

POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SURVEY

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This is an anonymous survey prepared for the Police Department. Its purpose is to determine the concerns and views of our citizens about crime, police services, and how the police can best serve community needs. The Chief of Police wants to use police resources in a way that best serves the community's needs and desires. In order to do this, we must ask citizens what they want. *Your opinions are very important in this effort.*

The survey is being sent to a cross-section of the community. Your responses are completely anonymous. Please return the survey in the enclosed envelope within the next week.

1. It is generally felt that saturating an area with police officers can discourage the following types of crimes. On which of the following would you like to see your police concentrate?

How much <u>priority</u> should the police give to:	Much Attention	Some Attention	Little Attention
Burglaries			
Property Destruction			
Auto Theft			
Traffic Law violations			
Robberies			
Prostitution			
Juvenile Curfew violations			
Theft of Car Parts			
Loud Parties			
Other (Specify)			

2. Of the following crimes, which **five** do you think the police should concentrate the most effort to solve? (*Please Check 5 items*)

- Simple Theft
- Assault & Battery
- Credit Card Fraud
- Defrauding Senior Citizens
- Gambling
- Check Forgery
- Auto Theft
- Drug Law Violations
- Child Neglect

3. Which **six** of the following police services do you feel are **most** important?

- Pick up found property
- Home security checks for vacationers
- Assist people locked out of their cars
- Investigation of all vehicle accidents
- School truancy checks
- Vehicle safety inspections
- Business buildings security inspections
- Teaching children pedestrian safety
- Checking the welfare of senior citizens
- Assisting people locked out of their homes
- Assisting stranded motorists

4. If you observed a crime, would you... (Check all that apply)

- Avoid involvement with the victim
- Assist a victim needing help
- Report suspicious activity
- Avoid involvement with the police
- Report the crime
- Assist police officers needing help
- Testify in court

5. Keeping in mind that the *budget is limited*, please **rank** the importance of the following services. (1 is the **most important**; 6 is the **least important**)

- Motor vehicle patrols _____
- Foot patrols _____
- Investigation of crimes by detectives _____
- Crime prevention programs _____
- Community police officers _____
- Traffic enforcement _____

6. For each of the following statements check the degree of concern you have that the problem might happen **in your neighborhood**:

	Very Concerned	Some Concern	No Concern
Someone will try to rob you or steal something from you			
Someone will try to attack you while you are outside			
Someone will try to break into your home			
Someone will try to steal or damage your car			
Someone will damage/vandalize your house or property			
Someone will try to attack you sexually while you are outside			

COMMENTS:

7. Indicate how often you **walk/jog/ride a bicycle in your neighborhood** by placing the most accurate number in each of the blanks.

Very Often		Occasionally		Never
5	4	3	2	1
	_____	_____		
	_____	_____		

8. Do you participate in any community group or association?

- Yes—If yes, go to question 8a
- No—If no, go to question 9

8a. Check all the types of associations you belong to:

- Neighborhood Association
- Church
- Athletic Group
- Civic Group
- Community Agency
- Other (specify) _____

9. Have you called the police to report a problem in the last two years?

- Yes—If yes, go to questions 9a - 9d
- No—If no, go to question 10

9a. Circle the number which indicates **how satisfied** you were with the **amount of time** it took the police to respond to your call.

Very Satisfied		Somewhat Satisfied		Not Satisfied
5	4	3	2	1

9b. How satisfied were you with the manner in which the police handled the problem?

Very Satisfied		Somewhat Satisfied		Not Satisfied
5	4	3	2	1

9c. Did the problem occur in your neighborhood?

- Yes
- No

9d. Were you the victim?

- Yes
- No

15. In the United States as a whole, do you think that personal safety is changing? (*Circle number*)

Becoming Safer		Not Changing		Becoming Less Safe
5	4	3	2	1

16. Is safety in your neighborhood changing?

Becoming Safer		Not Changing		Becoming Less Safe
5	4	3	2	1

17. In your neighborhood, how well do you think you police department performs its duties?

Very Well		Average		Very Poor
5	4	3	2	1

- _____ In general/overall
- _____ Patrol officers
- _____ Detectives

18. To what extent does your police department need improvement? (*Circle one*)

Great Extent		To Some Extent		Not at All
5	4	3	2	1

19. How important is each of the following responsibilities for improving your police department?

Very Important		Some Importance		Not Important
5	4	3	2	1

- _____ More officers
- _____ Higher qualifications for new officers
- _____ Improved training
- _____ Respond to calls faster
- _____ Improved relations with the community
- _____ Improved relations with minority groups

20. Has local police performance improved or gotten worse in the past year. (*Circle one*).

Improved		Same		Worse
5	4	3	2	1

21. To what extent do you think that police officers should...

Great Extent		To Some Extent		Not at All
5	4	3	2	1

- _____ ...be accountable for professional behavior
- _____ ...concentrate major effort on crime prevention
- _____ ...be able to recognize neighborhood residents
- _____ ...teach residents to recognize and report suspicious activity
- _____ ...personally provide guidance to potential juvenile offenders
- _____ ...help residents increase perceptions of personal safety
- _____ ...work closely with schools and social agencies to deter crime
- _____ ...share resources and problems with community agencies

TO HELP OUR ANALYSIS, WE NEED TO KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT YOU...

22. How would you classify your work?
- Professional (teacher, social worker, counselor, lawyer, etc.)
 - Clerical/technical
 - Blue collar (factory worker, construction, teacher's aide, etc.)
 - Retired
 - Home maker/housewife
 - Currently unemployed
 - Other occupation (part-time sale, small business, etc.)
23. Do you work for the city government? Yes
 No
24. How long have you lived at this address? _____ **Years**
25. Do you... Own your home
 Rent
26. How old are you? _____ Years
27. Sex... Male
 Female
28. Marital status... Single
 Married
 Widowed
 Separated
 Divorced
29. How many children do you have (including adults and guardianship)? None
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5 or more
30. How many children currently live with you? None
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5 or more

COMMENTS:

31. What is your educational level?
- Less than high school
 - High school diploma
 - Some college
 - College degree (BS/BA)
 - Beyond bachelor's degree
32. What is your racial/ethnic identity?
- Asian
 - Black/African American
 - Caucasian/White
 - Hispanic
 - Native American

PLEASE COMMENT ON ANY OF THE ISSUES ADDRESSED ON THIS SURVEY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!