

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE ISSUED: May 1, 2008 REPORT NO. 08-074
ATTENTION: Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee
Agenda of May 14, 2008
SUBJECT: Informational Report from the San Diego Police Department
Regarding Intelligence Led Policing

SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE OR THE CITY COUNCIL.

BACKGROUND

In the 1990's, British police began to recognize a deficiency in the way they gathered information and planned police operations. Out of this frustration Intelligence Led Policing (ILP) was born. ILP seeks to combine the best attributes of policing: Problem solving, community policing, traditional enforcement, hot spot mapping, crime analysis and accountability models, into a systematic method of finding solutions to complex crime problems. The police department has received a \$ 400,000 federal grant to implement ILP and conduct operations using the intelligence process. The goal is to improve effectiveness in dealing with crime and gang problems.

INTELLIGENCE LED POLICING

In all large organizations communication across divisional boundaries can be complicated, especially in an environment where there is sensitive information. Often the technology to extract data from existing information systems is expensive or not available. Once the information is obtained analysis must be performed to determine the value of the information in terms of reliability and credibility. In order to produce actionable intelligence information must be analyzed to produce intelligence. Police agencies have traditionally done well in gathering and using data to focus police efforts but fallen short in their ability to analyze data. ILP is designed to bridge this gap.

Once information is gathered and analyzed, three types of reports are produced. A **Strategic Intelligence Report** allows executives to set the vision, create policy and direct resources to solve crime problems as needed. **Operational Intelligence Reports** allow managers to plan and

execute projects that execute the vision of executives. Managers can consider a wide range of operations that consider efficiency and effectiveness. Based on data driven intelligence managers can search for the most appropriate method to prevent, solving or stopping criminal activity. **Tactical Intelligence Reports** help line level employees determine the specific tactics to prevent crime problems and stop crime trends. Officers can use civil processes through the City Attorney, Problem Oriented Policing, community organizing or more traditional police operations such as sweeps and hot spot policing.

An example of these three levels was the Chief's direction that violence committed by gang members should be one of the highest priorities for police operations. Extra resources were devoted to match this vision. Managers directed sergeants and detectives to increase the quantity and quality of sources of information gathered by investigators. As a result there was a 50% increase in the number of cooperating sources. Those sources gave improved information that is more verifiable. This allows investigators to focus on the minority of criminals who according to research commit the majority of crime¹.

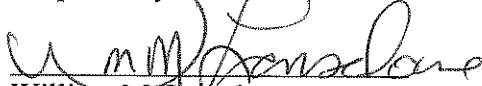
Through the grant software has been purchased to perform a Google type search of all of our databases and particularly the narrative portions of police reports. This will allow investigators to link cases together by M.O., persons or addresses. It will also allow police to download transcribed information captured electronically for retrieval and analysis. Sophisticated software that links persons, places and things has been deployed by the Crime Analysis Unit to aid in the interpretation of data and analysis of information.


INTELLIGENCE ANALYST

In an effort successfully turn raw data into intelligence an Analyst must be hired. \$112,000 has been set aside from the Cal Grip grant to fund this position over a two-year period. This person will take raw data, process the information and determine the viability of threats to the San Diego community. The analyst will work with Centralized Investigations and the area commands to generate intelligence reports for leadership, managers and line level personnel. The Intelligence Analyst position will work closely with the current Crime Analyst to gather the data and produce accurate information.

This position will also help to protect the privacy of individuals. The bulk of accessible data will be segmented and controlled by the Analyst. Managers charged with using this intelligence have been very careful to comply with federal guidelines concerning the privacy of individuals and the community.

Respectfully submitted,


William M. Lansdowne
Chief of Police



Jill Olen
Deputy Chief Operating Officer
Public Safety/Homeland Security

¹ Ratcliff, Jerry (2008) 'Intelligence Led Policing,' Willan Publishing, London, England