



Training Bulletin

SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT



LORI LUHNOW, Chief of Police

Vol. 2018 No. 009

August 6, 2018

Street Crimes Unit

Purpose:

The primary responsibility of the Street Crime Unit is to address habitual crimes and problems that affect the State Street and beachfront business districts. This is a proactive unit, which regularly works at the direction of the Chief. By not being assigned to calls for service, it allows the SCU team to respond to and handle nuisance issues such as public intoxication, aggressive panhandling, transient related crimes, drug use and sales, as well as other matters that deem pressing to the City and the community. The mission of the Street Crimes Unit is to make the downtown area safe, not only in reality but also in perception.

Scope:

The Street Crime Unit understands that the security of the downtown corridor and surrounding business districts is of utmost importance in keeping the vitality of the State Street area alive. Thus, SCU works closely with the downtown community to find long term solutions to on-going problems and works to eliminate signs of crime by establishing consistent, reliable and personalized police services.

To this end SCU, previously known as the Tactical Patrol Force, uses bicycles as a means of increasing their visibility and presence downtown, as well as patrolling on foot or in plain clothes for directed patrols. This method to policing also allows for a more open and approachable interaction between officers and the citizens of Santa Barbara.

SCU officers are expected to maintain and utilize a working knowledge of local probationers, parolees, career criminals and transients as they conduct and assist in various types of investigations. These officers are also expected to be proficient in current search and seizure case law, tactically sound and able to work in a team environment. SCU often assists the Detective bureau and patrol officers with serving search and arrest warrants and locating any wanted or persons of interest. Their ability to travel where normal patrol units are unable to, makes the SCU a highly effective team. Fully staffed the unit is comprised of 6 officers and 1 Sergeant.

Common Sections Used to Address Habitual Crimes in the Downtown Corridor:

- 647(e) PC – Illegal Lodging
- 369I PC- Trespass on Railroad Tracks
- 9.05.010 MC- Open Container
- 10.52.130 MC- Riding Bicycle on Sidewalk
- 9.20.020- Smoking In Public
- 15.16.250 MC- Park after Hours
- 15.16.240 MC- Removal from the Park
- 9.97.010(a) MC- Sitting on Sidewalk

9.68.060(a) MC- Enter/remain in public lot

9.07.010 MC- Urinating In Public

22435.2(b) B&P- Possession of Shopping Cart

The SCU team also manages Transient Camp Cleanups. For a patrol officer who locates a transient camp, the procedure for scheduling a camp cleanup is as follows:

- Contact Ofc. Peterson via email: bpeterson@sbgpd.com
- Include in your email the exact location, photos of the camp area and the contact information for the reporting party (if it is a citizen who placed a call for service regarding the camp).

For any future assistance or questions, you may contact:

Sgt. Ella, Ofc. Epstein, Ofc. LaBarge, Ofc. D. McGrew or Ofc. B. Peterson