

Joint Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, May, 17, 2006
 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 Maricopa County Administration
 Building
 301 W. Jefferson, 10th Floor
 Phoenix, AZ 85003



Quarterly Meeting
“COMPSTAT in the Los Angeles
Police Department”

Host:
AACA and IALEP
Board Members;
Maricopa County
Attorney’s Office

RSVP:
<http://www.aacaonline.org/rsvp.html>

Agenda

1. Registration & Refreshments		8:30 – 9:00 AM
2. Welcome and Introductions	Mary Kirkwood, AACA President, Scottsdale Police Department; Chuck Miiller, IALEP President, Phoenix Police Department; Sgt. Brandon Huntley, AACA Vice-President, Phoenix Police Department	9:00 – 9:15 AM
3. The successes and challenges of the COMPSTAT program in the Los Angeles Police Department; an overview of the program and the COMPSTAT philosophy.	Detective Jeff Godown, Los Angeles Police Department	9:15 – 10:30 AM
4. Break		10:30 – 10:45 AM
5. Discussion on how crime analysis is utilized in the Los Angeles Police Department; structure and function of the crime analysis units, computer software utilized and LAPD’s real-time crime analysis center.	Detective Jeff Godown, Los Angeles Police Department	10:45 – 11:30 AM
6. AACA and IALEP Administrative Wrap-Up	Mary Kirkwood, AACA President, Scottsdale Police Department and Chuck Miiller, IALEP President, Phoenix Police Department.	11:30 – 11:45 AM
7. Lunch (<i>optional</i>) in 10 th floor conference room. Please join AACA and IALEP members for some networking and agency updates.	Maricopa County Conference Room	11:45 – 12:45 PM

Additional Information

Directions:

The County Administration Building is the 10-story white building located on the southwest corner of 3rd Ave. and Jefferson (301 W. Jefferson). Jefferson is a one-way street, going east.

Free parking is available in the open lot between 5th and 6th Avenue on Madison St., enter on Madison St. The parking lot is west of the big, covered employee parking garage and has signage, indicating “Maricopa County Visitors.”

impact on crime. But, Godown has struggled with the best way to present this on a chart that is easy to understand. He related that heat definitely must play a factor in crimes committed in the Valley and posed the question to the audience regarding how we deal with that when reporting results?

- COMPSTAT sets limits on the “crimes allowed per day”. These numbers are used to compare bureau to bureau and geographic locations. A one-page report with two tables and one pie chart is sufficient to show everything going on in a district. But, the “lines shouldn’t cross” – then you have trouble.
- Bar graphs are great for displaying the time and dates of related crimes. Everyone can understand these no matter what their skill set or expertise is.
- Its important to stress that stats are living, breathing things. They change constantly and charts shouldn’t be compared too closely.
- Its important to track changes over time to show trends, but not necessarily one against another each week. These comparisons are important in showing when they are occurring.
- Credibility is important.
- All overtime is coded and tracked and questioned if out of line at the COMPSTAT meetings.
- Question from the audience to Jeff: “How do you know the numbers you’re getting are real?” Answer: The Commander can gauge what looks out of place and then the Chief can inquire during COMPSTAT meetings. Officers and departments just know not to submit numbers that look “off” or have been “revised.” Chiefs need to be aware off the different MO Codes and types of reports that are filed. He/She also has to have an awareness of whether crimes are being coded properly.
- Each week a ranking sheet is disseminated to the department to show how they trend over the course of a year. The information is supplement with some analysis of these crimes. The areas of concern ALWAYS appear in a different color.
- The LAPD has no automated reporting system – its still manual. Presumably the delay time should be zero ... but they acknowledge that even though they have data entry coverage 24/7, there is some delay. The system needs to be updated all the time.
- LAPD is UCR based, not NIBRS based. They aren’t going to switch over to NIBRS.
- Staffing is done based on a variety of issues; crime trends, other staffing issues, administrative issues.
- Focus now appears to be terrorism as opposed to crime reduction. They need a better way to mesh these two.
- There are zero certified analysts at LAPD.
- LAPD is switching now to ESRI, ArcView – should be completed by June 2006.
- Crime analysis information will be on the Intranet and should be used for the “frequently asked questions.”
- Question from the audience: “Are records clerks making coding decisions?” Answer: Not usually; commanders have to sign off on what’s ok. Despite this, there are still lots of data entry errors.
- Audits are done regularly; at the very least annually.
- They aren’t using the “Broken Windows” theory like in New York; doesn’t work in LA.