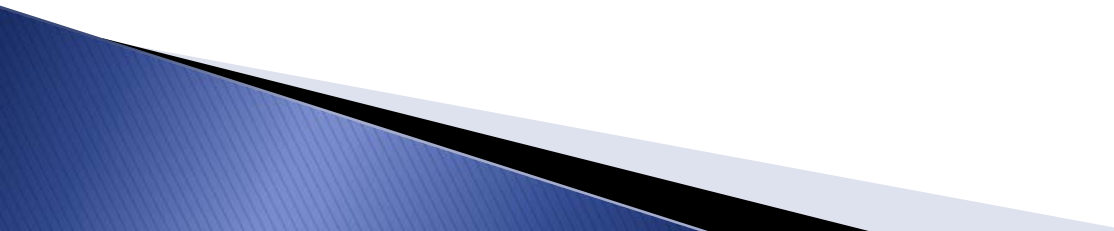# Sparks Police Department and the Personnel Utilization Study by PERF

Major Themes in Report

- Major declines in UCR Part I crimes during a four year period.
- Citizen generated Calls for Service (CFS) occupy 34% of Patrol time.
- In large, staffing levels at the PD are adequate.
- Developed 29 recommendations on how to improve police service department-wide.

"Overall the Sparks Police Department is a very good police agency operating efficiently and effectively."

PERF Executive Summary

Part I – UCR Crimes

- Violent Crime (Homicide, Rape, Aggravated Assault, Robbery) decreased 43.5 % between CY08–CY12

- Property Crime (Burglary, Larceny, Auto Theft, Arson) decreased 26.7 % between CY08—CY12

- Current crime efforts are being effective utilizing the ComStat and Community Oriented Policing Philosophies.

Key Recommendations

» By Division

Patrol Division

- *Recommendation 1*: *The department should consider an alternative patrol schedule to the current weekday 4-10 and weekend 3-12 that would improve communications, enhance officer work experience throughout all patrol shifts, and eliminate isolation.*

- *Recommendation 3:* *The department should enhance traffic related enforcement through accident and violation analysis.*

Investigations Division

- *__Recommendation 6:__ The department should consider having both detective squads work a four day ten hour schedule with weekend coverage.*

- *__Recommendation 7:__ The Detective Division should develop and codify the assignment of investigations based on established criteria of solvability factors.*

- *__Recommendation 12:__ The department would benefit from staffing the Detective Division with one civilian Police Investigative Aide in each section.*

Investigations Division

- *Recommendation 13: The Crime Suppression Unit should identify and develop meaningful indicators to measure the effectiveness of the Unit.*

- *Recommendation 14: After developing measurements to evaluate the effectiveness of the CSU, the department should monitor the activity of the Unit to determine if a second team should be added.*

Investigations Division

- *__Recommendation 15:__ The Department should provide funding to maintain the services of the Victim Advocate if state funds are depleted.*

Administration Division

- *__Recommendation 23:__ The department should implement alternatives to the Dictaphone system in the report writing process.*

- *__Recommendation 24:__ The department should re-implement the use of an automated reporting system (ARS) to eliminate the redundancy of data entry.*

Administration Division

- *__Recommendation 25:__ The department should hire two additional communication supervisors in the next budget year to provide 24-hour coverage in the communications center.*

Office of the Chief

- _**Recommendation 29:** The department should be reorganized at the highest level so that the Patrol Division Commander, the Investigation Division Commander and the Administration Division Manager all report directly to the Deputy Chief_

Where do we go from Here?

» "Local policy preferences influence the number of people needed and how they are organized"

Recommendations – What do we do with them

- Recommendations are like opinions – Some are good, some may not work

- Systematic review of all recommendations and report to CM/Council status of all 29 recommendations: On-going and In-Progress

Use of Technology

▶ Tiburon Upgrade (the beginning)
  ◦ Automated Reports
  ◦ Paperless Tickets (Brazos)

▶ Continual review of technology to increase effectiveness and efficiencies

Patrol Staffing

- What are we doing with the 65%
  - 5% Administrative Tasks (Briefing, e-mail, equipment check-out, etc.)
  - 10% Contractual Breaks (1/2 hour lunch, 2- 15 minute breaks)
  - 10-15% Report Writing based on CFS and Self-Initiated Activity

  - 35-40% Self-Initiated Field Activities

Self-Initiated Field Activities

Self Initiated Activity Type	
Call Type	Call Type Count
Traffic Stop	11,696
Premises Check	8,853
Follow Up	2,860
Warrant	1,826
Parking Violation	1,673
Suspicious Person	1,548
Suspicious Vehicle	1,192
Motorist Assist	466
Citizen Assist	457
Outside Assist	396

Self-Initiated Field Activities

▸ Balance between CFS, Self-Initiated Field Activity and Availability

▸ Increased supervisor directed field activity

▸ Re-invigorate the COPS part of the ComStat Model: Engaging with our community groups

▸ Enhance Traffic strategy using HALT Methodology

Department Growth: where do we start?

Emergency Communications
Dispatchers/Supervisors (2)

Department Growth: Next Steps

- Systematic Approach to continue the reduction of crime and the need for CFS
  - Additional Crime Suppression Unit
  - Community Response Unit (focus on neighborhood enhancement and the reduction of fear of crime)
  - Crime Prevention Officer(s)
- Increase participation in regional unit(s)
  - Including Supervisory Roles

Comments/Questions?