# **Reducing Crime**

# **Key Indicators**

Q2 CRIME METRICS	TREND	2010	2011
Reported Violent Crimes	▼-1%	1,681	1,661
Reported Property Crimes	▼-12%	17,223	15,216
Total Major Crimes	▼-11%	18,094	16,877

## **Major Initiatives**

#### **Hot spot emphases**

SPD Precincts have been focusing on property crimes through weekly mapping of crime incidents, analyses of modus operandi and "place-related" factors and concentration on known and prolific offenders. These strategies are yielding results as evidenced by a 22% reduction in car prowls at midyear compared with one year ago as well as a 16% decline in vehicle thefts. Residential burglaries are about even at midyear with the same time period in 2010, but posted the lowest June figure in eight years.

Nuisance properties are mini-hot spots serving as magnets for criminal activity and vexing for the quality of life in neighborhoods. SPD Precincts leverage their resources as well as the resources of other law enforcement partners to address these locations. Examples of some recent successes involved service of a Federal search warrant and subsequent arrest by Gang Task Force members of a suspect in Southwest Precinct and warrant arrests by Neighborhood Corrections Initiative (NCI) team officers at several locations in East Precinct. In the North end, effective use of the City's public nuisance ordinance has resulted in the closure of several problem motels, one of which may be purchased and rehabilitated for low income housing.

Safe Streets emphasis patrols are being deployed on Friday and Saturday nights in the downtown area to address fighting and other disturbances and to promote safe and vibrant nightlife in city sports and entertainment venues. Early indications are that this strategy is having a positive impact. In June 911

events (dispatches and onviews) are down 8% in Belltown and are about even in the Pioneer Square area, compared to June 2010.

#### **Repeat Burglar Initiative (RBI)**

This effort is in partnership with the King County Prosecutor's Office. It involves building and charging multiple-incident cases against active, career burglars and has yielded some significant sentences in the past few months. Some recent convictions include the following: one prolific West Precinct burglar was sentenced to 63 months on nine burglary counts; another individual, active in West and Southwest Precincts and Burien, received a 68 month sentence on nine counts of burglary and attempted burglary; another person, who had been among Washington's Most Wanted, was implicated in ten burglaries through investigation by North Precinct theft detectives and is facing 63-84 months in prison; and two brothers face a similar sentencing range for a string of burglaries and car prowls in the downtown area.

A string of burglaries on Capitol Hill in late 2010 and early 2011 eventually involved 25 buildings and storage areas. East Precinct detectives worked the case intensively resulting in guilty pleas for those involved. The sentencing range for one defendant is 63-84 months on eight charges, 43-57 months for another on four charges and 33 months on two charges for a third suspect.

# **Reducing Crime - Continued**

## **Major Initiatives**

### **Going High-Tech in Field Contacts**

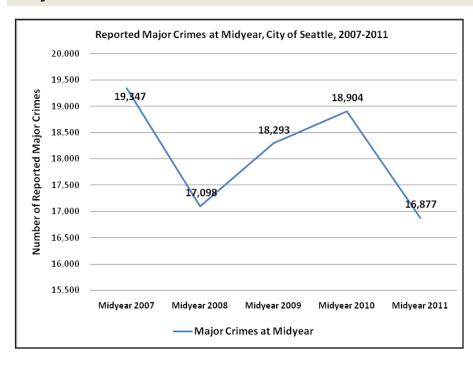
Use of a new mobile application by SPD officers and detectives was recently profiled in Governing magazine. The application, LexisNexis Accurint Mobile, permits access to public records and information through tablet devices and smartphones. Officers can run records checks, check employment and residence history, hazard information and news articles while in the field. Such information was previously available only at a fixed workstation. The application provides greater efficiency in the conduct of investigations while keeping officers safer.

## **Major Case Investigations**

One approach to addressing property crimes is to intervene in the marketplace for stolen property. Some recently concluded investigations took this approach resulting in arrests of key operators of five outlets serving as a ready market for the proceeds of thefts. Much of the merchandise moving through these outlets had been "boosted" or shoplifted from local retailers and the proceeds totaled more than six figures. In conducting these investigations, SPD investigators worked with loss prevention officers from local businesses, the Federal Way Police Department, the Washington State Liquor Control Board and the King County Prosecutor's Office.

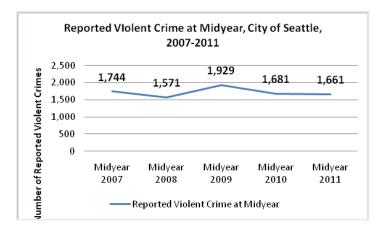
# **Reducing Crime - DATA TABLES**

## **Major Crimes**



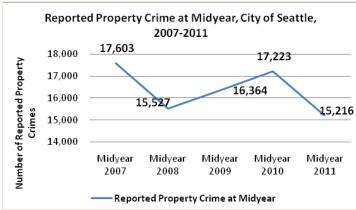
- Major Crimes include the four crimes that comprise the Violent Crimes category and the three crimes that make up the Property Crimes category.
- For the first half of 2011, Major Crimes are at the lowest level they have been in the last five years.

## **Violent Crimes**



- The Violent Crimes category includes homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assaults.
- Among Violent Crimes, only aggravated assaults are showing an increase at midyear, when compared with the same time period in 2010.
- The tally for Violent Crimes at midyear in 2011 is the second lowest in five years.

# **Property Crimes**



- The Property Crimes category includes burglary, larceny/ theft and vehicle theft.
- Among Property Crimes, both larceny/thefts and vehicle thefts are down by double-digits at midyear in 2011, when compared with the same time period in 2010.
  Burglary is up 4% compared with one year ago.
- Seattle has recorded the fewest Property Crimes by midyear in 2011 in the last five years.

# **Employee Performance, Misconduct & Discipline**

# **Key Indicators**

Q2 EMPLOYEE METRICS	TREND	Q2 2010	Q2 2011
Public Contacts	▼-9%	119,400	108,300
Commendations Received	▲ more than 4X	26	118
Complaints Received	<b>▲</b> +2%	56	57
Standards and Duties Allegations	▼	66	55
Use of Force Allegations	▼	40	23
Other Allegations	<b>A</b>	36	60

# **Major Initiatives**

#### **Results of 9-1-1 Caller Surveys**

SPD solicits feedback from callers to the 9-1-1 system who have had an officer dispatched to assist them. The callers are contacted by phone within two weeks of their calls to 9-1-1. They are asked to evaluate the service they received overall as well as the assistance provided by the 9-1-1 operator and the officer who responded to the call. In addition, callers are asked for their views on the responsiveness and quality of service provided by the Department overall and by officers in general in their neighborhood. Respondents to the survey are also queried about their feelings of safety in their neighborhoods, how those feelings were affected by the incident that generated their calls to 9-1-1 and how they felt after receiving SPD services.

The Department does approximately three surveys per year, spread throughout the year. To date, fourteen surveys have been conducted, beginning in June 2006 and occurring most recently in March 2011. Ratings in the most recent survey were above the average across all fourteen surveys on items that have been asked each time. In addition, the ratings received in the most recent survey were at or near the highest ratings ever on eight of the ten items asked on every survey. Officers who respond to calls get especially high marks for their courtesy and professionalism, rating 4.49 on a 5-point scale where "5" is high, across all fourteen surveys and a 4.60 in the most

recent survey; and for providing people with the information they need, an average rating of 4.20 on a 5-point scale, across all surveys, and of 4.31 in March 2011.

More detail on these surveys and the results obtained can be found on the SPD website at:

www.seattle.gov/police/publications

# **Employee Performance Components in Sergeants' School**

The first-line supervisor's role in mentoring and ensuring quality performance by officers is a central part of the new Sergeants School (discussed further at page 5). Featured components include one on use of force reporting and supervisory review responsibilities and one on the OPA complaint-handling process, use of supervisory referrals and discipline management.

# **Leadership and Training**

# **Key Indicators**

Q2 TRAINING METRICS	Q2 2010	Q2 2011
Street Skills	538 officers	523 officers
New Sergeants School	N/A	22 sergeants
Other Training Offerings	473 officers	254 officers

## **Major Initiatives**

#### **New Sergeants School**

The SPD Training Section has revamped the annual training program for sworn, first-line supervisors, Sergeants School, for 2011. The new program includes components on first responder responsibilities and requirements at domestic violence crime scenes, supervisory responsibilities for review and reporting on uses of force, the supervisory role in justice-based policing and the Office of Professional Accountability process and the supervisory role in discipline management. Members of SPD Command Staff are attending each session of the 2011 Sergeants School to underscore the importance of each component and to address questions from supervisors. All SPD sergeants and the top twenty officers on the Sergeants Promotion list will attend the program during 2011.

## **Use of Force Training**

As noted in a recent transmittal to Council, the Department has been reviewing its use of force training over the last several years. To address differences between the state Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) training on force use and SPD policy and expectations, a forty-eight hour block on use of force was added to the post-BLEA period at SPD before new hires begin their Field Training. SPD use of force training rests on four key tenets that involve effective decision-making. These involve uses of force that are tactically sound, timely, feasible and legally permitted. The curriculum of the annual in-service training for officers, Street Skills, has also been modified to emphasize the skills and decision-making tenets that lead to appropriate and effective uses of force. Officers who choose are provided extra training sessions to practice their skills. The 2011 training cycle in Street Skills has emphasized approaches to minimize the need for force use, including de-escalation of incidents

and the concept of "contact/cover," which involves team tactics in potential use of force situations as a way of changing the dynamics of an incident and increasing officer options. Also in 2011, at firearms qualifications, officers are being put through the shoot/don't shoot decision-making scenarios.

### **Leadership Development**

As of the end of the second quarter, about 200 SPD employees, including most commanders and civilian equivalents, have completed the RSJI "Race – the Power of an Illusion" training and fourteen employees are trained on use of the Racial Equity Tool Kit. Financial pressures have limited the Department's capacity to access external programs previously relied on for leadership development. This year, for example, SPD has only been able to send one employee, OPA Director Kathryn Olson, to the Senior Management Institute for Police at Harvard University.

## **SPD Selected for Public Engagement Project**

SPD has been selected as a project site for a major Department of Defense study of public engagement by civilian law enforcement agencies. Bringing together experts from many fields and disciplines, the study aims to develop state-of-the-art training materials and techniques that result in effective public engagement and cooperation between communities and those responsible for public order and safety. As a project site, SPD will have the opportunity to field test training materials and to expose employees to the latest tools and techniques for public engagement.

# **Building Public Confidence**

# **Key Indicators**

2011 OUTREACH ACTIVITIES	2011 Q2 RESULTS	
Community Police Academy	47 Graduates of Academy #31	
Living Room Conversations	1 at Lake Washington Apartments - 35 attending	
Community Outreach Mtgs & Events	Estimated 500 mtgs & events attended per quarter	

## **Major Initiatives**

### **Building Community Relationships**

A "Perspectives in Profiling" training event was held at the Filipino Community Center. The presentation was a joint effort by the OPA, SPD Training and Community Outreach and was well-received by the 50-60 community members who attended.

SPD held the first in a series of meetings with the Minority Executive Directors Coalition Multiracial Task Force on Police Accountability. These meetings are designed to foster communication and to discuss policy and procedure recommendations from the group.

SPD participated in a follow-up Restorative Circle with the Williams Family at the Chief Seattle Club to build on relationships begun last fall. Working with the SPD Native American Advisory Council, police officers are being connected with the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation's Head Start program as a way of forging relationships among community members and officers.

Outreach efforts were made with the Muslim-Sikh-Arab and East African Community Councils and other stakeholders after the arrest of two suspects for planning terrorist activities in the city.

### **Neighborhood ViewPoint (NVP)**

The pilot phases of the NVP project were completed in this quarter. During the pilot phases, residents in nine beats in four precincts were surveyed as well as neighborhood businesses in nine business districts across all five precincts were contacted. Preliminary results have been compiled for these surveys and through systematic debriefing of officers conducting surveys, some revisions to survey instruments and protocols have been made. A final report on the pilot phases of the project is near completion. At the present time, three precincts are moving ahead using the revised NVP materials with a focus on neighborhood business districts. Once summer vacation time is over and residents' schedules return to normal, residential surveys will resume.

### **Community Police Academy**

Community Police Academy #31 was completed this quarter, graduating 47 community members, one of the largest groups ever attending the program. The ten-week Academy program covers all aspects of SPD operations and gives attendees the opportunity to interact with and ask questions of police officers from across the Department from SWAT to crime scene specialists to use of force trainers to K9 handlers. As popular as this program is, not all community members can commit to a ten-week course. For this reason, SPD has developed a one-day Academy that has been offered once so far and will be offered three more times in 2011.

# **Building Public Confidence - Continued**

# **Major Initiatives**

## **Programs with and for Youth**

The SPD Community Outreach section continues to provide the popular "donut dialogues/role reversal" events that are very engaging for youth who enjoy "trading places" with a police officer. Two such events this quarter involved Consejo at Chief Sealth High School and youth participating in the SPD Summer Youth Employment Program. Community Outreach also assisted Parks with the Teen Maze held at Seattle Center and attracting about 300 youth. The SPD program focus was on dating violence, consequences of committing crimes and how arrests are processed. An "Understanding Your Rights" class for Pryecto Saber, a program at Ballard High School, received local media coverage and was well-received by youth attending. In partnership with Seattle Public Schools and the Clear Sky Youth Council, SPD coordinated the Native American Youth Conference that focused on tutoring programs and basketball. About 100 youth attended.