


PINE BLUFF POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY & PROCEDURES MANUAL

	SUBJECT:	POLICY NUMBER 600
	COMMUNITY RELATIONS	ISSUE DATE 02/19/2008
	CHAPTER: COMMUNITY RELATIONS	EFFECTIVE DATE 02/19/2008
	ISSUED By: Chief of Police John E. Howell	TOTAL PAGES 2

I. POLICY

It is the policy of this agency to involve all department personnel in a county-wide community relations effort, to include working to establish an attitude that the law enforcement personnel are an integral part of the community and that citizen participation and interaction with law enforcement personnel are necessary. This agency, through established programs, will identify law enforcement and policies and procedures to its citizens and the media for the enrichment of the entire community. This department is committed to correcting actions, practices, and attitudes which may contribute to community tensions and grievances. It is also the policy of this department that community relations are the shared responsibility of each and every member of the department.

II. PROCEDURES

A. RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of all department personnel to promote good community relations, recognizing that the actions and demeanor of department personnel in dealing with the general public have a significant impact on the image of the department and ultimately its overall effectiveness and level of acceptance within the community. In serving the public, each employee shall make his/her contact one which inspires respect, not only for himself/herself as an individual and professional, but one which generates the cooperation and approval of the public.

B. COMMUNITY RELATIONS OBJECTIVES

- 1) To create and maintain liaison with community groups and organizations. This includes exchanging information, identifying law enforcement services needs of the community, promoting law enforcement/citizen contacts, acquainting each other with mutual problems and encouraging action aimed at solving these problems.
- 2) To develop community relations policies for this agency.
- 3) To publicize department objectives, problems, and successes.

- 4) To obtain input from community groups to ensure that department policies reflect the needs of the community.
- 5) To identify sources of conflict between law enforcement and the community and encourage efforts to solve them.
- 6) To establish neighborhood watch groups where such groups do not now exist.
- 7) To identify training needs relating to community relations through input from citizens, groups, supervisors, and complaint reports.
- 8) To provide the Chief of Police any information regarding concerns of the community, potential law enforcement/citizen problems, and recommended actions.
- 9) To evaluate all department community relations programs on a semi-annual basis and to participate in an annual survey of citizens' attitudes and opinions with respect to law enforcement service.

C. PROGRAMS - PROGRAM CONTACT INCLUDES, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO:

- 1) Public Information Programs. Publicize department objectives, problems and successes through the media, brochures, guest speakers, news releases, press conferences and newsletters.
- 2) Community Relations Programs. Meet with the civic groups, minority groups, neighborhood councils, crime watch groups and individuals to exchange information and convey information back to the department.
- 3) Crime Awareness Programs. Provide citizen groups information on making their families, homes, and business more secure and work to establish crime watch neighborhoods where none exist. Programs include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Neighborhood Crime Watch
 - b) Burglary Prevention
 - c) Rape Prevention
 - d) Fraud Prevention
 - e) Emergency Reporting Procedure
 - f) Home Security Survey
 - g) Robbery Prevention
 - h) Commercial Burglary Prevention