

# NEWARK POLICE DIVISION

## Community Engagement Report Second Quarter - 2018



Consent Decree and Planning Division

Captain Brian O'Hara  
Commander

September 2018

# NEWARK POLICE DIVISION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

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## Introduction

The Newark Police Division (NPD) is committed to transparency in its procedures and performance and seeks opportunities to engage with the community. Additionally, it is the goal of the Newark Police Division to foster a true collaborative partnership through positive engagements and build public trust between the Division and the community. To achieve these goals, the Newark Police Division and its members shall approach all interactions with the public as opportunities to enhance the perception of law enforcement and build upon public trust. The following community engagement report has been prepared to reflect the period of **April 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018**.

## Criteria

Paragraph 18 of the Consent Decree states

“Within 120 days of the Operational Date, and thereafter on a quarterly basis, NPD will prepare a publicly available report of its community policing efforts overall and in each precinct, including specific problems addressed and steps taken by NPD and the community toward their resolution”.

## Summary

Through the devotion and diligence of the precincts’ Community Service Officers (CSO’s), the Command Staff and through selfless dedication of the Community Affairs and Clergy Unit, many of the initiatives that were successful during the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of this year, were expanded upon and new partnerships were developed. The CSO’s attended eighty-eight (88) community meetings during this quarter. In addition to the community meetings, the Division personnel participated and/or orchestrated numerous events.

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**Table No. 1 - Community Engagements Summary**

Precinct	Community Meetings	Goal Oriented Encounters	Special Events	Problems Identified
1 <sup>st</sup>	12	79	17	6
2 <sup>nd</sup>	14	73	49	19
3 <sup>rd</sup>	29	37	21	20
4 <sup>th</sup>	8	3	7	2
5 <sup>th</sup>	16	9	14	17
6 <sup>th</sup>	9	8	1	4

## First Precinct Qualitative Community Engagements

Community Service Officers: Police Officer J. Bright and Police Officer R. Thomas

- Ms. Blind Diva Pageant Press Release Party – 17 Academy St.
- Toast Off & Prom Day – 311 So. 10th St.
- End of School Year Cookout Fun – 50 Newton St.
- 14th Ave. School Visit
- Community Walk - So. 9th St.
- Community Service Clean Up Project – Court & Milk Blvd
- St. Benedict's Prep School – Spring Fling
- Internet & Online Safety Class – 180 South Orange Ave.
- Toast Off & Prom Day – 311 So. 10th St.
- NCC Residents Only Traffic Signs
- Community Walk – So. 10th St between 13th Ave. & South Orange Ave.
- Community Walk – So. 9th St. between 13th Ave. & South Orange Ave.
- Coffee with a Cop – 180 South Orange Ave.
- Bingo & Game Night – 180 South Orange Ave.
- Community Walk – So. 9th St.
- Neighborhood Community Policing Plan – 269-271 So. 9th St.

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- Neighborhood Community Policing Plan – Newark Fairmount Neighborhood Association
- Breakfast Celebration – 45-47 Hayes St.
- 1st Precinct Community Relations Council Meeting
- Community Walk – Kent St. & Brenner St.
- 1st Precinct Community Relations Council Meeting – 205 Spruce St.
- Captain Mos Hosts Community Policing Meeting with Habitat for Humanity
- 1st Precinct Community Meeting
- Comstat Community Engagements
- Habitat for Humanity – Neighborhood Community Policing Meeting
- 4th Of July Cookout – 1st Precinct
- Rebellion Park Clean Up – 15th Ave. & Springfield Ave.
- Reservoir Neighborhood Community Policing Plan
- Lunch with Summer Camp Students – JFK Creation Center
- Community Walk – So. 8th St.

## Second Precinct Qualitative Community Engagements

Community Service Officers: Police Officer J. Molina and Police Officer T. Rich

- Commander's Community Engagement and Business Walk- 6th Avenue and North 5th Street
- Community Street Fair-55 - 57 Springdale Avenue
- Business Check/Business Talk Meet & Greet-453 and 449 Orange Street
- Taking Back Our Streets-Roseville Avenue and 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 2nd Precinct Council Meeting - Mount Pleasant Baptist Church 27 Lincoln Avenue
- Coffee with a Cop New Community Senior Citizens (aka NCC Associates)-180 South Orange Ave
- Tenant Association Monthly Meeting-Stephen Crane Elderly Tenant Association Community Room.
- Occupy the Block - Taking Back Our Streets - Oriental Village Broadway & 2nd Avenue
- Community Meeting - Forest Hill Community Association
- Senior Citizen Scams & Safety Tips - The North Ward Center 298 Mount Prospect Ave
- Commander's Walk - Roseville Avenue and 7th Avenue
- Fallen Officer's Son Graduation Day Roselle Park High School - Raymond A. Arocha
- B.A.N.D. Community Meeting at Urban League of Essex County located at 506 Central Avenue.
- Community Meeting 110 Broad Street Association
- The Roseville Neighborhood Association Community Meeting 285 Roseville Avenue

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## Third Precinct Qualitative Community Engagements

Community Service Officers: Police Officer M. Silva and Police Officer C. Reed

- Portuguese Flag raising ceremony - Newark City Hall
- Bullying Presentation - East Side High School
- Lafayette Street School Career Day
- Youth Basketball Recreation - Hyatt Court and Terrell Homes
- Cleanup of Newark Riverfront Park.
- Community Meeting - Jesus O Lord Presbyterian Church Broad Street.
- Leaguers Preschool a Safety Presentation
- Oliver Street School Fun Day.
- Ironbound Little League Picnic at the Little League Field.
- Newark Riverfront Park walk along the Water and Arts Festival
- Newark Downtown District Monthly Meeting
- Business/Resident/PSE&G Walk (regarding better lighting) - Magazine Street and Ferry Street
- Community Walk - Napoleon Street and New York Avenue to Wilson Avenue.
- Community Walk - Ferry Street to Merchant Street to Union Street.
- Community Walk - Scott Street to Orchard Street.
- Block Watch Walk - Lafayette Street and Van Buren St to Jefferson St with members of the Ironbound Block Watch Association.
- Coffee with a Cop
- Community meeting - "Friends of Lincoln Park"

## Fourth Precinct Qualitative Community Engagements

Community Service Officers: Police Officer A. Porter and Police Officer B. Burrows

- Captain Leroux conducted an inspection of 44 vacant units - 15th Avenue / South 18th Street
- Community Walk - Avon Avenue / South 10th Street
- Block Watch Meeting for Mead Street
- Community Walk and met with the patrons of Carnell's Barbershop, 289 16th Avenue
- Community Cleanup - 15th Ave / S 18th St with kids from IYO (International Youth Org.)
- Block Watch Meeting - 19th Avenue
- Kipp NJ Rise Academy - 21 Ashland Street
- Community Walk and met with Ms. Lynn at 426 South 17th Street
- Meet Bloomfield College baseball team - West Side Park
- Make-up with a Cop - 281 16th Avenue
- Assisted homeless woman at S.O.A. / Sanford Avenue in finding permanent shelter

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- Paint and Sip with a Cop - 2 Nevada Court
- Captain Leroux hosted children from the Leaguers School at the 4th Precinct
- Wash with a Cop - 309 16th Avenue

## Fifth Precinct Qualitative Community Engagements

Community Service Officers: Police Officer G. Hines and Police Officer M. Muhammed

- Chadwick Avenue Community Walk
- Frelinghuysen / Chancellor Avenue Business Walk
- Grace West Manor Tenant Meeting (Monthly Meeting)
- Clinton Hill Meet & Greet Community Meeting
- Nairn Place Community Walk
- Newark Community Street Team Public Safety Round Table 400 Hawthorne Avenue
- S 17th & S 18th Neighborhood Community Meeting (Monthly Meeting)
- Leslie Street Block Association Meeting
- Weequahic Park Sports Authority Community Engagement
- Coffee with a Cop / Dunkin Donuts 257 Lyons Avenue
- Hansbury & Maple – Community Service Officer walks neighborhood
- 34th Renaissance Block Association Meeting
- Hunterdon Street-Peshine/Madison Avenue Community Walk
- 87 Chadwick Avenue Collaborated with Code Enforcement for Clean & Lien
- Hansbury Avenue Cookout
- South Ward Community Council Meeting (Monthly Meeting)
- Donald Bradley Center Community Meeting (Monthly Meeting)

## Sixth Precinct Qualitative Community Engagements

Community Service Officers: Police Officer S. Okerchiri and Police Officer C. Corbett

- Neighborhood Walk and Talk - Marsac Pl/Ellery Ave/Sanford Pl/South Orange Ave/Sanford Ave
- Neighborhood Walk and Talk - Columbia Avenue/Isabella Avenue/Bradley Court
- Meet and Greet and Luncheon with the Residents - 425 Sanford Avenue-Saint Mary Villa
- Community/Neighborhood Free Shoe Donations Boylan Rec Center-916 South Orange Ave
- Community/Neighborhood Location Investigation - 104 Sanford Place/Residential Property
- Community Outreach/Church - 17 Alexander Street Shekinah Glory Church
- Westward District leaders Meeting - 998 South Orange Avenue Faith Christian Center
- UVSO (Unified Vailsburg Services Organization) Family Fun Day for kids - 475 Irvington Avenue

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- Sanford Place Block Association & Friends - 844 Sanford Avenue Igbo Anglican Church
- Neighborhood Walk and Talk - Columbia Avenue/N. Munn/Bradley Court/Cedar
- St. Mary's Villa Health Fair 425 Sanford Avenue - Saint Mary's Villa
- Unified Family Festival - Smith Street /South Orange Avenue
- Community/Neighborhood Location Investigation - Norwood, Sanford Place
- Deceased Raymond Arocho's son Graduation - Roselle Park High School
- Ivy Hill Neighborhood Monthly Meeting - 209 Ivy Street
- Community Outreach/A Journey from A to Z (Read a Book) - 75 Alexander Street (Library)
- Reorganized the 6th Pct Det. Morgan Community room with community - 491 Irvington Ave
- 87 Chadwick Avenue Collaborated with Code Enforcement for Clean & Lien
- Hansbury Avenue Cookout

**Table No. 2 - Problems Identified**

Precinct	Problem List – Steps for Resolution
1 <sup>st</sup>	Discussion of Auto thefts in lots in area- <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Illegal Dumping on abandoned property – <a href="#">CSO visited Tax Dept. got ownership and reported to Code Enforcement.</a>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Elderly Community Member lost his/her vehicle – <a href="#">Lieutenant drove individual until vehicle was located.</a>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Raw Sewage erupting from abandoned house onto sidewalk – <a href="#">followed up with 4311 and Water Department</a>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Request via Community Meeting for additional crossing guard – <a href="#">3 way Stop Sign posted</a>
1 <sup>st</sup>	Illegal Activity in Park – <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Quality of life concerns - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	General Complaint - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Illegal Activity – <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned Trailers/Illegal Activity – <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned Home/Illegal Activity – <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Drug odors - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>

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2 <sup>nd</sup>	Possible Wanted Persons/Building Code Violations - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Illegal Activities - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Garbage not picked up – <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned House/Illegal Activity - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned House/Cars and garbage - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned House/Garbage - <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned Property - <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Garbage on Sidewalk – <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Partially Demolished Building - <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Quality of Life Concerns/Improper Parking – <a href="#">Parties Advised and Sent on Way</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned Vehicle - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Quality of Life Complaint - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Abandoned Property - <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Garbage on Sidewalk – <a href="#">Active Investigation (Complaint sent to city via MYNEWARK app)</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Homeless Congregating in R.A. Brown Park – <a href="#">Scheduled cleanup of Park with residents</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Homeless Congregating in Hennessey Park – <a href="#">Scheduled cleanup of Park with residents</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noise Complaints/Fights/Quality of life issues – <a href="#">Area made strenuous lookout for 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct Personnel and Supervisors</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Parking Issues – <a href="#">Resolved with complainant</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noise Complaint Bar – <a href="#">Establishment Investigated by A.B.C. – Completed - Checked OK</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noise/Fights Complaint Bar – <a href="#">Establishment Investigated by A.B.C. – Completed – Bar Shut down</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Trash/Street Litter – <a href="#">Area checked OK</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Graffiti/Drug Paraphernalia – <a href="#">Sanitation Notified</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Commercial Overnight Parking preventing Garbage Pickup - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Abandoned Property - <a href="#">Active Investigation (Code Enforcement Notified)</a>



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3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noise Complaint/Religious Worship over loudspeaker - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Not Enough Traffic Lights near School – <a href="#">Engineering Department Notified</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Abandoned Property - <a href="#">Active Investigation (Code Enforcement Notified)</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Double and Triple Parking - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Night Time Car Racing - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noise Complaints - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Quality of Life Issues at Abandoned Property – <a href="#">Code Enforcement Notified, Property Boarded up</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Vagrancy in Park – <a href="#">Monitored by Sheriffs and NPD</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Squatters in Abandoned Property – <a href="#">Made contact with property owner</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Quality of life concerns/Vagrancy – <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Multiple locations Street Lights out – <a href="#">PSE&amp;G notified - lights fixed</a>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Garbage/Debris Several Locations – <a href="#">Complaint sent to city via 4311- areas cleaned</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Loud Music - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Family member refuses to leave - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Police response/Rear door security - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Unsecured Building – <a href="#">Referred to Code Enforcement</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Improper Parking - <a href="#">Addressed</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Violation of Properties – <a href="#">Investigation Completed</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Quality of life issues – <a href="#">location checked ok</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Basketball Hoop/Loud Talking/Music/Drug use - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Parking violations/Drug sales - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Quality of Life/Drug Activity/Drinking in public/Littering - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	MV Violations/Drug Activity - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Sneakers hanging from power lines – <a href="#">List created to remove same</a>

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5 <sup>th</sup>	Quality of life issues, Illegal Dumping, Abandoned houses - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Quality of life issues, Drug Dealing, Over-weight trucks, Vacant home with squatters - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Absent Crossing Guards/Drug Dealing - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Drug Dealing, Quality of life issues, Police Barricades, Sneakers on wires, Trucks on Roadway and speeding vehicles - <a href="#">Active Investigations</a>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Drug Dealing and Fire crackers - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Males Hanging out in front of Businesses - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Suspicious Vehicles Parked - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Parking Violations - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Street Lights not working - <a href="#">Active Investigation</a>

## Community/Clergy Affairs Unit

The Community / Clergy Affairs unit works hand in hand with the Community Service Officers in supplementing, organizing, and augmenting their community engagement efforts. Below is a list of various community engagement efforts that have undertaken during the second quarter of 2018.

**The Public Safety Academy** is an eight-week course where participants learn the basic functions and operations of the Police/Fire and OEM division. Participants must complete six of the eight scheduled classes. We started a class on March 6 and ended on April 23. Eighty-Seven (87) residents and clergy members graduated the program. This is our largest class ever having broken the previous record set in December 2017. We also instituted an alumni association of our participants. Approximately 60 alumni have chosen to continue to participate with us when called upon. They have been useful in disseminating all manner of Police community relations info and serve as volunteers at community events.

**G.R.E.A.T. Program** is an anti-bully program taught to grades 3-8 throughout the Newark School District. The program also teaches gang awareness as well as drug prevention. Currently GREAT is taught 5 days a week in schools throughout the city by detectives of our unit. GREAT Graduation was scheduled for June 15, 2018 where approximately 1,500 students attended the

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ceremony. Upon graduation the department treats all children to popcorn, soda and a movie at the Cityplex where they also receive a T-shirt.

**Clergy Alliance-** We currently have 76 clergy members that we actively collaborate with. We have a ride-along program in which clergy members respond out into the community (hospitals/senior homes) to offer prayer and other services to members of the community. We also host monthly meetings of our participants and provide them with services and opportunities to volunteer in other worthwhile projects. Clergy alliance members will receive training on hurricane preparedness on June 23, 2018.

**Police Explorer Program** is hosted by our unit twice a week where explores are given insight and instruction into what it is like to enter a career in the Police Division. They also compete against other local explorer posts. Currently The Explorer post boasts 22 members. These members also participate in competitions based on police training against other Police explorer posts. Police Explorers recently placed 3rd overall at the South Jersey Police Explorer competition. The undersigned and Executive Officer Latasha Taylor presented all participants with command citations in recognition of their achievement.

**Block Watch Program** - can be organized through the precinct community service officers as well as the community affairs/clergy unit. Our Block Watch program requires 7-10 people to start the program. It teaches members of the community crime safety tips, crime prevention and the proper reporting procedure for reporting a crime or incident. There are 69 registered block watch programs within the city with a Block watch creation drive underway.

There is currently one **School Resource Officer** assigned to each command. The School Resource officers are available to address any concerns within the schools. They also conduct safety presentations throughout the school year. We in the Community Clergy affairs unit also conduct safety presentations on **Stranger Danger, Gun Safety** and **Anti-Bullying**. Community requests are taken into account and our presentations can be tailored to whatever the requesting community stakeholder needs.

**Coffee with a Cop** is a program started in California that we have adopted in our city and have augmented it to include Pizza with a cop, Hero (sandwich) with a hero and Ice Cream with a Cop. These programs bring police officers and the community members they serve together—over coffee—to discuss issues and learn more about each other.

Community Service Officers and members of the Community/Clergy Affairs Unit visit Senior Citizen Housing and Nursing Homes to conduct the "**Paint and Sip**" program whereby Officers

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sit with the seniors and paint small art projects while sipping coffee and tea. (Paint and sips are ongoing and we are looking to collaborate with Newark Housing for future events.)

**Hope One Cares Project:** This program has been modeled after a similar program in Morris county. It is a mobile outreach vehicle bringing services to the addicted and afflicted and their families. Narcan training, rehab and recovery facilities, light refreshments served, CPR training and all manner of referrals provided.

Citywide all officers and Detectives of the Newark Police Division continue to break new ground with their imaginative approach and dedicated commitment to community policing.

## CommUnity & Cops town hall-style meetings

During the 2nd Quarter, the Consent Decree and Planning Division hosted six (6) town hall-style meetings to solicit input from the community on the implementation of Consent Decree mandates. Below are the forums hosted during this period:

- The **Community Policing Policy** forum was held at the Jehovah Jireh Praise & Worship Center at 505 S. 15th Street, on April 4.
- A community forum on the **Stop Policy** was held on April 24, at the Jehovah Jireh Praise & Worship Center.
- A public demonstration on the use of the **Body Worn Camera and In Car Camera** was held at Nan Newark Tech World at 400 Hawthorne Avenue on April 26.
- The community vetted the **Search Policy** during a panel discussion at the Waterfront Sports, Arts & Entertainment Center at 2 Grafton Avenue on May 2.
- On May 9, the **Arrest Policy** was the subject of a forum hosted at the Sports Club Portuguese at 55 Prospect Street.
- The 6th Precinct was the site of a community discussion on the implementation of the **Consent Decree** on June 5.

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## Staffing Assessment Newark Police Division

The Newark Police Division (NPD) commissioned the Urban League of Essex County to conduct a staffing study of the department in compliance with the Consent Decree. The Consent Decree requires the NPD to “assess and revise its staffing allocation and personnel deployment to support community policing and problem-solving initiatives, and modify any deployment strategy that is incompatible with effective community-oriented policing.”

## Staffing Assessment Summary

The Newark Police Department needs additional personnel to support its community policing and problem-solving initiatives. If the department wants Precinct Patrol officers to have adequate time to engage the community and work on problem solving projects, it needs 247 additional officers assigned to the precincts. In addition, it needs six additional detectives assigned to investigate Part 1 Crimes.



City of Newark Department of Public Safety  
Police Division  
Consent Decree and Planning Division



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