Annual Community Policing Plan

Special Victims Unit

CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Police Department

11/19/2025

SVU Overview

- The Special Victims Unit is responsible for investigating a variety of criminal incidents including; Domestic Violence, Sexual Assaults, Elder Abuse (physical), Stalking, and Child Abuse. Investigators also serve as a support to the Internet Crimes Against Children Unit (ICAC), the Sexual Offender Unit, the Human Trafficking Unit and the Cold Case Unit.
- SVU currently has one Captain, two Lieutenants, and approximately thirty (30) Sergeants assigned to the Unit.
    - SVU Investigators are responsible for:
        - Managing complex crime scenes, immediately following up on active leads, coordinating the response of support units, notifying/updating superiors during rapidly unfolding investigations, receiving, transmitting, and keeping sensitive criminal and administrative information confidential, authoring arrest and search warrants, maintaining a caseload until the case gets adjudicated in the courts or inactivates due to a lack of evidence.

Goals and Objectives

The following sections highlight how SVU's Annual Community Policing Plan ties into the Goals and Objectives of the SFPD Community Policing Strategic Plan. The five goals are:

- Goal 1: Communication
- Goal 2: Education
- Goal 3: Problem-Solving
- Goal 4: Relationship Building
- Goal 5: SFPD Organization

Goal 1: Communication

Honest, transparent, and empathetic dialogue between the SFPD and San Francisco Community.

- **Objective 1.1:** Create a diverse set of communication channels between the SFPD and community
  - SVU Captain and Lieutenants meet regularly with community stakeholders and victim service groups. These meetings continue to increase the communication between SVU and the community at large
- **Objective 1.4:** Transparently communicate, publicize, and educate community about SFPD goals and policies
  - Through community stakeholders (ie. La Casa de las Madres or Child Advocacy Center) SVU will continue to be able to communicate the goals and policies of SVU and the Department. SVU will utilize these communication channels to further educate the community about the SVU investigative process and answer any questions regarding this process.

Goal 2: Education

SFPD both trains and is trained by the communities it serves

- **Objective 2.1:** Train the community to empower them to improve community safety
  - In meeting with partner city agencies and community stakeholders on a regular basis, SVU will be able to provide detailed information on how specific investigative processes can be utilized in order to improve community safety.
- **Objective 2.2:** Invite third party and community instructor to contribute to SFPD training
  - SVU routinely invites leadership from partner city agencies to participate in cross-training between agencies. These partnerships will continue to foster community involvement and education.

Goal 3: Problem-Solving

Increase safety through collaborative working partnerships between SFPD, community members, and organizations to identify and address local topics of concern

- **Objective 3.2:** Collaboratively identify and develop responses to local issues and concerns with individuals, community-based organizations, and city services
  - Through the regularly scheduled meetings with the community stakeholders, victim services groups and partner City agencies, SVU is able to hear firsthand any concerns expressed by each stakeholder.
  - Each participant is able to speak with regard to their respective agency or groups concerns as it relates to investigations. System issues are discussed, and members provide solutions to any issues that have arisen since the previous meeting.

Community Partners

Family Violence Council

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)

Child and Adolescent Support, Resource and Advocacy Center (CASARC)

Family and Children Services (FCS/CPS)

Adult Protective Services

Institute of Aging

Department on Status of Women

Recovery/Rape Treatment Center

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

Justice and Courage Community Group

Asian Pacific American Community Center

Community Events

SVU engages the community in several ways. Below are examples:

- Stakeholder Meetings

  Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month

  Child and Adolescent Support, Advocacy & Resource Center (CASARC) meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month

  Family and Children Services (FCS/CPS) meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month

  District Attorney Monthly Meetings meet every 1st Friday of the month

  Institute of Aging's Elder Abuse Prevention Program do check-ins every other Thursday
- Victim Advocate Conferences
- Community Meetings
- National Night Out
- Focus Groups

Metrics

The goal of the SVU Community Policing Plan is the continued use of communication channels and education developed with the community stakeholders and victim service groups to further the Department's goals and objectives. The following will be tracked to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan:

- Community events attended
- Focus group discussion and results
- Concern expressed by partner City agencies/stakeholders
- Details on information provided to various groups
- Education information provided at each meeting

SFPD Holds Annual Denim Day Event in Solidarity with Sexual Assault Survivors 25-054



Review and improvement

Our yearly improvements

This past year, SVU participated in Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This allowed SVU in collaboration with community stakeholders to help get the message out to the community about stopping the violence. SVU is also working toward a more survivor centered, trauma informed way of treating our victim/survivors by utilizing the newest trauma informed interview techniques.

The Human Trafficking Unit was revamped and is looking into starting a Human Trafficking Task Force. This task force will include multiple local/federal agencies and advocate groups in order to better combat Human Trafficking now, and in the future.

SVU is in the process of updating the Department General Orders regarding sexual assaults and domestic violence to better reflect current best practices. SVU is updating our referral card and website which includes having a QR code, to make it easier for victims/survivors to locate available resources.

Review and Improvements Continued

SVU will utilize the following to constantly review progress on our plan. This will allow for changes to be made to the plan, to ensure its effectiveness.

- Use of focus groups
- Surveys
- Community Input
- Meetings with community stakeholders
- Meetings with Victim Advocate groups



Thank you.

Any questions?

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