

	<b>GAITHERSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT</b>		
	<b>Street Crimes Unit</b>		
	<b>GENERAL ORDER</b>	<b>610.5</b>	
<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>12/09/2013</b>	<b>1.2.9, 12.1.2, 12.1.4, 16.2.2, 26.1.1, 41.1.1, 41.1.3, 45.2.1</b>	
<b>Authorized by:</b>	<b>Mark P. Sroka</b> CHIEF OF POLICE	SIGNATURE	DATE

**I. PURPOSE**

The Street Crimes Unit (SCU) is a team of officers whose primary objective is to reduce serious and pattern crimes in the City through a variety of methods and strategies.

**II. POLICY**

Officers in the Street Crimes Unit work varying hours in order to effectively deal with the crime problems for which the unit was created. The Street Crimes Unit interacts on a daily basis with detectives and officers in various assignments and agencies. Except as necessary to protect an ongoing investigation, the supervisor shall ensure that officers assigned to the unit communicate, coordinate and cooperate with other Department functions and components.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

This directive does not contain any terms deemed to require special definition.

**IV. PROCEDURE**

**A. Unit Structure**

1. During normal operations the Street Crimes Unit is supervised by a sergeant who reports to the Special Operations Bureau Commander.
  - a) In the sergeant's absence, the unit's corporal assumes the role of supervisor.
  - b) The Special Operations Bureau Commander may also designate a PO III to act in the capacity of Officer in Charge (OIC), for the rare instances when neither the sergeant nor the corporal are available.
2. The Street Crimes Unit supervisor shall keep the Special Operations Bureau Commander informed of activities and prepare and submit a weekly report summarizing the unit's activity and progress to the Chief of Police, via chain of command.

3. Street Crimes Unit officers utilize covert vehicles and other available technology to aid in the success of their mission.
4. The Street Crimes Unit is a plainclothes assignment, allowing certain exceptions to the uniform of the day requirements outlined in General Order 203.1.
5. The Street Crimes Unit is considered a specialized assignment. Anticipated or actual vacancies are announced and filled through a selection process, as outlined in General Order 106.2.

**B. Deployment**

1. Unit Members of the unit will interact on a frequent basis with apartment complex managers, owners and other citizens to help identify and anticipate problem areas, and to gather additional intelligence and information.
2. Unit members operate in an uncontrolled status. However, they may respond to calls dispatched in the neighborhood or area where the unit is assigned, if their response would be beneficial to their mission.
3. Street Crimes Unit officers may be deployed in an emergency situation where their response may prevent serious injury or lead to an immediate or on-scene apprehension.
4. Deployment is based on factors that include analysis of crime data and mapping of police incidents, intelligence leads from patrol officers and interaction with informants and other sources familiar with changing crime trends.
5. After review of pertinent information relevant to deployment, the Street Crime Unit's supervisor may make recommendations to the Special Operations Bureau Commander, outlining where and how the unit's deployment could be most beneficial.
6. The Street Crimes Unit supervisor is responsible for ensuring timely notifications, as directed or required by written directives.