



CITY OF DUNKIRK POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE REFORM

AND REINVENTION

COLLABORATIVE

Police Chief David Ortolano
Mayor Wilfred Rosas

OCTOBER 2020

INTRODUCTION

On June 12th, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo signed Executive Order #203 which charged that, “each local government must convene stakeholders for a fact-based and honest dialogue about the public safety needs of their community. Each community must envision itself the appropriate role of the police.” The focus is for each community in an effort to eliminate racial inequities in policing, modify and modernize policing strategies, policies, procedures, and practices and to develop better practices to better address the particular needs of communities of color, to promote public safety, improve community engagement, and to foster trust.

In response of the Governor’s Order, the Dunkirk Police Department immediately began a comprehensive review of all aspects of the Police Department. Additionally, DPD has been forming a group of stakeholders to create that honest dialogue.



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STAKEHOLDERS

Elected Officials

Mayor Wilfred Rosas
Paul VanDenVouver, Councilman at Large
Donald Williams Jr., First Ward Councilman
Marty Bamonto, Second Ward Councilman
James Stoye, Third Ward Councilman/Public Safety Chair
Nancy Nichols, Fourth Ward Councilwoman

Faith Based

Rev. Carlos Llera
Rev. Early Waller
Deacon Sean Harper

Business/Community

Lori Mets, Community Policing Coordinator
Arlene Langendorfer- Community Policing Coordinator
David Damico, City School Board President
Kurt Maytum, DFT Communications
Sixto Rosario, Community Youth Organizer
Mike Dougherty, Shults Resale
Dan Reininga, Lakeshore Saving Bank
Ruby Green, Community Policing Coordinator
Dave Rowley, WDOE
Loretta Torain, Upward Bound Program



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DPD Police Reform Initiatives

Anything in red indicates that the Dunkirk Police Department has implemented this component as part of our Police Reform Plan



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PROCEDURAL JUSTICE PILLARS

“President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing.”
(May 2015)

Pillar One: Building Trust and Legitimacy

Pillar Two: Policy and Oversight

Pillar Three: Technology and Social Media

Pillar Four: Community Policing and Crime Reduction

Pillar Five: Training & Education

Pillar Six: Officer Wellness and Safety



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PROCEDURAL JUSTICE PRINCIPLES

“President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing.”

(May 2015)

Principle One: Treating Individuals with Dignity and Respect

Principle Two: Giving Individuals a Voice During Law Enforcement Interactions

Principle Three: Being Neutral and Transparent in Decision Making

Principle Four: Conveying Trustworthy Motives



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DEPLOYMENT



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AGENCY SIZE

The head of department is the Chief of Police. The department operates 24/7/365 and consists of 37 sworn officers and three civilian 911 dispatchers. The department consists of three divisions Patrol, Detective, and Court each with specific roles and responsibilities. The Patrol Division, which is the largest division, consists of three platoons. The direct leadership for this division is provided by the Department's Captain and each platoon is made up of a Lieutenant, Sergeant, Desk Sergeant and six Patrolmen in 8-hour shifts. The Detective Division is led by a Lieutenant and consists of four detectives. Currently, two of the Detectives are assigned to the Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force. The final division is the Court Division. This group is comprised of two full time officers, which are charged with providing court security both inside and outside of the courtroom, protecting the judges, court staff and the general public.

Additionally, the Dunkirk Police Department partners with the Dunkirk Public School District to provide a secure educational environment. A School Resource Officer assigned to the public-school system and primarily works out of the Dunkirk Senior High School; however, they are available to respond as needed within the school system.

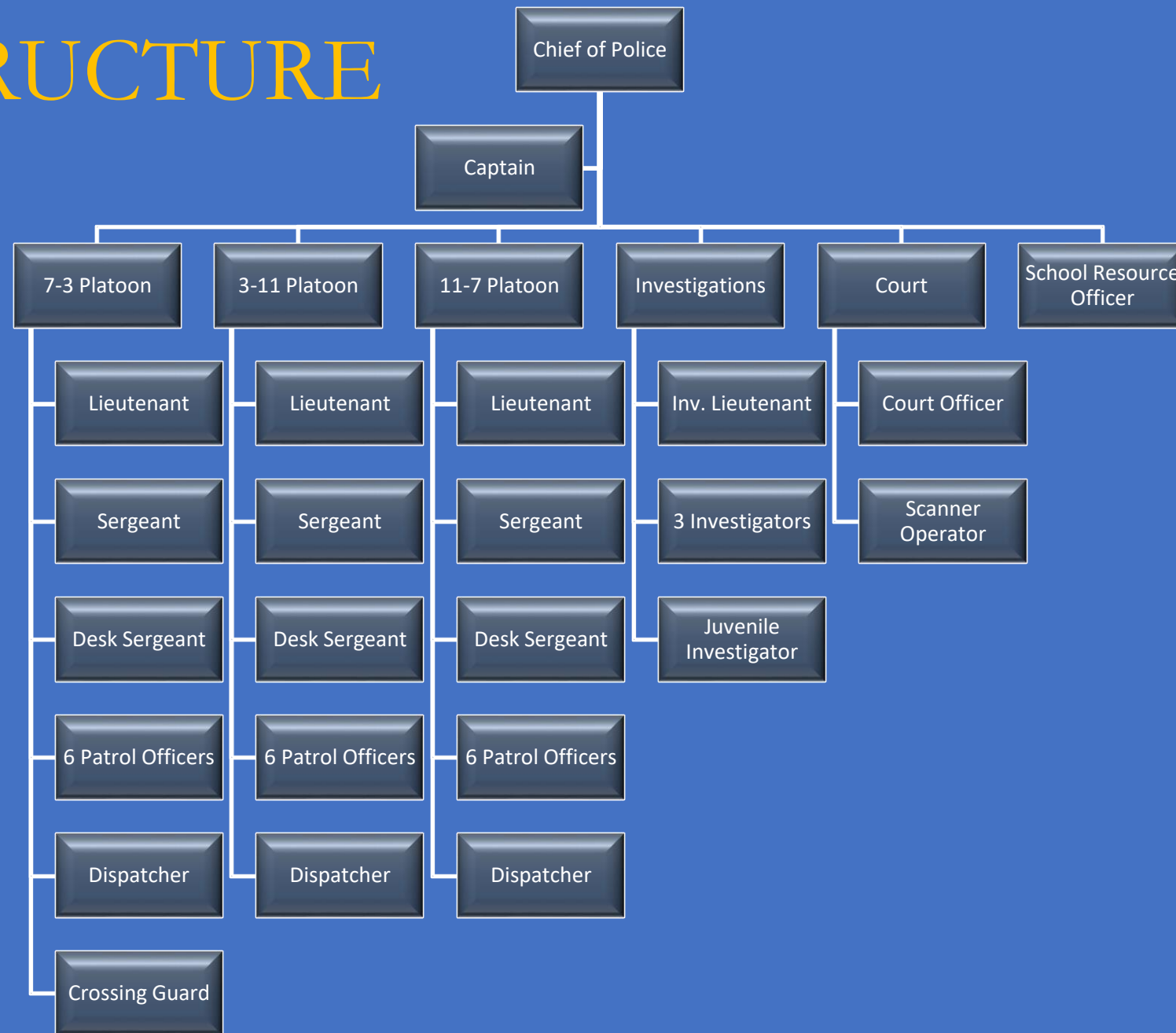
In addition to sworn Police Officers, DPD currently staff's civilians for some job functions that involve interactions with citizens that do not call for an arrest or potential use of force. We staff a civilian Secretary to the Chief and three civilian dispatchers.



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RANK STRUCTURE



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AGENCY DEMOGRAPHICS

37 Total Sworn Police Officers including the Chief

1 White/Police Chief

36 Officers

31 White/Officers

2 White/Female Officers

1 Black/Male Officer

6 Hispanic/Male Officers

32 Male Officers

9 White Command Staff Officers including Chief

10 Unsworn Citizens

1 White Female Assistant to the Chief Department Secretary and Clerk

A contingent of citizens are employed as matrons and crossings

8 Female matrons (1 Hispanic)

7 Females/3 males (3 Hispanic/Females)



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COMMUNITY VS. AGENCY

Demographics		
	DPD Officers	Community*
White	81%	88.7%
Black or African American	.03%	4.6%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	.6%
Asian	0%	.4%
Hispanic or Latino	16.2%	30.7%

*Source City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan



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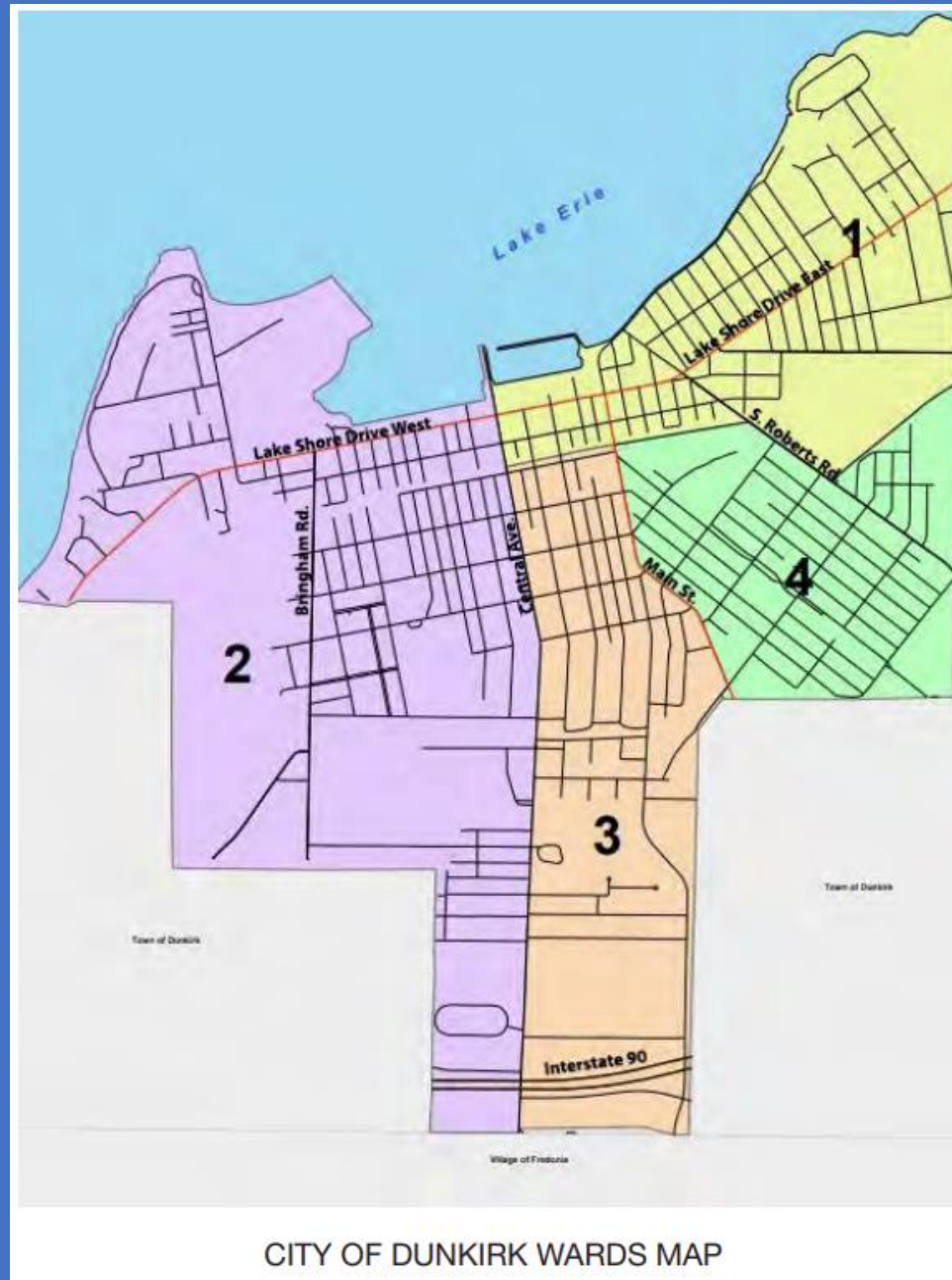
DETERMINING THE ROLE OF POLICE



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CITY OF DUNKIRK

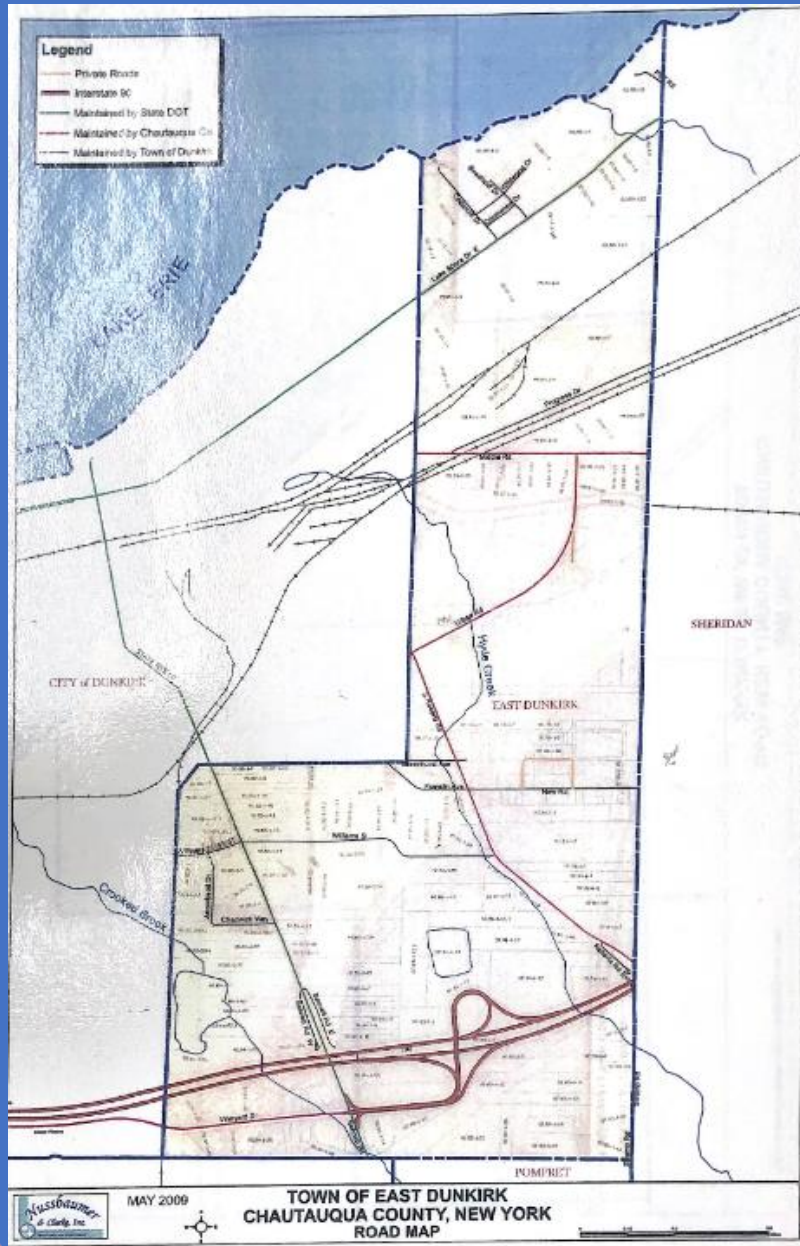


4.55 sq. miles



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TOWN OF DUNKIRK



6.28 sq. miles



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MAIN POLICE INTERACTIONS

- 911
- Alarms
- ABC violations
- Accidents
- Animal Complaints
- Area checks
- Assist Citizens
- Assaults
- Attempt to locate
- Bad Checks
- Business Checks
- Check Well Being
- Civil
- Court
- CPS
- Criminal Mischief
- Custody Dispute
- Death
- Despondent
- Disorderly Persons
- DNA Swabs
- Domestic Disputes
- DWI
- Escorts
- Fights
- Fingerprints
- Fire Investigations
- Fireworks
- FOIL
- Found Property
- Fraud
- Gunshot complaints
- Handicap tags
- Harassment
- House Checks
- Illegal Dumping
- Jail Incidents
- K-9
- Larceny
- Lines down
- Lost Child
- Lost plates
- Missing person
- Narcotics
- Navigation complaints
- Neighbor Disputes
- Noise Complaints
- Open Doors
- Overdoses
- Parking, Meters
- Peace Officers
- Prisoner transports
- Property Checks
- Robbery
- Subpoenas
- Sex Offenders
- Special Team call outs
- Suicides
- Suspicious Situations/People
- Town Patrol
- Traffic
- Train Complaints
- Unwanted Persons
- Vehicle Lockouts
- Warrants
- Youths Annoying



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ANNUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY

Active from December 3, 2020 – December 17, 2020

- Facebook
- Nextdoor
- Email
 - United Way
 - Hope Chautauqua
 - Mayor's Office
 - All faith-based organizations
 - LGBTQIA+ (SUNY)

228 responses were received



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COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Protect and Serve |
| 2. | Maintain order and have a positive impact in the community |
| 3. | Make sure the law is followed to the best of the officers' ability |
| 4. | Maintain respect |
| 5. | Civility and common courtesy while enforcing laws with offenders |



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COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

1.	Investigating Crimes Against Individuals	199	88.4%
2.	Narcotics Investigations	142	63.1%
3.	Hot Spot or Targeted Patrols of High Crime Areas	134	59.6%
4.	Investigating Property Crimes	131	58.2%
5.	Vehicle & Traffic Enforcement	92	40.9%



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2020 CITY STATISTICS

Adult Arrests

Male: 713

Female: 251

911 Calls: 1287

Domestic Violence: 283

Traffic Tickets Issued: 1319

Charges

Felony: 112

Misdemeanor: 549

Violations: 141

Infractions: 1081

Assist Dunkirk Fire: 189

Bench Warrants: 113

Total Calls: 25,657

Prisoners Incarcerated

Male: 202

Female: 26



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2020 TOWN STATISTICS

Alarms: 5

Area Checks: 2833

Agency Police Assist: 20

Assist Fire: 3

Open Doors: 4

Suspicious Person/Vehicle: 13

Vehicle Misc. Complaint: 7

Vehicle Lockout: 3



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SPECIAL DETAILS & RESOURCES

- Arson Investigator
- Bicycle patrol
- Burglary Prevention
- Computer Technician
- Evidence Officer
- Field Training Officer
- Firearms/Range Officers
- Forensic Investigation Officers (FIT)
- Hostage Negotiator
- Identification Officer
- Juvenile Investigator
- K-9
- Training Officer
- Narcotics Investigator
- Prescription take-back
- Parole
- Probation
- School Resource Officer (SRO)
- Social Media
- Southern Tier Regional Drug Task Force (STRDTF)
- Special Response Team (SRT)
- Stonegarden
- Underwater Search and Rescue
- 2 UTV's



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COMMUNITY BASED OUTREACH



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According the NYS Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative guidebook, “the concept of community policing provides another set of organizing principles for establishing a successful policing model. The premise of community policing is that community participation and assistance are crucial for maintaining public safety and building a police force, responsive to the public. It focuses on strong relationships and collaboration between police and the communities they serve; the application of modern management practices and organizational structures to create a culture of community partnership; transparency and accountability to communities and democratic government; and decentralized, proactive, community-based solutions to community public safety priorities.”

The Dunkirk Police Department has a long history of engaging the public through community policing. In fact, the current Police Chief David Ortolano, started National Night Out over 25 years ago. It is the longest running program in our area! Under Chief Ortolano’s leadership, the police department has implemented several community policing programs. Police Chief David Ortolano received commendations from the Chamber of Commerce, City of Dunkirk, Chautauqua County, the State Senate, State Assembly, and Governor Andrew Cuomo.



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Community Policing Outreach

- Breakfast With a Police Officer
- Business Registry
- Crime Prevention Instruction
- Dog Walker Watch
- DPD Reader Day
- House Watch
- E-Notify
- Job Fairs
- Homeless Outreach
- K-9 Demonstrations
- National Night Out
- Neighborhood Watch
- Ride-Alongs
- Meals on Wheels
- Mock DWI
- Santa for Seniors
- Youth Fingerprinting



Expand program to enhance
recruiting

In Planning Stages



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Community Policing Outreach

- Council Meetings
- Neighborhood “Town Hall” Meetings
- Public Safety Committee
- Stakeholders
- City Departments
- Faith-based Organizations
- SRO
- Annual Survey
- Attention to Marginalized Communities
- WDOE Monthly Engagements



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Community Engagement

Platform	Followers
Twitter	539
Facebook	6683
YouTube	4
Instagram- Dept.	185
Instagram- k9_gunny	1112
Nextdoor	1127



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USE OF FORCE



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Use of Force Policy

Chokeholds

Completed and Trained

Duty to Intervene

Completed and Trained

De-Escalation



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DE-ESCALATION

Taking action or communicating verbally or non-verbally during a potential force encounter in an attempt to stabilize the situation and reduce the immediacy of the threat so that more time, options, and resources can be called upon to resolve the situation without the use of force or with a reduction in force necessary. De-escalation may include the use of such techniques as command presence, advisements, warnings, verbal persuasion, and tactical repositioning or pausing.

An officer shall use de-escalation techniques and other alternatives to higher levels of force consistent with training whenever possible and appropriate before resorting to force and to reduce the need for force.



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Anti & Implicit Bias

Add Annual
In-Service
Training

Completed and Trained



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Hate Crimes Investigations

Add Policy

Pending In-Service Training

Monthly
Reports to
State



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TRACKING

- Supervisor responds to the scene to begin the preliminary force investigation
- Appropriate documentation
- Completion of a use of force report by all officers engaging in reportable use of force
- Determine if consistent with agency standards
- The Detective Lieutenant (Internal Affairs) will review all use of force incidents
- Debriefing
- Ascertain if there is the need for discipline, training, or policy changes.



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Transparency

Openness

Strategic

Purposeful

Communication

Clarity



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ADDRESSING MISCONDUCT

- Less than ten complaints per year (Rudeness and misunderstanding procedure)
- Held to higher standard on and off duty
- Duty to Intervene
- Clear complaint reporting policy



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TRANSPARENCY

- Arrest Book submitted to Local Newspaper
- Freedom of Information Law (FOIL)
- Body Worn Cameras (BWC)
- When requested, officers are required to identify themselves by

Name and Badge Number



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ASSISTED DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Diversion



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DIVERSION PROGRAMS

- Mental Health
- Drug/Opiate Court
- Social Services
- Probation
- Mobile Crisis
- Medical Evaluation
- CPS
- Adult Protection
- Substance Abuse
- SRO



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CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (CPTED)



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CPTED

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) theories contend that law enforcement officers, architects, city planners, landscape and interior designers, and resident volunteers can create a climate of safety in a community right from the start.

CPTED's goal is to prevent crime by designing a physical environment that positively influences human behavior. The theory is based on four principles: natural access control, natural surveillance, territoriality, and maintenance.

* Source www.ncpc.org



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CPTED

Vacant and abandoned buildings are a public safety concern as they are known to result in increased crime rates and probability of structure fires. During the planning of the City of Dunkirk's Comprehensive Plan, a review of the City's transportation network was conducted based on available information, reports and site visits. Elements included, but were not limited to traffic volumes, congestion, intersections of concern, bicycle travel, truck routes, public transportation, rail, lighting, and pedestrian safety concerns. According to the Development Department, they do stress the need to decrease vacant and abandoned buildings as a way to reduce areas of crime and public safety concerns. Most public improvement projects take CPTED into account when designing for the built environment. The City of Dunkirk is involved in several projects that would address these concerns and continue to secure additional projects.



*Source City of Dunkirk Comprehensive Plan

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POLICIES



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POLICIES

- Model Policies Promulgated by the Municipal Police Training Council
- The NYS Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Standards



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TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION



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TRAINING SUPERVISORS

- Departmental training supervised by two **Certified** Instructors from the **Command Staff**
- Field training supervised by a **Certified** Field Training Officer from the **Command Staff**
- Firearms/Range Training supervised by a **Certified** Instructor from the **Command Staff**
- Special Response Team (SRT) supervised by a **Certified** Instructor from the **Command Staff**



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SUPERVISOR TRAINING

- Communication
- Ethics
- Interviewer
- Evaluator
- Trainer
- Counselor
- Disciplinarian
- Work related complaints
- Problem solver
- Writer
- Reviewer
- Policy reviewer
- Legal updates
- Mental health
- Performance evaluations
- Constitutional law
- Civil rights
- Civil liability
- Use of force
- Critical incident management
- Community relations
- Leadership & influence
- Community relations
- Employee assistance program
- Employee management stress management
- Post traumatic incident procedure
- Domestic violence
- Hate crimes
- Child protective services
- Search techniques



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DEPARTMENTAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

- Anti/Implicit Bias
- De-Escalation
- SRT
- Communicable Diseases
- Sexual Harassment
- Constitutional Law Updates
- Veterans w/ PTSD
- Firearms
- Body Cameras
- Coronavirus and Safety
- Hate Crimes Investigations
- Active Shooter
- ARIDE
- Taser
- Use of Force
- Narcan
- Bail Reform/Discovery
- Interview and Interrogation
- Tourniquet
- Communication Strategies for Autism Spectrum Disorder with a Focus on Asperger's Syndrome

This list is not all-inclusive and new training is reviewed and updated on a regular basis. DPD adapts to the needs of the community.



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OFFICER WELLNESS



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OFFICER WELL-BEING

According to the NYS Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative guidebook, “Studies show that people working in law enforcement are at an elevated risk of physical and mental health issues when compared to the general population.”

- Employee Assistance Programs (EAP)
- Debriefing
- Supervisorial interventions to evaluate physical and emotional stress.
- Mandated crisis counseling after tragic incidents.
- Consider any other programs that promote officer wellness and well-being.



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