

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

OUR CUSTOMER'S HANDBOOK



PUBLISHED AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE
OF THE
FAIRBANKS POLICE DEPARTEMENT

Your personal Community Policing Officer

Phone number and extension

CONTACT NUMBERS

Emergency (Police, Fire, Medical).....	Dial 911
Fairbanks Police Department.....	907-450-6500
Chief Randall Aragon.....	907-450-6510
Fairbanks Fire Department.....	907-450-6600
City Attorney's Office.....	907-450-6750
Mayor's Office & City Hall.....	907-450-6793



WHY SHOULD I LEARN ABOUT COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING?

Because the communities are the eyes, ears and “heart” of the Community Oriented Policing (COP) Program.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING NEEDS

Cooperation

Between communities and officers. Preventing crime is a big job. The officers are more effective when they can depend on citizens for support and help.

Commitment

To improve your community. Community Policing Officers (CPO's) look to citizens (our customers) for help in solving community problems.



Community Oriented Policing is a new relationship with communities, allowing them a greater voice in setting local priorities and involving them in efforts to improve the overall quality of life within their communities.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING?

It's the community and law enforcement joining to prevent crime and together solving community problems.

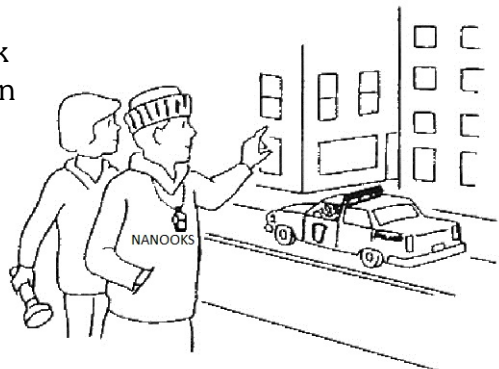


COMMUNITIES AND POLICE OFFICERS BECOME PARTNERS IN PROBLEM SOLVING.

This allows officers to determine community problems, needs, and concerns while building citizens' trust.

RESIDENTS & LAW ENFORCEMENT JOIN FORCES.

Residents and Officers work together to reach a common goal . . . **A SAFER COMMUNITY!**



Community Oriented Policing works towards stopping crime BEFORE it happens!

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING BEGINS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Citizens share many of the same concerns and fears.

Community Appearance

- Overgrown Vacant Lots
- Abandoned Vehicles
- Rundown or Abandoned Buildings



Citizens Safety

- The sales and use of illegal drugs
- Their children's safety
- Property damage
- Violent crime
- Animal Control

Noise

Irritating noise may include

- Loud music
- Vehicles
- Excessive barking from dogs



**COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING PROVIDES
AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO SHARE
THEIR CONCERNS AND FEARS WITH OTHERS.**



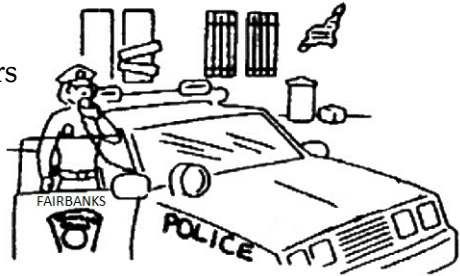
MANY COMMUNITIES ARE IN A DOWNWARD TREND

Fear of crime keeps citizens off the streets

Citizens become isolated from each other, law enforcement and other communities. They forget the power they have as a group. Some give up control of their communities.

Communities Worsen

When citizens close their doors on neighborhood problems, crime rates RISE!!



Isolation Increases

The cycle goes on and on with citizens losing hope that things will get better.

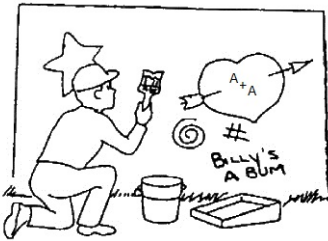
**LET'S BREAK THE "FEAR CYCLE"
WITH COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING!**

PUTTING OFFICERS BACK IN THE COMMUNITY IS THE FOUNDATION OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

Fairbanks is divided into districts and each district contains specific community policing neighborhoods. Each community policing neighborhood is assigned to a specific CPO.

Some responsibilities of the CPO are to:

- Leave the patrol car and form relationships with citizens and merchants.
- Develop Community Watch Groups.
- Discuss the community problems and concerns and build trust.



Solving Community Problems

Determines what the community's problems are and with the community's help, solve them.

Reference Sources for Citizens

Includes agencies such as:

- Domestic Violence Agencies
- Drug and Alcohol Abuse Agencies
- Child Abuse Agencies
- City Planning Agencies



**OFFICERS IN THE COMMUNITY
MAKE FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY!**

THE COMMUNITY POLICING OFFICER HAS A NEW ROLE

In addition to their regular duties, the officer may:



Attend Community Watch Group Meetings

Listen to the community's problems and concerns and together devise a solution.

Provide Crime Prevention Information

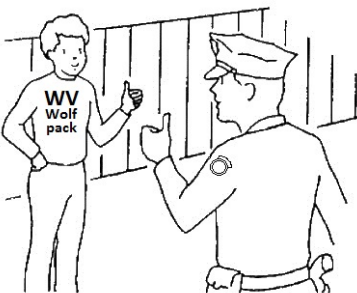
Talk to citizens on ways to:

- Be less of a target for crime
- See danger
- Handle and report emergencies
- Protect homes and businesses
- Report crimes



Be a Positive Role Model for Young People

Community Policing Officers visit schools and day-care centers to speak on the dangers of drugs, alcohol and crime.



COMMUNITY POLICING OFFICERS ARE GOOD ROLE MODELS AS WELL AS LAW ENFORCERS

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING BENEFITS EVERYBODY!

Examples are:

Better Understanding Between Communities and Police

Communities and Law Enforcement are one, presenting the citizens an opportunity to voice their problems and concerns. The officers are dedicated to listening.



More Say in Setting Priorities Within the Community

Citizens assist officers in setting Community goals. Citizens now have a voice in problem solving.

Less Fear of Crime

Community Oriented Policing breaks the cycle of deterioration and fear, allowing residents to "TAKE BACK THEIR STREETS."



COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING IS A NEW PHILOSOPHY BASED ON THE CONCEPTS OF COMMUNITIES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING TOGETHER IN CREATIVE WAYS TO HELP SOLVE PROBLEMS RELATED TO CRIME, FEAR OF CRIME, SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL DISORDER, AND NEIGHBORHOOD DECAY!



A HIGHER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL

A real sense of Community pride from helping each other and Law Enforcement. Community spirit leads to a neighborhood that citizens feel good about and feel safe in.

A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS

Citizens also have a better view of the CPO's pressures, concerns, and problems. Understanding improves relations between citizens and CPOs.



POSITIVE RESPONSES

Communities and law enforcement become proactive rather than reactive. This means that instead of officers and citizens reacting after the crime, the combination of citizen - officer gives a proactive response before the crime is committed.



HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY POLICING EFFORT?

There is no limit to what you can do!

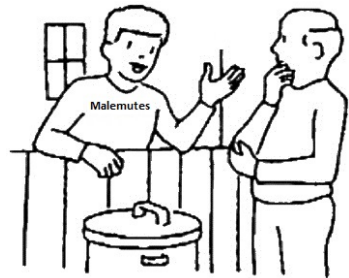
ATTEND COMMUNITY WATCH MEETINGS



Encourage your neighbors to become active by attending community watch meetings. It can be a great opportunity to voice concerns and agree on solutions

KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

Community Oriented Policing works best when the community is united. Go door-to-door in your neighborhood and introduce yourself, exchanging views on community problems and concerns.



SPEAK TO YOUR COMMUNITY POLICING OFFICER

Report any suspicious activity, gathering all information possible to help officers prevent or solve a crime. Tell YOUR officer of your personal concerns. Don't forget to show your support.



BE ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY WATCH GROUPS

It's your community - - keep an eye on it. If there's no watch group in your community, ask your officer how to start one.

BE A LEADER! SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING WORK!

THE WHOLE COMMUNITY CAN PITCH IN

Several public and private agencies
may help to improve the community.

CITY DEPARTMENTS

- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Public Works
- Sanitation



COMMUNITY GROUPS

Help from the right people can really
help make Community Oriented
Policing a success.

- Community Boards
- Religious Organizations
- Media (Newspaper, TV, Radio)
- Grant Foundations



BUSINESS GROUPS

Business associations know their livelihood
depends on the condition in the community.

Business people are often strongly
motivated to help.

- Chamber of Commerce



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Does Community Oriented Policing really work?

Yes, Our Community Oriented Policing effort is moving faster than our highest expectations. Many people believe that COP is our best chance to control the growth of crime, fear of crime, and neighborhood decay.



What's the difference from standard police work?

Standard law enforcement is answering calls, making arrests, and writing reports . . .all after the crime has happened. Community Oriented Policing focuses on preventing crime.

Will Community Oriented Policing replace vehicular patrol?

No, patrol vehicles will still be needed to patrol and respond quickly to calls for service.



Is Community Oriented Policing soft on crime?

Not at all! Standard/traditional policing involved “cleaning up” an area with arrests only; however, COP not only involves making arrests but also places emphasis on preventing crime in the first place by solving problems by developing a partnership with the community (our customers).



DO OFFICERS RECEIVE SPECIAL TRAINING?

Yes. Under the guidance of Chief Randall Aragon, the version of Community Oriented Policing began in February, 2015. Preparation required many months of research, training, and planning that will be a continuous process. Officers are trained in:

- Group Leadership
- Problem Solving
- COP Fundamentals
- Cultural Diversity
- Handling Community Complaints



HOW DO WE KNOW IF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING IS WORKING?

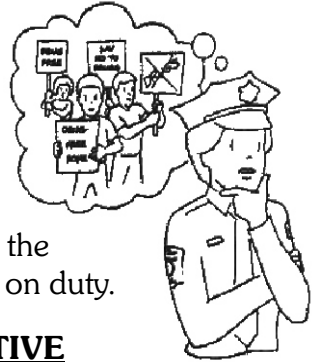
Success is measured by YOU, the citizen. Do you feel your community is safer and a better place to live? Are the attitudes of citizens and officers changing for the better? YES! Our officers and citizens are solving problems together through scanning, analysis, response, and assessment.



Revised and Compiled by:
Officer A. Adams
Fairbanks Police Department

HOW DOES COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING AID LAW ENFORCEMENT?

Officers benefit by:



GREATER INDEPENDENCE

Officers are assigned their own permanent areas of responsibility called “neighborhoods.” Each neighborhood is the officer’s responsibility when the officer is on duty.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE CREATIVE

Your assigned CPO has freedom to make decisions concerning problem solving. They are encouraged to use their imagination to find new solutions to old problems. (Mistakes will occur - it’s a learning process)

A GREATER ROLE IN SOLVING AND PREVENTING CRIME

The Community Policing Officer is now back into the community. He or she are partners with the community. The officer forms better solutions to community problems with the resident.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING IS GOOD FOR THE COMMUNITY

LEARN

Why and how Community Oriented Policing works. Question your assigned CPO!



FIND OUT

What Community Oriented Policing can do for you AND what you can do for the Community Oriented Policing.



MEET

Your CPO, introduce yourself to your neighbors. Let’s get acquainted!

[Community + Law Enforcement = COP]

CRIMESTOPPERS

CRIMESTOPPERS is a nationwide organization of business, professional, law enforcement and other people which was created in 1976 to meet the need of providing “hard information” to the law enforcement community about crime.

It is a program in which various community interests work together to solve crimes.

Fairbanks Crimestoppers provides a mechanism for members of the community to report tips of criminal or suspicious behavior in the Fairbanks and surrounding areas. Tips received through the volunteer center are screened and routed to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Callers may remain anonymous if they wish and callers may be eligible to receive a cash reward if the information given leads to the arrest or grand jury indictment of a felony offender. Fairbanks Crimestoppers can be reached by calling (907) 456-CLUE (456-2583). Members of the community are reminded that in the event of a crime in progress, to contact your local law enforcement agency, or in the event of an emergency call 9-1-1."

456-CLUE (2583)