

October 22, 2009

Dear Community Partner:

Over the past six years the Tampa Police Department has reduced Part I crimes by more than 50 percent. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of Tampa Police officers and employees. We could not have achieved this success without the great partnerships we have established with our neighborhood watch groups, associations and citizens. You are truly the eyes and ears of our community. We depend on your involvement to accomplish our mission of reducing crime and improving your quality of life. Progressive thinking and consistent analysis have always augmented our officers' hard work and perseverance. This has allowed the continuous yearly reduction in crime. Two main staples of our success have been the urgent investigations of all crime and our ability to adjust daily deployment to attack emerging crime trends.

To continue reducing crime in 2010, we are going to again adjust the deployment of our resources. In doing so, it is important to state that we will not reduce the focus on any of our crime fighting efforts. We will still expend our energy on crime reduction, street level narcotics investigations, eradicating prostitution and traffic enforcement.

To this end, we are going to merge the street level drug squads, known as QUAD, and the plain clothes Street Anti Crime officers (SAC), with district detectives to create Rapid Offender Control squads. They will be known as ROC. These squads will focus on the hot grids or Offender Control Zones in each district. These zones will be the grids with the majority of crime, quality of life issues and calls for service. By each district concentrating on its geographic 'hot spots', coupled with officers focusing on offender management, we will certainly continue to reduce crime in our city.

The newly formed ROC squads will work very closely with patrol officers and members of our community. This deployment will extend coverage, as the ROC squads will work in the high crime areas for approximately 23 hours a day. This will undoubtedly improve communication within our department, as well as the community. I have always been proud of how accessible TPD officers are to our citizens, but I truly believe this new deployment will further strengthen our relationships and take our partnerships to the next level.

Each district will have four ROC squads - one for each cycle, in each of the two sectors, for a total of 40 ROC officers per district. The supervision will consist of Corporals, Sergeants and Tactical Lieutenants. The Tactical Lieutenant will be your single point of contact for all your neighborhood concerns. You do not

have to figure out who is working on what cycle because the Lieutenant will always have up to date information on your area. There will be ten analyzed and balanced crime areas, known as Offender Control Zones, in each district. ROC officers will be assigned to these zones to work closely with their detective and zone officer counterparts.

A great deal of time and effort has been expended to identify innovative ways to deploy our resources that will allow for further crime reduction and improve your neighborhoods. I feel confident this deployment will bring those results. I look forward to working with you as the Tampa Police Department strives to keep you and your family safe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jane Castor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Castor
Chief of Police