

	MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE POLICY AND PROCEDURES	
	Subject CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS	Policy Number EI-5
		Effective Date 11-01-23
Related Information GJ-24, <i>Community Relations and Youth Programs</i>	Supersedes EI-5 (04-20-18)	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Office Policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for the development and use of crime prevention programs throughout the Office, to enhance safety in the community.

POLICY

It is the Policy of the Office that the Community Outreach Unit of the Enforcement Support Division is responsible for administering, planning, and coordinating the Office's crime prevention programs. Crime prevention activities are conducted by the Community Outreach Unit with support from all employee classifications.

DEFINITIONS

None

PROCEDURES

1. **Office Crime Prevention Programs:** Office Crime Prevention Programs include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - A. **Child Fingerprint Identification:** A program that provides fingerprint packets which contain everything needed to fingerprint a child and/or provide fingerprint services at various events throughout Maricopa County.
 - B. **Fraud and Identification Theft:** A program designed to make participants aware of fraudulent schemes and identity theft protection to help prevent them from becoming a victim.
 - C. **Neighborhood Watch:** A crime prevention program designed to provide information to residents to assist in reducing criminal activity within their neighborhoods by teaching them the importance of being observant, aware, and involved in the community.
 - D. **Operation Notification:** A program in which participating businesses are issued a code number which is visibly displayed on the front of the business allowing deputies to obtain the contact information of the responsible person from the Communications Division when the business is closed.
 - E. **Public Observer Program:** A program that allows members of the public to accompany a deputy on duty. The Public Observer program is intended to strengthen the relationship between the Office and the community.

- F. Sheriff's Cadet Program: A program designed to teach the concepts and general principles of law enforcement procedures to youths ranging between the ages of 14 and 20.
 - G. Take F.L.I.G.H.T (Freedom, Lessons, Interventions, Goals for Higher Thinking): A community-based intervention and diversion program focusing on youth (ages 12-24) and family dynamics to increase pro-social thinking and actions in the community. This program is designed to help youth understand the consequences of their choices and gives them a true reality of life as an alternative to jail.
 - H. Vacation Watch: A program that allows members of the public to contact the Office while their residence is going to be vacant. A Vacation Watch Card is completed and forwarded to the proper patrol district who then ensure routine patrol checks for security of the home utilizing posse members and/or reserve deputies along with district deputies.
 - I. Watch Your Car (WYC) Program: A statewide, voluntary, public service program offered for Arizona registered vehicles at no cost through the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority (AATA), a division within the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institution. The program is designed as a vehicle theft deterrent and a means to determine legal ownership of a stolen vehicle when recovered by law enforcement officials. Public information, program details, and requirements about the Watch Your Car (WYC) Program can be found on the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority (AATA) website at <https://aata.az.gov/programs/watch-your-car>.
2. **Current Crime Trends Release:** When necessary, information on current crime trends may be released in conjunction with a crime prevention program.
3. **Development of Crime Prevention Programs:** The Community Outreach Unit of the Enforcement Support Division shall function as coordinators/liaisons between the community and the Office to incorporate the interests of the business community, local public member organizations, and local civic associations, in the development of crime prevention programs and the subsequent rollout of those programs. The Community Outreach Unit of the Enforcement Support Division shall ensure the public has direct access through the Community Outreach Unit of the Enforcement Support Division for communication and questions regarding the Office. The hours and contact information shall be made available to the public on the Office Website www.mcso.org under the Community Outreach page.