Memorandum

DATE: October 25, 2013

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: First Responder Crime Scene Recruit Training

Attached is the briefing material on the “First Responder Crime Scene Recruit Training” to be presented to the Members of the Public Safety Committee on Monday, October 28, 2013.

Ryan S. Evans
Interim First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

cc: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
    A.C. Gonzalez, Interim City Manager
    Warren M. S. Ernst, City Attorney
    Judge Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge
    Rosa A. Rios, City Secretary
    Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
    Jill A. Jordan, P. E., Assistant City Manager
    Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
    Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
    Charles M. Cato, Interim Assistant City Manager
    Theresa O’Donnell, Interim Assistant City Manager
    Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
    Frank Librio, Public Information Officer
    Elsa Cantu, Assistant to the City Manager – Mayor and Council
First Responder Crime Scene
Recruit Training
Public Safety Committee
October 28, 2013
The Purpose of this Briefing

• Describe how the Dallas Police Crime Scene Response Section (CSRS) trains Dallas Police Recruits to:
  – Recognize and preserve forensic evidence at a crime scene
    • Through instruction by lecture
    • Scenario descriptions by instructor
    • Hands-on training through practical exercises
Crime Scene Response Section (CSRS) Background

• Formerly known as Physical Evidence Section (PES)

• Employs both Civilian and Sworn Technicians

• Conducts Continuous Operations

• Experienced personnel serve as the instructors to recruits in the Basic Police Academy
The Benefits of Physical Evidence

- Establishes key elements of a crime
- Places the suspect or witness in contact with the victim of a crime
- Establishes identities of persons associated with the scene
- Corroborates or contradicts testimony
- Exonerates the innocent
- Facilitates admission or confession from suspects
- Provides intelligence leads
The First Responder’s Role in Crime Scene Management

1st Responder – recognize, identify and protect valuable evidence

Evidence may corroborate, disprove, provide intelligence, support conclusion,
Physical Evidence Training Principles

• During Class Lecture Recruits are trained on:
  – Automated Fingerprint Information System (AFIS)
  – Physical Evidence Identification
  – Fingerprint Terminology
  – Fingerprint Pattern Identification
  – Latent Fingerprint Detection/Processing
    • Latent prints means any chance or accidental impression left by friction ridge skin on a surface
AFIS

• AFIS is a biometric solution for searching fingerprint records
  – Verifies a subject's identity
  – Allows criminal justice agencies to run crime scene latent prints through AFIS databases

• Texas Department of Public Safety AFIS database contains over 10 million fingerprint records

• FBI International AFIS contains over 70 million fingerprint records

• 20,000 subjects have been identified through probative latent evidence since 1989
Fingerprint Pattern Recognition

- Recruits obtain their inked prints and observe and label the patterns for each finger
- $W = \text{Whorl}$  $L = \text{Loop}$  $A = \text{Arch}$
Fingerprinting Kit

• Police recruits are shown a basic fingerprinting kit
  • Fingerprint brushes
  • Fingerprint powders
  • Latent cards
  • Latent card envelopes
  • Evidence Seals
  • Fingerprinting tape
  • Tape dispenser
  • Pink pearl eraser
  • Knife/scissors
  • Gloves
  • Baby wipes
  • Face mask, if desired
  • Magnification lens
  • Flashlight
BMV Processing Exercise at Dallas Police Auto Pound

Recruit at a BMV crime scene:

• Observe and identify potential evidence
• Protect for evidence processing and collection
• Inform and educate the citizen(s) of the evidentiary process that is taking place
  – Debunk “CSI” myths
First Responder Testimony Objectives

• Recruits learn the importance of:
  – Court presentation
  – Appropriate word choice and demeanor
  – The dangers of testifying beyond one’s level of training and knowledge
Summary

• Through First Responder Crime Scene Recruit Training
  – Decrease instances of uncollected evidence
  – Enhance opportunity to solve property crimes
  – Provides intelligence which helps develop leads
    • Potentially clear multiple cases
  – Enhance citizen awareness and understanding
  – Enable officers to develop investigative skills
Questions?