



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

August 23, 2010

The Public Safety Committee of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on August 23, 2010 at 3:34 p.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Dennis Kavanaugh, Chairman
Dina Higgins
Scott Somers

COMMITTEE ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Alfred Smith
Trisha Sorensen

(Items on the agenda were discussed out of order, but for purposes of clarity will remain as listed on the agenda.)

1. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

2. Hear a presentation and discuss the Fire Department's Tactical Medic Program.

Chairman Kavanaugh advised that a Tactical Medic Program presentation to the Committee was suggested by Councilmember Finter.

Fire Chief Harry Beck addressed the Committee and advised that the Mesa Fire Department has a program which provides medical assistance to the Police Department's Tactical Team when requested. He introduced Assistant Fire Chief Dan Stubbs who developed the Tactical Emergency Medical Service (TEMS) Program.

Chief Stubbs stated that the Fire Department, working in cooperation with the Police Department, initiated the TEMS Program in 2007. He reported that three four-member crews received training that provides an overview of the Police Tactical Unit operations. Chief Stubbs stated that the training facilitates improved communication and coordination between the departments during an incident. He added that the Fire tactical crew now responds in smaller apparatus which reduces concerns regarding the staging of vehicles at the scene. He also reported that the number of times that the Fire Department was required to dispatch a unit to an incident dropped dramatically. Chief Stubbs further stated that the Fire ALS crew maintains communication with the Police utilizing pagers and, when a request for a unit is made and

approved, a two-member crew responds in a smaller vehicle. He explained that the paramedics remain in a "cold zone" in the area of the command post. Chief Stubbs said that paramedics are often on the scene of a major political event and present during the deployment of a DUI Taskforce. He added that although a paramedic unit on a call may not be able to immediately respond to a Police Department request, the Fire Department will provide assistance until such time as the paramedic unit is available. Chief Stubbs noted that the department is creative in addressing staffing issues in order to maintain this level of emergency medical response.

Chief Stubbs explained that a Tactical Medic Program is utilized in many jurisdictions nationwide, including six communities in the Valley. He said that when a Mesa Police unit conducts high-risk activities in another community, Mesa's paramedics accompany them.

Responding to a question from Chairman Kavanaugh, Chief Stubbs explained that Mesa's paramedics would accompany the Police unit to another community because the units are trained to work together, and he noted that the same protocol is followed by other communities. He added that although other communities are notified when a team enters their jurisdiction, additional efforts are being made on a Regional basis to streamline the notification process.

Chief Stubbs advised that the department has been unable to fund advanced training for the team members due to budget restrictions.

Chief Stubbs summarized the presentation by noting that Police and Fire Department personnel work together to improve and streamline the program and increase efficiency. He explained that the Police Department provides the police support training for the paramedics, while the Fire Department provides the medical training updates and the uniforms. He stated the opinion that the program provides good service to the community.

At the invitation of Chairman Kavanaugh, Police Chief Frank Milstead came forward to address the Committee, and he expressed support for the program as well as for funding additional training. He noted that having paramedics at the scene of an incident increases the level of safety for police officers as well as innocent citizens who may be present.

In response to a question from Chairman Kavanaugh, Chief Stubbs advised that most of the advanced training occurs out of state and is typically a week-long session. He estimated that the cost per person could be much as \$5,000 when all factors are considered and he noted that twelve individuals would be eligible to receive the training.

Chief Beck commented that one of the most important aspects of the program is establishing working relationships between Police and Fire Department personnel. He said that by being aware of Police Department strategies, the Fire Department is better able to assist in hostage and high-risk situations. He added that some of the advanced programs train paramedics on how to enter the "hot zone" (the area of the incident), which is not an action that the Mesa Fire Department plans to adopt.

Chairman Kavanaugh noted that grants may be available to fund additional training.

In response to a question from Committeemember Somers, Chief Milstead stated that he was unaware of any effort to recruit paramedics through the Reserve Officer Program. He said that the Tactical Medic Program is a complete paradigm shift in the relationship between a Police

Department and a Fire Department, and he added that the Program ensures that the individuals on the scene of an incident are properly trained.

Chairman Kavanaugh stated the opinion that the Tactical Medic Program was a solid and innovative approach to the delivery of Public Safety services. He said that the Committee was very supportive of the effort, and he hoped that the continuing education component could be addressed. He thanked staff for the presentation.

3. Hear a presentation and discuss the Tri-Star Anti Crime Program.

Assistant Police Chief Mike Denney introduced Crime Prevention Officers Jerry Quarles and Patsy Gallagher, who were present to provide an overview of the proposed Mesa Tri-Star Program.

Officer Quarles displayed a PowerPoint presentation (**see Attachment 1**), and outlined the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program (CFMH) that the department has been utilizing for many years (see pages 2 and 3 of Attachment 1). He advised that staff is proposing to replace the CFMH Program with the Mesa Tri-Star Program, which is designed specifically for the City of Mesa and integrates some aspects of the CFMH Program. Officer Quarles stated that the Tri-Star Program incorporates effective crime-fighting tools with tiered levels of participation that encourage property involvement. He noted that during the 19 years that the CFMH Program has existed in Mesa, many changes have occurred in both multi-family housing and in Police Department operations.

Officer Quarles advised that the Tri-Star Program has three levels of participation (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced), and he outlined the benefits to each level (see pages 4 and 5 of Attachment 1). He noted that Level 1 management training is being changed from an eight-hour classroom session to an on-line program that can be completed in one hour. He added that Level 2 provides on-line training for the leasing agents and maintenance personnel.

Officer Quarles stated that CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) principles have been divided into two parts, basic security and advanced security, to make it easier for properties to participate. He said that basic security addresses landscaping and resident education while the advanced security relates to issues such as locks and lighting. Officer Quarles added that qualifying properties will be listed on the Tri-Star website, which can be accessed by potential tenants.

In response to a question from Committeemember Higgins, Officer Quarles explained that the "Weekly Calls for Service" report provides the property manager with information regarding the types of calls the Police responded to at the property and the names of the individuals involved. He stated that the manager can then determine if the tenant violated the crime-free lease addendum, which could result in the issuance of an eviction notice.

Officer Quarles stated that the fiscal impact to the department is minimal because properties can download the program materials from the website, saving the department the time and cost to prepare printed materials. He noted that online training is free and can be accomplished at the convenience of the property manager and staff. He added that the CPTED costs would vary with each property and optional signage would be an additional cost to the property owner.

Officer Quarles advised that staff is proposing a one-year pilot program with an evaluation in six months, during which time the department would continue to support the Crime-Free Program.

Chairman Kavanaugh noted that staff's proposal addresses many of the excuses given by property owners for not participating in the Crime-Free Program.

Chief Denney advised that 29 of the 40 locations to which the Police responded most frequently during the period of July through mid-August were multi-family housing units and only five were members of the Crime-Free Program. He said that by increasing participation in the program, the department hopes to lower the number of calls for service. Chief Denney stated that staff would like to initiate the pilot program in the fall and return to the Committee in March or April of next year to report on the progress and, if successful, move forward to implement the program Citywide.

Chairman Kavanaugh stated the opinion that the program sounds very promising.

Responding to a question from Committeemember Somers, Chief Denney advised that a reduction in the number of calls for service and an increased level of participation would be indicators of success.

Officer Quarles reported that although more than 300 properties City-wide participate in some level of the Crime-Free Program, only 56 are fully certified. He explained that there are certain hurdles that some properties cannot overcome.

In response to questions from Committeemember Somers, Officer Quarles advised that the Neighborhood Watch Program is primarily utilized in single-family areas, although townhomes could participate in that program as well as the Multi-Family Crime Prevention Program. He explained that although the third phase of the CFMH Program includes resident education, very few residents attend the crime prevention presentations offered by the Police Department, which is one of the reasons that the department is attempting to approach the issue in a different manner.

Chief Denney commented that the nature of residents in multi-family housing has changed over the years. He stated that occupancy rates are low and some tenants are being allowed to stay without paying rent just to maintain occupancy, and he added that management also seems to be somewhat transient. He said that all of these factors contribute to a Neighborhood Watch Program being difficult to implement.

Committeemember Somers commented that a by-product of home ownership is that residents have a vested interest in crime prevention programs.

Chairman Kavanaugh noted that Mesa was a leader in developing the Crime-Free Program, which was adopted by many other cities across the country.

Officer Quarles advised that 1,100 cities are presently utilizing the Crime-Free Program model, and the program is good for those cities just beginning to initiate this type of effort. He added that cities participating in the program for a number of years are beginning to make adjustments that reflect their local conditions. Officer Quarles noted that numerous cities have different versions of the program to meet their local needs.

Chairman Kavanaugh stated that the Public Safety Committee was very supportive of staff's efforts and the Committee looked forward to hearing an update on the pilot program in the future. He thanked staff for the presentation.

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Public Safety Committee meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 23rd day of August 2010. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

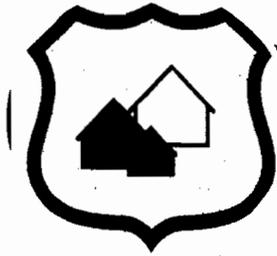
LINDA CROCKER, CITY CLERK

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Attachment: 1

MESA TRI-STAR PROGRAM OVERVIEW





Currently using the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program (CFMH)

- **PHASE 1**
 - **8-HOUR CLASSROOM TRAINING**
- **PHASE 2**
 - **PROPERTY SECURITY EVALUATION (CPTED)**
- **PHASE 3**
 - **RESIDENT SAFETY SOCIAL (Annually)**

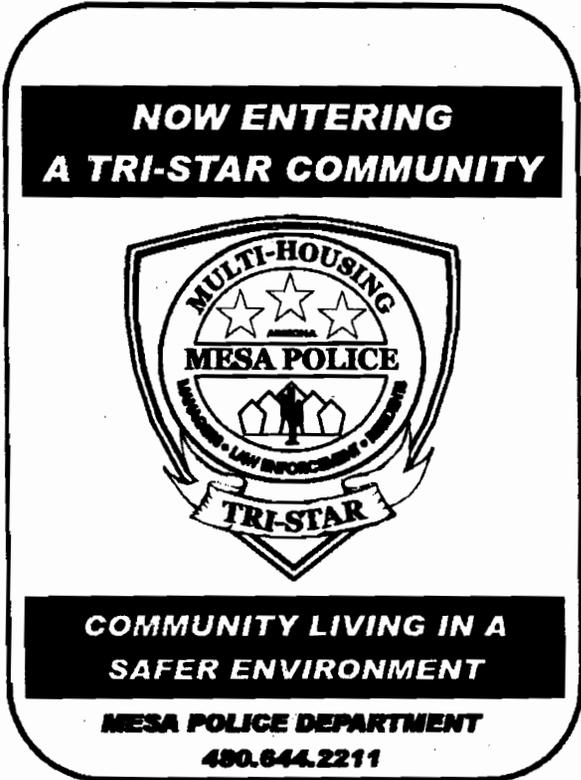
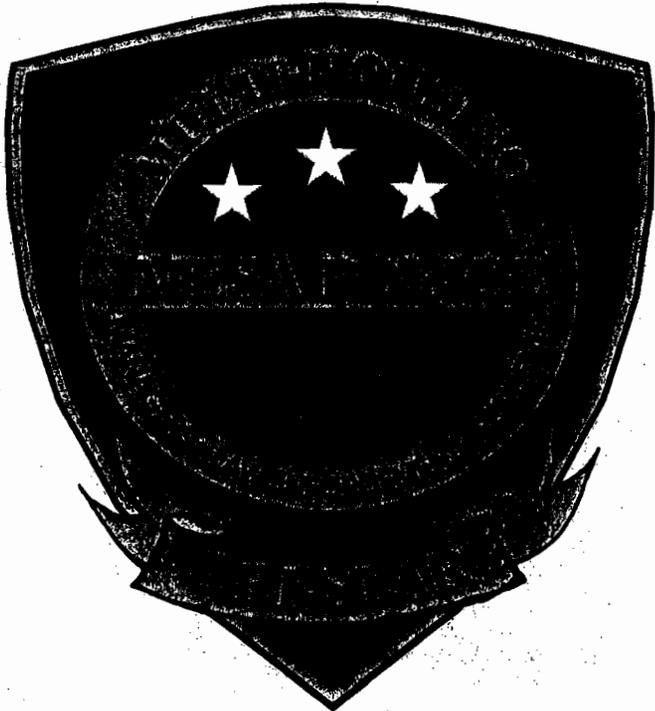


CFMH PROGRAM BENEFITS

- **PHASE 1**
 - **Training & Programs**
- **PHASE 2**
 - **Security Assessment Results**
- **PHASE 3**
 - **Incident Contact Cards**
 - **Weekly calls for service online**
 - **Program sign**
 - **Resident education**



THE MESA TRI-STAR PROGRAM





Why a New Program?

- **Mesa Tri-Star Program is similar to CFMH**
- **Aspects of CFMH are integrated**
- **Designed specifically for Mesa**
- **Incorporates effective crime fighting tools**
- **Tiered levels of participation**
- **Encourages property involvement**



TRI-STAR LEVELS

- **LEVEL 1 - BASIC**
 - **Manager training online and implementing tools to deter illegal activity**
- **LEVEL 2 - INTERMEDIATE**
 - **Additional staff training**
 - **Basic security - CPTED**
 - **Tenant education/communication (Quarterly)**
- **LEVEL 3 - ADVANCED**
 - **Advanced security - CPTED**



BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

- **LEVEL 1 - BASIC**
 - **Online training and programs**
 - **Property listed on Web site for all levels**
- **LEVEL 2 - INTERMEDIATE**
 - **Incident Contact Cards**
- **LEVEL 3 - ADVANCED**
 - **Weekly Calls for Service (CFS)**
 - **Program signs**



ADDITIONAL PROGRAM BENEFITS

- **Graduated levels to encourage participation**
- **Improved resident education/communication**
- **Convenient training program**
- **Cost savings to property**
- **CPTED split into two levels**
- **Property notified earlier of police incidents**



FISCAL IMPACT

- **POLICE DEPARTMENT**
 - **Program materials downloaded free**
 - **Incident Contact Cards (Minimal Cost)**
- **MULTI-HOUSING**
 - **Free online training**
 - **CPTED cost varies by property**
 - **Cost of resident communication**
 - **Optional program signage**



MESA TRI-STAR A PILOT PROGRAM

- **TRIAL PERIOD**
 - **ONE (1) YEAR PILOT PROGRAM**
 - **SIX (6) MONTH EVALUATION PERIOD**
 - **Continue support for certified CFMH**
- **PROPERTIES NOT CERTIFIED CFMH**
 - **Start Mesa Tri-Star Pilot Program**