

Texas Regional Community Policing Institute



1998 Annual Report



COPS ★

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



The Annual Report is a publication of
the Texas Regional Community Policing Institute (TRCPI).
This report is an accumulation of information from the fiscal year
beginning
October 1, 1997 and ending September 30, 1998.

Director, Randy Garner, Ph.D.

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Policing Institute

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TRCPI provides training and technical assistance for law enforcement professionals and community partners.

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About the Institute

How did TRCPI get started?

The Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) was created through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. This Act, which was the largest crime bill in the history of the US, authorized COPS to put 100,000 police officers on the street for community policing programs and authorized \$8.8 billion to be spent on these services. The aim of the COPS Office is to advance community policing in jurisdictions of all sizes across the United States. To do so, COPS provides grants to state and local law enforcement agencies to hire and train community policing professionals, acquire and deploy cutting-edge crime-fighting technologies, and develop and implement innovative policing strategies.

Last year, COPS funded the creation of the only national training network of Regional Community Policing Institutes (RCPIs) to provide comprehensive and innovative community policing education, training and technical assistance to law enforcement agencies throughout the nation. The RCPIs create innovative curricula on law enforcement issues to enhance traditional training material. Collaborative partnerships and problem-solving strategies are essential components of training for criminal justice practitioners, local government officials, and business and community leaders. Training is provided through a variety of media. Training also provides a forum in which law enforcement and community members can discuss and problem-solve around sensitive issues.

The COPS' national network of RCPIs has trained, to date, more than 25,000 officers, community members, and government leaders in innovative approaches to community policing. These approaches include:

- 1) Community Mobilization
- 2) Community Partnerships
- 3) Conflict Resolution
- 4) Crime Analysis and Mapping
- 5) Ethics and Integrity
- 6) Problem Solving
- 7) Rural Community Policing
- 8) Strategic Implementation
- 9) Violence Prevention

What is Community Policing?

Community policing represents a departure from traditional law enforcement practices in that it focuses on the prevention of crime and the fear of crime on a local basis. It also attempts to involve members of the community as active partners with the police in addressing crime and disorder in the community. Placing law enforcement personnel on the streets allows them to foster relationships with members of the community, which hopefully will lead residents to trust and respect the officers. Community policing is built around several key principles, including:

- community involvement in establishing and pursuing the policing agenda
- the decentralization of police services
- innovative problem solving approaches
- partnerships with the community and other governmental agencies
- prevention and early intervention

Several benefits of community policing have been noted, including:

- a more realistic knowledge of police work
- a recognition of the interrelationships among police functions
- a recognition of the limited capacity of the police to accomplish their jobs on their own and of the importance of an alliance between the police and the public
- less dependence on the criminal justice system and more emphasis on problem-solving methods
- increased use of the knowledge gained by police officers of their assigned areas
- more effective use of personnel

The TRCPI at Sam Houston State University provides training and technical assistance in Texas on all aspects of community policing. Our training activities since inception have included more than 3,700 participants in numerous training sessions and conferences, resulting in more than 24,800 contact hours.

Beat Management

There are still many who perceive that an inherent conflict exists between the principles of community policing and efforts to reduce crime proactively. Community policing is too often perceived as "soft" on crime. A number of law enforcement administrators are convinced that a choice must be made in terms of resource allocation between community policing efforts and crime-specific endeavors. The TRCPI has chosen as its specialty training the integration of community-oriented and crime-specific policing.

Under this approach, clearly defined intervention strategies engage the community as a partner to 1) target particular offenses, 2) committed by particular offenders, 3) at specific places, and 4) during specific time periods.

Beat management entails:

- Analysis of crime and incident trends,
- Developing problem-oriented approaches to crime reduction and call for service control,
- Identifying an array of possible interventions,
- Implementing proactive endeavors, and
- Engaging the community.

Given these premises, our development of Beat Management Software will provide for in-car laptop accessibility to information elements allowing true management of a beat rather than reactive patrol. Officers must be able to identify problem locations and people, as well as community resources, in real time if every beat officer is truly to become a proactive community officer.

Programs

Our training activities for fiscal year 1998 have included more than 3,700 participants in numerous training sessions or conferences, resulting in more than 24,800 contact hours. Although we have designed many of our instructional formats to be primarily hands on (e.g., web-based instructional materials, small group seminars, etc.) even those deliverables that rely heavily on lecture format do not do so exclusively. All of our curricula are delivered consistent with adult learning principles and new programs are scrutinized for their adherence to such principles before acceptance into Institute programming. Our offerings this fiscal year have included:

- 1997 National Symposium on Alcohol, Drugs, and Violence Prevention in Higher Education - Community Oriented Policing: A Return to the Past
- 1997 National Symposium on Alcohol, Drugs, and Violence Prevention in Higher Education - Solution-Oriented Policing: Beyond the Problems
- Community Policing Implementation Conference
- Community Policing Lecture Series / Conference - Challenges in Implementing New Policing Philosophies
- Community Policing Lecture Series / Conference - Historical Lessons on Policing Communities
- Community Policing Lecture Series / Conference - Problems Facing Policing in Today's Society: Impact of Excessive Force
- Community Policing Research and Implementation
- Community Policing Worldwide Conference on Community Policing in Other Countries
- Community Policing: The Basics
- Executive Issues Seminar: Crime-Specific Policing
- Executive Leadership Seminar: Implementing Community-Oriented Policing
- GMI Annual Conference: Focus on COPS
- Implementing Law Enforcement Programs on Problem-Oriented Policing
- Incorporating COPS into Curricula
- Police-Community Relations: Community Oriented Policing
- Police in Society Graduate Course - Addressing Community Policing Issues
- Police Integrity: The Field Perspective
Putting the Community Back into Community Policing
- Quantifying Quality in Policing
- SARA-Decision-Making and Problem Solving
- Texas Major City & County Law Enforcement Training - Coordinator Meeting
- Texas Police Academy Directors Intro to Community Policing
Solution-Oriented Policing

Staff

Executive Personnel

Director

Randy Garner, Ph.D.

Randy Garner received his Ph.D., M.A., and B.S. from the University of Houston. Dr. Garner began his law enforcement career in 1976 in Alvin, Texas and has served at all levels of command, most recently as the Chief of Police in Pearland, Texas. Dr. Garner holds a Master Peace Officer Certification. He handles all administrative decisions and responsibilities required under the cooperative agreement. Dr. Garner also oversees the development and delivery of training programs and deliverables.

Associate Director

Larry Hoover, Ph.D.

Dr. Larry Hoover received his Ph.D., M.A., and B.S. from Michigan State University (MSU). He has been a faculty member at Sam Houston State University since 1977, previously serving as faculty at MSU and as a law enforcement officer in Michigan. Dr. Hoover edits the TELEMASP Bulletin series, instructs in the Executive Issues Seminar Series, and oversees the Beat Management Program development.

Project Director

Phillip Lyons, J.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Phillip Lyons received his Ph.D., J.D., and M.A. from the University of Nebraska and his B.S. from the University of Houston Clear Lake. Prior to graduate school, he spent several years as a peace officer in the Houston area.

Support Staff

Robert Werling - Project Coordinator

Regina Ernst - Project Coordinator

Matt Lysakowski - Research Assistant

Rose Burgaleta - Research Assistant

Rafael Pulgar - Computer Programmer

Wayne Walters - Computer Programmer

Institute Partners

The Texas Regional Community Policing Institute (TRCPI) maintains partnerships with several agencies and groups across Texas. Law enforcement partnerships represent variations in the approach to integrating community-oriented and crime-specific policing, the TRCPI's specialty area. Other sponsors also collaborate with the Institute, providing invaluable input and resources.

Sam Houston State University Criminal Justice Center

Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMIT)

Citizens Crime Commission of Tarrant County

Arlington Police Department

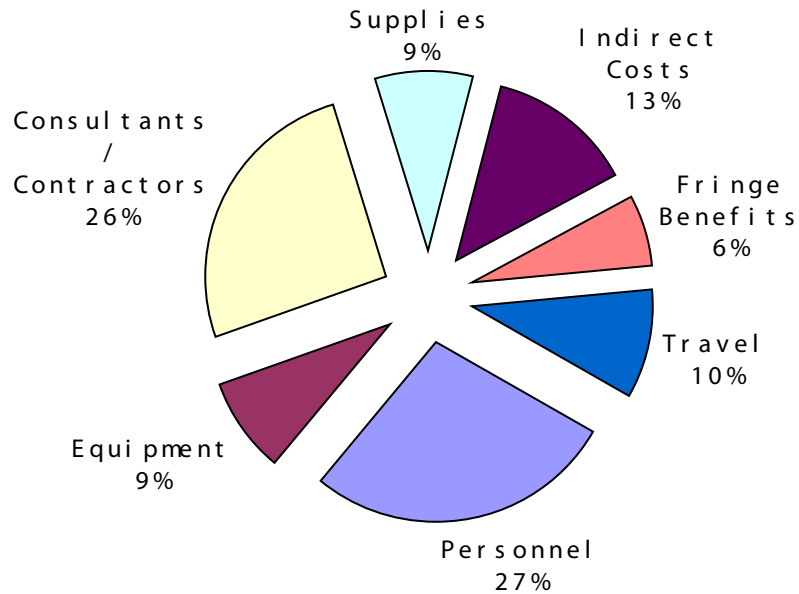
El Paso Police Department

Fort Worth Police Department

San Antonio Police Department

Expenditures

Budget Category	Approved Budget
Personnel	\$274,482
Fringe Benefits	\$64,382
Travel	\$96,150
Equipment	\$87,928
Supplies	\$88,306
Consultants/Contractors	\$257,000
Indirect Costs	\$131,752
TOTAL	\$1,000,000



Texas Regional Community Policing Institute
Sam Houston State University
College of Criminal Justice
Huntsville, TX 77340-2296