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## Community Relations

### 342.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for community relationship-building.

Additional guidance on community relations and outreach is provided in other policies, including the:

- Hate Crimes Policy
- Limited English Proficiency Services Policy
- Communications with Persons with Disabilities Policy
- Chaplains Policy
- Patrol Function Policy
- Suspicious Activity Reporting Policy

### 342.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Irvine Police Department to promote positive relationships between members of the department and the community by treating community members with dignity and respect and engaging them in public safety strategy development and relationship-building activities, and by making relevant policy and operations information available to the community in a transparent manner.

### 342.3 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers should, as time and circumstances reasonably permit:

- (a) Make casual and consensual contacts with community members to promote positive community relationships (see the Detentions and Photographing Detainees Policy).
- (b) Become reasonably familiar with the schools, businesses and community groups in their assigned jurisdictional areas.
- (c) Work with community members to identify issues and solve problems related to community relations and public safety.
- (d) Conduct periodic foot patrols of their assigned areas to facilitate interaction with community members. Officers carrying out foot patrols should notify an appropriate supervisor and Communications Bureau of their status (i.e., on foot patrol) and location before beginning and upon completion of the foot patrol. They should also periodically inform Communications Bureau of their location and status during the foot patrol.

### 342.4 COMMUNITY AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

The Youth Services Supervisor should organize or assist with programs and activities that create opportunities for department members and community members, especially youth, to interact in a positive setting. Examples of such programs and events include:

# Irvine Police Department

## Policies

### *Community Relations*

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- (a) Department-sponsored athletic programs (e.g., baseball, basketball, soccer, bowling)
- (b) Youth leadership and life skills mentoring
- (c) School resource officer/Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.®) programs

#### **342.5 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, members should receive training related to this policy, including training on topics such as:

- (a) Effective social interaction and communication skills
- (b) Cultural, racial and ethnic diversity and relations
- (c) Building community partnerships
- (d) Community policing and problem-solving principles
- (e) Enforcement actions and their effects on community relations

Where practicable and appropriate, community members, especially those with relevant expertise, should be involved in the training to provide input from a community perspective.