

POLICE

DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

Mission: Address Crime and Community Concerns

Vision Statement: A safe and welcoming environment for everyone

Daily Goals: Use innovative approach to address crime, maintain and enhance a professional and well-trained workforce, and enhance the public’s perception of the Miami Beach Police Department

DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Miami Beach Police Department (MBPD) came into existence in 1915 when the City incorporated. The Department has been a Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) accredited Department since 2000. CALEA provides the Department with a proven managerial framework to voluntarily demonstrate to other law enforcement agencies, and more importantly to the community, that the organization follows the best practices of the policing profession. These standards are designed to provide guidance for all core practices while strengthening accountability both within the Department and among the community. CALEA serves to lower the Department’s liability and risk exposure while consistently demanding the highest levels of professional excellence.

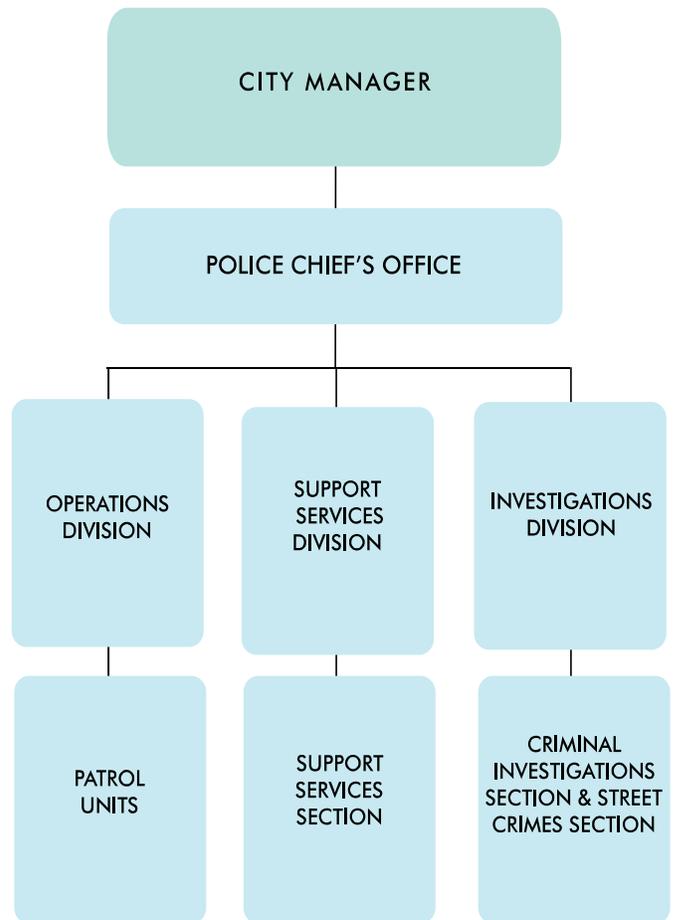
The Department’s most recent on-site review was conducted in July 2019, and in November of 2019, CALEA approved the Miami Beach Police Department for re-accreditation. This was the Department’s seventh reaccreditation resulting in a Meritorious Award and clearly demonstrating the Department’s ongoing and absolute commitment to accountability, transparency and best practices in the law enforcement profession.

The Department remains in constant preparation for its next on-site review, which now occurs every four years. A CALEA assessment is conducted by trained law enforcement professionals from other states tasked with ensuring that the Department is in compliance with all applicable standards. During each of the following four years, a CALEA representative conducts an electronic review of a quarter of the Department’s files to ensure continuing compliance. The next formal on-site assessment is scheduled in 2025, with anticipated approval and awarding of reaccreditation in November.

Departmental Organization:

To provide an effective public safety and law enforcement response to the community of approximately 92,000 residents and a daily population of over 196,000, the Department has been reorganized into the Office of the Chief, the Operations Division, the Investigations Division, and the Support Services Division.

The Operations Division is divided into four patrol areas: South, Middle, North, and Entertainment District, each directed by a captain and overseen by a major, who serves as the Division Commander.



Each captain has dedicated personnel assigned to his/her area, as well as access to numerous specialty units, designed to maximize proactive policing initiatives. Park and Walks, a 30 to 60 minute foot patrol, have been initiated in the areas to increase visibility and have proved successful in the various areas.

The Investigations Division is divided into two sections, Criminal Investigations and Street Crimes. One captain supervises both sections, and a major is assigned as the Division Commander.

The Support Services Division provides assistance, internally and externally, to ensure the smooth operation of numerous police services. A variety of work units represented in this division include: Court Liaison, Technical Operations Unit, Payroll, Property and Evidence Unit, Records Management Unit, Special Events/Off-Duty, Training Unit, and Community Affairs Unit.

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DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION CONT'D

The executive leadership team and command staff has worked strategically to examine the effectiveness of traditional approaches while evaluating new initiatives that best serve the City as a whole. This year, an area of focus included the expansion of communication methodologies to keep residents and employees informed. The Police Department continues the use of the Next-door social media application as one means of keeping smaller neighborhoods within the City engaged and informed on a variety of safety issues. The City currently has approximately 13,943 active Nextdoor users in 32 neighborhoods.

The Department also promotes a strong social media presence on a variety of platforms including Twitter (43K followers), Facebook (41K followers), and Instagram (41K followers). On average, the MBPD generates 42 posts monthly, which generally focus on positive police-community interactions or safety alerts.

During 2019, the Police Department partnered with the Miami Beach Marketing and Communications Department to form the new Miami Beach Police Department community outreach campaign. The overall quality of police services scored 72% in the 2019 community satisfaction survey. As such, one of the featured actions in the Neighborhood Section of the Strategic Plan includes creating and educational campaign to address public perception of crime and the Police Department. This campaign, in partnership with an increase in community events, aims to educate and inform our residents about MBPD services, updates on crime, as well as introduce the many men and women of the department to our community.

Every day the Police Department is tasked with balancing the needs of the residential population with an increasing number of visitors to the City. The new campaign, "You + Me = MBPD", a Partnership in Crime Prevention was created with the intention of reinforcing the importance of community policing and keeping our residents and visitors safe by working together. This campaign both reinforces our commitment to the community as well as encourages engagement and reporting without Police Department.

FISCAL ENVIRONMENT

The Police Department is funded primarily by General Fund dollars and represents a total of approximately one-third of the City's General Fund budget. The vast majority of the Department's costs are directly attributed to employee salaries and fringe benefits.

Other funding sources include monies received from county, state, and federal resources primarily in the form of grants or reimbursements for specific public safety initiatives and projects. In addition to receiving General Fund dollars, the Department generates revenues

FISCAL ENVIRONMENT CONT'D

for services rendered beyond the scope of basic public safety including: off-duty administrative fees, security alarm permit fees, records fees, traffic ticket surcharges, traffic fines, witness fees, cost recovery, and restitution.

The Department remains committed to fiscal responsibility, in part, by identifying non-General Fund monies that can be used to fund essential needs.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Main Vision Area:

Neighborhoods

Management Objectives:

- **Neighborhoods**
 - Prevent and solve crime for residents and visitors
 - Work with partners to address regional safety issues
- **Mobility**
 - Address homelessness
- **Organization Innovation**
 - Support all objectives to improve strategic decision making and financial stewardship, making the city more business friendly and user friendly, with an employee culture of problem solving and engagement



Strategic Plan Actions:

- **CREATE** an educational campaign to address public perception of crime and the Police Department
- **CONTINUE AND IMPROVE** the enhanced use of technology and crime data by the Police Department
- **INCREASE** community outreach by the Police Department, including collaboration with neighborhood watch programs, private security, and community groups

Budget Enhancement Actions:

- Additional Sworn Police Officer (2) Positions
- License Plate Reader (LPR) for MiamiBeach Re-Entry Plan
- Connecting Heroes Program
- Juneteenth Holiday

Resilient305 Actions:

- Time to **VOLUNTEER** or Get Involved
- **INCREASE** Community Resilience through CERT

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BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Based upon preliminary data prepared for the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) requirements, Miami Beach reported a 21.7% decrease in violent crime and a 26.9% decrease in property crimes between 2019 and 2020. The largest decreases were in rapes down by 32.6% and robberies down by 29.6%. After a steady six year reduction, the Department experienced a further reduction of 26.2% in the UCR's seven most serious crime categories. It is clear the COVID-19 pandemic has had a major effect on crime rates. However, it is difficult to firmly establish a direct causal relationship between COVID-19 restrictions and crime rates, but the statistics reveal some common themes.

As the business of policing becomes more and more complex, the Department continues to stress and provide annual training requirements. All sworn officers consistently receive 10 hours of in-house training each quarter, for a total of 40 hours per year. Training is an essential need and the foundation of development for all officers in the department. Training includes reinforcing techniques, completing required qualifications, legal updates, and continued education based on evidence based research. The Department continues to follow the training guidelines provided by Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and Commission on Accreditation For Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). All sworn officers consistently receive at least 10 hours of in-house live and/or online training each quarter, for a total of 40 hours per year. Content areas of focus during FY 2020 included a variety of topics: Officer rescue, first aid, communicating across cultures, de-escalation, understanding gender identification, officer safety and wellness, crisis intervention training, legal updates, and transitioning to a new firearm.

Consistent with professional best practices which emphasize transparency and accountability, community-based outreach was a priority this fiscal year. Members of the Department participated in national programs such as, "Coffee with a Cop," along with local initiatives which included community bike rides, parades, and the continuation of the Citizen's Police Academy.

A recent reorganization of the Department provides both a strategic structure and the deployment of resources that more comprehensively meet the unique needs of the Miami Beach community. This includes proactive and specialized units; for example, Ocean Drive Patrol Squads and Crime Suppression Teams that work on target-specific issues that ultimately impact quality of life issues city-wide. As part of the Department's newly created vision, the Community Affairs unit was created. This unit includes the Homeless Outreach Team, Neighborhood Resource Officers, School Resource Officers, and Park Rangers.

BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT CONT'D

Despite the Department's many positive changes internally, short and long-term success will only be achieved via intentional collaboration with other city, state, and regional partners. Locally, this has included the Fire Department, Homeless Outreach, Parking, Code Enforcement, Transportation, Information Technology, Marketing and Communications, Emergency Management, and others.

The Miami Beach Police Department also enjoys active partnerships with city, county, state, federal, and international law enforcement agencies. By making stakeholder engagement a priority, the Department continues to maximize information sharing and problem-solving on a micro and macro level.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Miami Beach Police Department is focused on building relationships both internally and externally to make the City of Miami Beach a safe place to live, work and visit. Accordingly, the following initiatives were implemented during the previous fiscal year.



Operations Accomplishments:

- Enhanced Spring Break operations. The Spring Break period for the City of Miami Beach began on February 15th 2021 and lasted through April 11th, 2021. The Miami Beach Police Department enhanced staffing to provide additional levels of police visibility and protection for visitors and residents. Some of the highlights were: 142 firearms seized, 1,420 arrests made citywide, 804 arrests (56.61%) occurred in the Art Deco Cultural District (ADCD), 11,073 traffic citations issued (993 via LPR enforcement)

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SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT'D

- Completed Operation ADCD Safe. Due to the increase of tourists and activity of crowds in the Art Deco Cultural District (ADCD), Operation ADCD Safe was aimed at addressing crime and the unsafe behavior and disregard of the COVID-19 Emergency Orders. The intent of the plan was to further enhance our abilities to address the challenges of the ADCD by providing additional proactive enforcement measures throughout the ADCD. The total number of arrests were 401 during the 8 week period from December 2, 2020 until January 24th, 2021
- Joined the Marine Taskforce. This local task force addresses a litany of maritime public safety concerns and focuses on the recent proliferation of illegal livery and charter operations. The Marine Patrol Unit has partnered with our Code Compliance Department, the United States Coast Guard, and many other state and local law enforcement agencies to both proactively and reactively enforce violations within our jurisdictional waters
- Completed a COVID-19 Mask Distribution Detail and Enforcement. A total of 21,940 masks were distributed from the time this detail began on November 27, 2020 until the detail ended on February 11, 2021. In addition, we issued approximately 1,100 civil citations for failing to wear a mask from July 28, 2020 until October 13, 2020 during the strict enforcement period
- Continued the Tactical Response to Area Concern (TRAC) program to enhance the Department's community policing philosophy with the goals to reduce crime and to create a safer city
- Continued assigning Park & Walk details which have been consistently able to identify areas needing special attention resulting in a continued reduction in crime. 1,325 were conducted in Area 4, 3,989 were conducted in Area 1, 1,405 were conducted in Area 2, and 1,010 were conducted in Area 3
- Continued the MacArthur Causeway traffic detail which has resulted in 1,061 Uniformed Traffic Citations since the inception of the detail in 2020. There have also been 1 felony and 10 misdemeanor arrests, and 20 Uniformed Citations issued for speeds greater than 50 mph over the posted speed limit (45 MPH)
- Completed 10 Quality of Life Homeless Outreach Missions and assisted 160 people with services ranging from shelter placement, ID assistance, relocation, referrals, and other services

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONT'D

Investigation Division:

- Identified 2 detectives to be specially trained in the investigation of sexual batteries and are currently serving in that capacity
- Rebranded the Burglary Apprehension Team as the Burglary/Auto Theft Unit and it continues to be effective with their expanded responsibilities
- Expanded the Victim's Advocates unit with the addition of a Therapy K-9 (Marle) to be utilized for the therapeutic benefit of victims/witnesses and employees
- Made 50 narcotics arrests and seized large quantities of various narcotics including: 9,374 grams of marijuana, 71.3 grams of cocaine, 97.5 grams of MDMA, and 120 grams of methamphetamine (Strategic Investigations Section)
- Obtained a Miami Beach Human Trafficking unit and also assigned a Sergeant to the State Attorneys Human Trafficking Task Force as a force multiplier
- Made 7 human trafficking arrests, rescued 5 juvenile victims and 3 adults. We are increasing the staffing on the Human Trafficking (HT) Unit by 1 Detective

Support Services Division

- Expanded hiring protocols to include prior military and sponsorship of non-certified, college-educated candidates in the police academy
- Developed the Community Affairs unit. The Community Affairs Unit (CAU) was established to assist with the interaction between the citizens of the community and members of the Police Department. We try to establish a partnership with our citizens and businesses through the various programs we offer and we help to identify and target the problems within the communities. We can accomplish this through a variety of events and presentations held year round in the City
- Established Peer Support Teams. Peer Support Teams occupy a support niche that cannot be readily filled by either health plan counseling provisions or an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This is because well-trained and highly functioning Peer Support Teams provide support that is qualitatively different than that provided by health insurance therapists or EAP counselors