District also utilized 311 call data, district email complaints, and NONPACC guest complaints to establish priorities that would be addressed by the Community Policing Program. The priorities chosen will be reassessed within three to six months with the community to determine if new priorities should be established.

The district intends to bridge the communication gap between the community's needs and officer actions by closely monitoring crime trends and officer patrol requests. These requests are brought to our attention via email correspondence and call in requests.

### FIRST DISTRICT

The First District encompasses approximately 5.2 square miles and currently serves a population of 55,000 residents. Its boundaries are from Carrollton Ave. to Rampart St., and Avery C. Alexander Expressway to St. Bernard Ave. The police station is located at 501 N. Rampart St, New Orleans, LA 70112. The District has 80 officers as of 2021. The First District encompasses the Mid-City and Historic Treme Area and is diverse in its communities and neighborhoods. It includes the Saenger Theatre as well as the Mahalia Jackson Theatre. The District phone number is (504) 658- 6010. The First District can be contacted by email at [nopd1stdistrict@nola.gov](mailto:nopd1stdistrict@nola.gov).





## LEADERSHIP



**Captain LeJon Roberts** oversees the First Police District, which includes the Treme and Mid-City neighborhoods. His NOPD career includes time spent in the Fourth, Fifth, & Sixth Districts, and the Special Operations Division, Tactical/SWAT unit. Captain Roberts holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Upper Iowa University, and a Master of Public Administration Degree from the University of Phoenix. Captain Roberts is a graduate of the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and Command in Evanston, Illinois, and is an Instructor for the International Association of Chiefs of Police, “Leadership in Police Organizations” training and development program.



**Lt. Kendrick Allen** joined the NOPD in 2002 and has served in several roles throughout his tenure. After graduating from the police academy, he was assigned to the Sixth Police District where he served in the C.O.P.S (Community Oriented Policing Services) Unit. He was then transferred to the Second Police District in 2006 and was promoted to the rank of Police Sergeant in 2008 and assigned to the Fourth Police District. The newly promoted Sergeant Allen served as the B platoon sergeant, later the Community Coordination Sergeant, and eventually task force Sergeant, while in the fourth district. Sergeant Allen was transferred back to the Second Police District in October of 2014 and promoted to the rank of Police Lieutenant in September of 2015. The newly promoted Lt. Allen served as Second

Police Districts C Platoon commander from 2015 to May of 2020. During that time the Second District saw a 15% decrease in overnight crimes and the C platoon became compliant with several critical consent decree requirements. Lt. Allen was selected by Captain LeJon Roberts in May of 2020 to become his assistant commander in the First Police District. Since this time, the First District has continued to be a model district in solving violent crime and emphasizing the creation of positive community relationships with the citizens of this great city and our visiting guests.



**Sgt. Kimera Woods** joined the NOPD in 2008 and has served in several units around the department. She investigated violent crimes in the Third District before getting promoted to sergeant in 2015. Sgt. Woods was selected to work in the First District in early 2020 as the District Systems Administrator. She oversees all aspects of the district under the direction of Captain LeJon Roberts. She currently supervises the District School Resource Officer, Karl Marshall, and the District Community Liaison, Miquel Aubert.



Officer Karl Marshall (SRO) joined NOPD in 1998 and started his career in the 4th District. He served there until 2002 and while in the 4th District, Officer Marshall joined the District Task Force Unit and later became a detective.

In the early part of 2002, Officer Marshall became a School Resource Officer. In 2005 after Hurricane Katrina, he worked in the 7th District and later transferred to the 2nd District. In 2009, Officer Marshall was assigned to the 1st District as the School Resource Officer where he works with schools within the district, attending events and handling any issues they may have.



Officer Miquel Aubert (CLO) began his profession with the New Orleans Police Department 16 years ago in the First District. He was a member of the District's Task Force for most of his time there. In 2009 he joined the

First District's Staff, serving as the Quality-of-Life Officer. From there, he became a Property Crimes Detective. Officer Aubert later transferred to the Special Victim's Section in 2015 as a Sex Crimes Detective. Officer Aubert has recently returned to the First District, where he serves as the Community Liaison Officer investigating city violations and neighborhood community complaints.

For more information about the work of these officers, please follow the Facebook page account: [NOPD First District - Home | Facebook](#)

## COMMUNITY POLICING PRIORITIES

Given the issues raised by the community, the primary area of focus in the First District Community Outreach and Public Information Plan, drafted in December 2020, will be a focus on violent and property crime as well as positive interaction with juveniles in the First District.

## ACTIONABLE ITEMS

Actionable items are concrete steps that the District will take to implement the Community Outreach and Public Information Plan. Actionable items will be quantified or qualified through data analytics and anecdotes. The actionable items are transparency steps that will be updated monthly to demonstrate to the community, the exact steps that the District has executed to address the community's concerns.

**Reduce overall crime in the First District by utilizing a deployment strategy (Geo Deployment) that assigns the same officers in the same areas, which assists officers in recognizing crime trends and build relationships with community members.**

- The First District officers will use the DCAT (District Community Action Team) car which is a car that scans the area to address weekly crime trends, patterns, and assist with deployment strategies. PSP (Public Safety Partnership) and PSN (Project Safe Neighborhoods) strategic

deployment, and the use of city funded overtime will be used to aid in the fight against crime. PSP and PSN are both national programs utilized to reduce violent crime.

- The District will update the community monthly via NONPACC and PCAB on the strategies used through these Programs.
- The First District officers and rank will work diligently with the analytics department to identify crime patterns and trends. They will utilize the analytical data to compose a deployment plan to eradicate or reduce the criminal and nuisance activity.
- First District will also work with the VCAIT (Violent Crime Abatement Investigation Team) to help collect analytical data on repeat offenders, conduct surveillances, and do more in depth criminal history checks on targeted offenders. VCAIT is a centralized unit within the NOPD Special Operations Division that aids each of the eight police districts and the Investigation Services Bureau in their efforts to combat violent crimes plaguing the city. VCAIT detectives are embedded into each district as a liaison to obtain real time information and aid in follow up investigations involving crimes of violence.
- First District officers will work closely with federal partners (e.g., Alcohol and Tobacco Control, Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigations, U.S. Attorney's Office) to aid in building Federal RICO cases on individuals most likely to commit violent crime, or have violent offenses committed against them. First District's PSN detective and Persons Crimes detectives work closely with the U.S. Attorney's office and the States Attorney's office in formulating data and receiving guidance to meet threshold requirements. Through the data collected from felony arrests (e.g., narcotics arrests, firearms arrests, and outstanding warrants) both the state and federal attorney's offices compile these statistics to obtain indictments. The detectives work collaboratively to build state and federal RICO cases against targeted individuals in the First District that are identified as repeat violent offenders. Ultimately obtaining indictments to prevent them from committing more violence, or have violence committed against them.
- Utilize the RTCC (Real Time Crime Camera Center) to aid in investigations of areas that are trending with violent and property crimes rates.
- Utilize Code Enforcement to aid in boarding up, or tearing down, blighted houses and buildings used for drug harboring.

**Reduce nuisance and criminal activity under the North Claiborne Avenue underpass on weekends as this location accounts for 23% of shootings in the First District.**

- Utilize the Louisiana State Police to aid in regulating traffic and prevent traffic gridlocks, which ultimately become a potential safety hazard for Police, EMS, and Fire.
- Increase officer patrols on each Sunday to aid in dispersing the large gatherings that do not have permits to gather in large crowds.
- Utilize Code Enforcement to cite illegal vendors, and Alcohol and Tobacco Control to cite non-compliant ABO's (Alcohol Beverage Outlets), or businesses that sell alcohol.
- NOPD's traffic division will issue citations for illegal ATV activity, and vehicles spinning tires, doing donuts, creating smoke in the streets.

- Increase efforts by adding more patrols during the peak hours of activity. These increased patrols include walking beats, bicycle patrols, routine business checks, and ABO compliance checks. This increased police presence, through proactive police patrol, will provide analytical data (e.g., noise and disturbance complaints, business checks, and area checks) that can be assessed by the District to continually strategize and respond based on trending problems and trending locations. This information can also be reported back to the community via community meetings regarding progress made under the N. Claiborne Ave Underpass.
- Place NOPD light towers (increased lighting) under the underpass strategically to prevent nuisance activity after nightfall.
- Strategically place a RTCC under the underpass to identify peak hours of criminal and nuisance activity, and to identify individuals responsible for the illegal activity (e.g., illegal vending, ATV activity & burnouts, and drug use).

**Engage juveniles in the district by positively interacting with them in effort to build relationships and discuss ways to navigate through peer pressure which may result in criminal/delinquent behavior, and to prevent juvenile recidivism.**

- First District officers will use the PMP (Parent Monitoring Program) to intervene and assist juveniles that are potentially on the track to becoming delinquent or becoming repeat offenders.
- The First District CLO (Community Liaison Officer) and SRO (School Resource Officer) will positively engage youth at the schools by creating a mentorship program that will enable positive dialogue and counseling.
- Officers will partner with the Police Activities League within NOPD's Community Engagement Section to participate in positive interaction with the youth in the at least once a month (e.g., police v. youth basketball, tug of war, flag football).
- First District will utilize the ERC (Evening Reporting Center) and be instrumental in helping the youth get back on track by working with the ERC on forming positive relationships with the ERC youth clients, visiting them, and bringing them snacks. All officers will utilize best practices when engaging with youth, such as meeting with youth in regular street clothes as opposed to police uniforms.
- Use of the Covenant House, a local nonprofit providing housing and support services to youth facing homelessness, to have interpersonal conversation with youth who have had encounters with the police, whether positive or negative. This will be done quarterly with Superintendent Ferguson.



## APPENDIX

### PCAB Meeting Minutes

Meeting began at 6:07 PM on 5/27/2021

Captain Roberts thanked everyone for joining the meeting, he advised he met his PCAB board Monday, May 24, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at Phillis Wheatley Community School. Captain then introduced himself to the members of the meeting and expressed how he's happy working in the First District. He also briefly discussed stats from 2019 and 2020. Captain Roberts commended his officers for doing a good job.

Lt. Allen, and Sgt. Woods also introduced themselves to the attending members. Captain Roberts introduced SPO Miquel Aubert as the CLO, who will be conducting the meeting going forward.

PCAB members as well as Ms. Valerie Bouldin all introduced themselves to the attending members.

Sgt. Kimera Woods discussed 311 calls and complaints (Noise, Violent Crimes, Drug Activity, Prostitution, Abandon Vehicle, Homeless, etc.) She explained how Officer Aubert will work with different entities to address the listed complaints and how they are handled. Sgt. Woods also explained how large gatherings under the N. Claiborne Avenue corridor attributed to nuisance complaints of illegal vending, impromptu second lines, and ABO violations. These nuisance complaints were also referenced to COVID-19 city wide mandates.

The First District is slowly reintegrating community neighbors back into the station for the district's Max and NONPACC meetings in an effort to get real time interaction. Community members who attend these meetings will receive crimes stats and be able to speak with the captain directly. During NONPACC, citizens can discuss crimes, voice concerns, and share comments.

Sgt. Kimera Woods distributed the PCAB survey questions, which enabled the PCAB to answer pressing issues they deemed the First District officers were faced with.

1. In your opinion, what are the greatest problems in your district and how can the police dept help? Please provide specific examples.
  1. *Violent Crimes are a problem in the district. Juveniles getting guns by breaking into cars and committing additional crimes with the guns.*
2. How can the community collaborate with the police department to address these issues? PCAB is a good tool, however we are struggling to get people to attend meetings. Captain Roberts asked, what would be a good strategy to get people involved?
  1. *Reach out to other groups and council members. Going into the public to hand out flyers. Social media is big, also explain what PCAB is in relation to the police.*
  2. *Also having meeting throughout the city will help individuals who may have trouble with transportation.*

Valerie Bouldin asked how do the board members think the district can work to close the gap between the young people and the work that the district does? Is it talking with educators, is it talking with students? What crimes are they committing? Do you need to talk to car owners? How do you all see the connection between that challenge and the work of the district?

Captain Roberts: The district must educate the public via public service announcements. We must as a community, not make ourselves easy victims. He talked about how we saw a big increase in property crime (auto burglaries) starting in 2018 and continuing into 2021. Do not leave firearms and anything of value, or key in your vehicles.

3. What does the police dept do well in terms of community engagement? Please provide specific examples.
  1. *The First District show up enthusiastically to the PCAB meeting, it feels like more than just checking a box. The First District take time to get to know the community and that there is a foundation of outreach in the First District.*

Captain Roberts explains how he and his staff try to address every issue/concern. CLO Miquel Aubert identifies the problems presented to the First District and creates an actionable plan to remedy the problem. Captain Roberts asked for people to keep sending their concerns via email, 311, NOPD First District email, or via NONPACC meeting.

4. What could the police dept do better in terms of community engagement. Please provide specific examples.
  1. *Social media and sending out invitations to meet.*

Sgt. Woods advised the meetings are still posted on the district's Facebook page for viewing. She also stated there are pictures of the things the district is doing as it relates to community engagement. She advised the page also displays B.O.L.O.'s (Be on the lookout). She informed the community members that the page is used to distribute information to the community.

5. What activities should the department undertake to improve relationships with youth?
  1. *Getting into the schools to build a relationship with the youth.*

Sgt. Woods asked the attendees to link the district's Facebook post in attempt to get information out to the public.

Captain Roberts asked everyone to complete the survey, so that a community policing plan could be formulated based on their survey answers.

Sgt. Woods asked that everyone please send their responses no later than June 1, 2021. Captain Roberts closed out the meeting and thanked everyone for their participation.