

INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH

Recommendations and WPD Initiated Actions	Application / Response	Time of Implementation
<p>The WPD should ensure that citizens feel comfortable during the process of filing complaints against the department.</p>	<p>Supervisors are in place within the Office of Professional Standards to ensure that intimidation does not occur, and these supervisors will continue to monitor the complaint filing process. The department will provide additional training to officers regarding how to properly handle the filing of a complaint by a citizen, and also plans to implement an education initiative for the public related to how to file a complaint.</p>	<p>Implemented after March 31, 2015</p>
<p>A homicide/shooting response plan should be implemented that mandates that executive staff responds to and takes command of the crime scene so that the apprehension of the offender and the prevention of retaliatory shootings take precedence.</p>	<p>The WPD currently follows a homicide/shooting response protocol. However, the WPD is developing a formalized homicide response plan that requires the response of high-ranking members of the Department to take command and ensure every possible step is being taken to apprehend the offender and prevent additional shootings or retaliation.</p>	<p>Implemented August 2015</p>
<p>Monthly meetings between the Investigations Captain, WPD supervisors and the Attorney General's Office should take place in order to review active and cold cases and determine proactive steps forward.</p>	<p>The Investigations Captain and supervisors meet monthly with the Attorney General's Office to review homicides, shooting incidents, cold cases and other major crimes.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>
<p>A comprehensive approach to investigating violent crime should be addressed through the creation of a Homicide/Violent Crime Unit.</p>	<p>Effective June 9, 2015, the WPD will create the Homicide/Violent Crime Unit consisting of 18 Officers, including 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, and 16 detectives.</p>	<p>Implemented June 9, 2015</p>
<p>HVCU Detective Commanders should meet with the Attorney General's Office a minimum of once a month to prepare for pending trials through the review of pending cases, investigative leads, and forensic results.</p>	<p>The WPD has implemented meetings with the State Prosecutor a minimum of once a month to review pending cases, investigative leads, forensic results, and additional investigate steps needed for successful prosecution on cases pending trial.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>

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<p>“Cold cases” should be reviewed regularly through the creation of a process that determines if they can be returned to active case status. The department should utilize the expertise of retired homicide detectives to assist with the review of cold cases.</p>	<p>As part of the monthly meetings with the Attorney General’s Office, cold cases are reviewed to determine if they can be returned to active status. The WPD recently created a clearer definition of the term “cold case,” which will aid in that determination. We recognize the immeasurable assistance and expertise we receive from the retired detectives who assist with cold case reviews and will continue to utilize their services.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>
<p>The WPD should continue to utilize the services of the Violence Reduction Network.</p>	<p>The WPD is grateful for the continued support of the Violence Reduction Network and will continue to utilize the available services throughout the term of the designation.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>
<p>The Department should prioritize its warrant enforcement efforts by focusing on highly dangerous individuals, and those who are likely to be found in the City’s crime hotspots.</p>	<p>The Department will continue its warrant enforcement efforts, and currently engages in a greater focus on warrants through the prioritization of warrants issued for the most violent individuals and those who frequent or live in hotspot locations.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>
<p>Homicide Unit</p>	<p>The Homicide Unit was created in October of 2014 to investigate all homicides that occur in the city of Wilmington.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>
<p>Mayor’s Reward Program</p>	<p>Mayor Dennis P. Williams announced the establishment of the City of Wilmington’s Crime Reward Fund, which offers incentives to encourage witnesses to cooperate with the police in order to increase the number of arrests and convictions.</p>	<p>Implemented prior to March 31, 2015</p>

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Match Point	Match Point is a software system that provides dynamic visualization tools that let operators make more accurate and informed comparison conclusions. It offers the latest in IBIS technology for remotely comparing and analyzing bullets and cartridge cases in both two and three dimensions. Based on this type of technology, the WPD can compare the evidence procured from other homicide and shooting investigations in a matter of hours rather than the weeks and months that the comparisons previously took. This equipment was supplied to the WPD by the ATF at no cost to the department, with this equipment typically costing over \$60,000.00.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
EDU Processing Area	In 2013, the WPD's Forensic Services Unit began making improvements to the functionality, efficiency and capabilities of the Unit in order to better enhance our service in response to the increase in violent and gun related crimes.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
Task Force Operations	As crime increased nationwide, law enforcement agencies recognized the need for cooperation and coordination of joint enforcement efforts with their federal, state and local counterparts. Currently the WPD has officers assigned to the ATF, DEA, U.S. Marshal Service, and the FBI taskforce.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
HIDTA Designation	In a collaborative effort with the United States Attorney's Office, New Castle County, Delaware was designated as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). The federal program is designed to disrupt drug trafficking through a coordinated "Smart on Crime" approach to enforcement. In addition, this designation will ultimately lead to the provision of additional federal funding for initiatives that curtail drug trafficking and distribution in the area.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015

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State Gun Unit	The State Gun Task Force, funded through the State of Delaware's fiscal year 2015 budget, is a partnership between the State of Delaware, New Castle County, and the City of Wilmington to investigate illegal gun crimes throughout the state.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
Joint Operations with DSP and NCCPD	The WPD, NCCPD and DSP are actively collaborating on investigations related to drug sales and trafficking along the Lancaster Pike corridor, Maryland Avenue and DuPont Road.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
Wilmington Violent Crime Task Force	The mission of The Wilmington Violent Crimes Task Force is to proactively investigate gangs, loosely affiliated groups, shooters, and high risk offenders who operate in specific high crime areas in the City of Wilmington.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
After the filing of a complaint against the department, the WPD should enable complainants to choose their preferred method of follow-up.	Complainants continue to have the opportunity to determine the means by which they will be contacted by the department to discuss the outcome of a filed complaint.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
The WPD should assess its victims services protocol to ensure that crime victims and their family members are communicated with regularly.	The WPD Chief has directed the Criminal Investigation Division's Captain to evaluate the quality of the Department's victim services strategies and investigations and make recommendations, including Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) modifications, to ensure that communication with victims is optimized.	Implemented August 1, 2015
The WPD should conduct an evaluation of the victim/witness risk assessment to ensure that the assessment is comprehensive.	As part of the Law Enforcement Investigative Support System (LEISS), a victim/witness risk assessment is currently done on every case where there is a victim. This risk assessment considers each case comprehensively.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015

INVESTIGATIONS BRANCH

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Protocol (SOP) should be established that requires that when requested, phone calls from victims and/or family members be returned within 24 hours by the appropriate WPD staff member.	SOP's are currently being drafted that will require phone calls from victims and/or family members be returned within 24 hours by a victim services professional or investigator, if requested.	Implemented August 1, 2015
Protocol (SOP) should be established that requires phone calls from survivors of homicide victims be returned immediately by the appropriate WPD staff members.	SOP's are currently being drafted that will require phone calls from survivors of homicide victims be returned immediately by a victim services professional or investigator.	Implemented August 1, 2015
The WPD's victim services professionals should be available to respond to crime scenes when needed, and should utilize the assistance of community victim services organizations.	The WPD victim services professionals currently respond to crime scenes as necessary and leverage the assistance of community victim services organizations as needed.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015
Gun Stat	GUNSTAT is a program that has been implemented to monitor all of the gun arrests that occur within the City of Wilmington.	Implemented prior to March 31, 2015