# REGIONAL CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>POLICE CHIEF</th>
<th>CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Ansonia</td>
<td>Edward Turgeon</td>
<td>Lt. Paul Schumacher</td>
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<td>Branford</td>
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<td>Off. Floyd Harris Off. Michael Jukonsky</td>
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<td>William Bull</td>
<td>Off. Thomas Candia</td>
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<td>Walter Berniere</td>
<td>Capt. Barclay Bumsted Off. Steven Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>James Heinz</td>
<td>Off Robert Stankye</td>
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<td>Seymour</td>
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<td>Sgt. John Olenchuck</td>
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<td>Joseph Bevan</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Joseph Harvey</td>
<td>Off. William Dorgan</td>
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<td>Woodbridge</td>
<td>Salvatore DeGennaro</td>
<td>Off. John McKeown</td>
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### STAFF

Paul F. Guidone, Senior Regional Planner  
South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board

Kenneth F. Nappi, Assistant Regional Planner  
South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board

Coleman C. Bushnell, Project Coordinator  
Regional Crime Prevention Bureau
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THE REGIONAL CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGIONAL APPROACH</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCPB MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENEFITS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROGRAMS</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REGIONAL</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary Security Analysis</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation Identification</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Watch</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat Theft</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoplifting</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Reporting (CB)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCAL</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Address</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store Registry</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle Registration</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping Hand</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Canvassing</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC AWARENESS/EDUCATION</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADIO/TV/NEWSPAPER</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC/PRIVATE COOPERATION</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIA CENTER</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUSINESS SECURITY SEMINAR</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIME PREVENTION VAN</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BILLBOARDS</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATROL INVOLVEMENT</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACTIVITY</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAINING</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUMMARY</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVALUATION</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPACT</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The South Central Region Crime Prevention Bureau (RCPB) was established in 1975 with the assistance of a Connecticut Justice Commission (CJC) grant designed to afford every South Central region police department the capability to provide quality community crime prevention services to the public. The only such program in the State of Connecticut, the RCPB has allowed small and medium sized police departments to engage in activities previously identified only with larger urban police departments.

During its two years of grant operation, the RCPB has established a viable network of crime prevention services in the sixteen participating communities in South Central Connecticut. The Bureau has provided police with a meaningful vehicle to mobilize the public in programs designed to reduce the incidence of crime. In conjunction with other crime reduction initiatives, the RCPB has contributed to a reduction in Part I and selected crime categories in the South Central region during 1976. Further reductions are projected for 1977.

The South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board (SCCJSB), acting on behalf of the South Central Chiefs of Police Association, is pleased to have been part of this successful effort. The region's police chiefs and crime prevention officers should be commended for their unending commitment to the project and its concepts.

This booklet will serve to present several of the major activities undertaken by the RCPB. It is extremely satisfying to note that the crime prevention function has been institutionalized in each participating police department and that the provision of these services will continue long after grant funds have terminated. The SCCJSB looks forward to continued expansion of this effort with the region's police departments.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Guidone
Senior Regional Planner

PPG/msg
THE SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU

A REGIONAL APPROACH TO CRIME PREVENTION

INTRODUCTION

South Central Connecticut is a metropolitan region comprised of both urban, industrialized municipalities and smaller suburban communities. With the City of New Haven at its core, it contains 17 independent, contiguous municipalities and encompasses a total land area of 369.3 square miles. Total 1970 population has been calculated at 550,514, with each municipality ranging in size from 8,000 to 135,000.

With the absence of county government in Connecticut, each municipality maintains its own independent organized police force. The size of each police agency ranges from 12 to 450 sworn officers, with a total of 1150 sworn officers responsible for law enforcement activities and the provision of police services throughout the region.

Encouraged by the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals, and recognizing the need for close police/community cooperation for an effective and responsive crime prevention and crime fighting effort, South Central region police administrators decided to undertake a systematic and coordinated effort to encourage community involvement in the fight against crime. Faced with an alarmingly increasing crime rate, and burdened by limited financial and personnel resources in the face of an ever increasing demand for services, these police administrators realized that the police cannot operate alone and in a vacuum; that the police rely as much on the community for valuable support and information as the community relies upon the police for protection and security.

In 1974, with Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) support, the East Haven Department of Police Services (EHDPS) and the New Haven Department of Police Services (NHDPS) undertook the initial efforts to systematically provide their respective communities with a responsive crime prevention program. Through the East Haven Police/Community Crime Reduction Project and the New Haven Crime Prevention Unit, these two police agencies took important steps towards educating each community of its role in crime prevention.
In so doing, these police agencies provided the foundation for a region-wide program which would encourage the development of a uniformly high calibre of crime prevention services in other communities throughout the region by each respective police department.

REGIONAL APPROACH

In 1975, the South Central Regional Crime Prevention Bureau (RCPB) was formally established. Through a $48,000 LEAA grant awarded to the Town of East Haven on behalf of the South Central Chiefs of Police Association (SCCoP) and administered by the South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board (SCCJSB) 16 South Central region municipalities and police agencies joined together in a cooperative effort to encourage citizen involvement in the prevention of crime.

The 16 municipalities which comprise the RCPB represent the outlying, suburban communities of the region. The City of New Haven, in view of its unique feature as the core urban area, maintained its already existing police crime prevention bureau but maintained liaison and shared resources with the regional network. Thus, the towns comprising the RCPB include:

- Ansonia
- Branford
- Derby
- East Haven
- Guilford
- Hamden
- Madison
- Meriden
- Milford
- North Branford
- North Haven
- Orange
- Seymour
- Wallingford
- West Haven
- Woodbridge

The total population served by the RCPB is 425,000 with the largest municipality containing a population of 55,000 and the largest police force containing approximately 100 sworn officers.

The regional approach to crime prevention was designed to provide a cost effective and efficient mechanism by which smaller police agencies, with limited personnel and financial resources, may deliver a wide range of crime prevention services to their respective communities. A coordinated, regional approach, and the sharing and exchange of information and resources which it encourages, enables each participating police agency to take full advantage of a wide array of crime prevention services to stimulate maximum citizen involvement, but with a minimum commitment of individual department financial resources. Most importantly, it promotes the provision of a comprehensive program of crime prevention services with a uniformly high level of expertise throughout all communities in the region.
RCPB MANAGEMENT

A responsive management policy which respected the special needs and priorities of the individual participating police departments, but which also maintained and encouraged the regional perspective, provided the cornerstone for the successful implementation of the South Central Regional Crime Prevention Bureau. As with any regional program, the maintenance of a balance between individual interests and shared goals is crucial. For a truly effective regional program, it is essential that neither the particular needs of individual departments, nor the benefits of a regional approach, are compromised.

Three elements were central to the establishment of a responsive management policy and organizational framework of the RCPB:

1. The firm commitment of all participating agencies and individuals to the concept of a police crime prevention program and to the regional approach in the delivery of police services.

2. The total cooperation by all involved agencies and individuals in policy formulation, program development, and program implementation.

3. A viable coordinative capability which respected both individual integrity and regional concerns.

Local commitment to the RCPB was provided by the allocation of both personnel and financial resources by each participating police agency to the program. In addition to providing the necessary financial support in compliance with LEAA regulations, each participating police agency assigned, depending upon individual manpower constraints, one or more police officers to serve as that department's crime prevention officer(s). In addition to his regular police duties, the police crime prevention officer is responsible for directing all of the crime prevention activities of his department. These activities include crime prevention programs conducted on the local level within each community as well as liaison to the wider regional effort. In this way, the individual crime prevention officer provides the key to the meaningful and practical implementation of the regional crime prevention program on the local level.

This arrangement allows for effective program development and implementation for both "region-wide" crime prevention efforts and individual community initiatives.
Overall project management is a shared responsibility and requires the total cooperation of all participants if the regional effort is to be as effective and responsive as possible. Thus, an advisory board, which is comprised of representatives of the region's crime prevention officers meets on a regular basis to discuss and plan program activities. Accountable to the SCCoP through the SCCJSB, the advisory board oversees the overall activities of the bureau and assists the Project Coordinator in program development, implementation, and evaluation.

Responsibility for directing the day-to-day activities of the RCPB, and for providing a concrete coordinative capability, rests with the Project Coordinator. Operating under the direction of the SCCJSB, the Project Coordinator provides a central coordinative resource for crime prevention training, research, program development, and program transfer. In this capacity, the Project Coordinator maintains a continuous liaison with all individual crime prevention officers and provides a central resource for crime prevention expertise in the region. The SCCJSB, on behalf of the SCCoP, provides direction and assistance in all grant related activities, policy formulation, and overall project management.

BENEFITS

Since its inception in 1975, the RCPB has served as a catalyst for close police/community interaction in the development of a viable region-wide crime prevention program involving both the police and all segments of the local community. Besides providing a cost-effective and efficient mechanism for the delivery of crime prevention services, it has brought the police and community together in a joint effort to arrive at a constructive resolution of their mutual concerns and problems surrounding the prevention of crime. Towards this end, the RCPB pursued three major goals:

1. Provide each participating police agency with the most comprehensive and up-to-date crime prevention programs available.

2. Educate the public as to its roles and responsibilities in crime prevention.

3. Develop within each police agency an in-house expertise in the delivery of crime prevention services.

The following sections of this booklet describe in greater detail the specific programs and activities through which the RCPB achieved its goals.
PROGRAMS
PROGRAMS

The RCPB developed and sponsored crime prevention programs which were both regional in scope and local in orientation. The several regional programs which were implemented by all participating police agencies provided the foundation on which local initiatives were built. In fact, in many instances, the regional programs encouraged original innovations on the local level to make the crime prevention message as responsive to particular local needs and as meaningful to the local community as possible. This section will highlight these regional and local activities.

REGIONAL

BURGLARY SECURITY ANALYSIS

The crime of burglary is one of the most prevalent crimes facing South Central region municipalities. Indeed, the FBI reported that, on a national level, burglary accounted for 20% of all Part I Index crimes in 1975. In addition, both residential dwellings and commercial establishments have fallen victim to the burglar's craft. Of the $1.4 billion lost through burglary in 1975, residential losses amounted to $925 million while commercial losses reached $446 million.

With these alarming statistics documenting the magnitude of the burglary crime problem, the RCPB focused its initial and primary efforts at the prevention of residential and commercial burglaries. Moreover, with burglary recognized as a crime of opportunity, and deemed suppressible by police or public action, burglary appeared the most amenable to specific "target hardening" techniques which would minimize the opportunity for the crime to be committed.

The primary component of the region's burglary prevention program is the Burglary Security Analysis (BSA). Conducted by the specially trained police crime prevention officer, the BSA rapidly became the basic tool of each local crime prevention bureau. The goal of the BSA is to encourage the local homeowner or businessman to take proactive measures to prevent a burglary from being committed on the premises. The BSA entails an on-site analysis of the particular physical facility and an evaluation of its security deficiencies and potential for burglary loss. Written recommendations for "target hardening" the premises are provided by the crime prevention officer and the resident is encouraged to implement the measures suggested to reduce the criminal opportunity and "harden" the potential target.
The BSA may be performed on either residential dwellings or commercial establishments upon the request of the home or business owner. While each type of survey focuses on a single element - the analysis of a physical facility - and is based on the same basic concepts - opportunity reduction and target hardening - each will require a different approach, depending upon the particular type of facility involved. These two types of burglary security surveys - residential and commercial - will be briefly described here.

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY SECURITY ANALYSIS

The Residential Burglary Security Analysis entails an in-depth review of the particular security risks unique to a residential dwelling: doors, locks, windows, lighting, shrubbery, etc. Through combining the knowledge gained through his security and law enforcement experience, training and education, the crime prevention officer will offer specific recommendations to upgrade the security of the premises and thus minimize its potential as a burglary target.

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY SECURITY ANALYSIS

The Commercial Burglary Security Analysis is directed at the special security problems confronting the local business owner. While the aim of minimizing the risk of burglary remains as the underlying goal, the particular elements and approaches of the commercial burglary security survey may differ slightly from the residential survey. The commercial survey is based on the concept of "risk management" and the business owner is educated as how to best deal with the various risks (i.e., armed robbery, internal theft, shoplifting, check/credit card fraud, etc.) associated with operating a business.

Officer William Dorgan of the West Haven Department of Police Service offers advice while completing a residential burglary security analysis.

A residential security inspection sheet used by the 16 Regional Crime Prevention Bureau Police Departments.
OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

Operation Identification was incorporated into the regional program as it became widely recognized throughout the country that marking valuables with a special identifying number significantly contributed towards a reduction in the incidence of burglary. As part of the regional Operation Identification program, all crime prevention officers were provided with their own allocation of electronic engraving tools for distribution throughout their respective communities. Loaned to local residents and businessmen on request, and available through the local police department, fire department, library, or community center, these special tools are used to engrave the nine digit Connecticut Driver's License number (prefaced by the letters "CT") or the Federal Employer's Tax Number, on all items of value.

Special distinctive decals and stickers are also distributed and displayed on doors and windows to warn potential burglars that all valuable items on the premises have been marked for easy identification. Thus, so utilized, Operation Identification not only contributes towards a reduction in the incidence of burglary, but also towards the recovery and return of any items stolen and the successful prosecution of apprehended suspects.

Officer James Cameron engraves a piece of equipment with the nine digit Connecticut Driver's License number of the owner as part of the Madison Police Department's crime prevention services.
A primary aim of the RCPB is to encourage a cooperative effort between local police and the community in the prevention of crime. A major premise of the RCPB is that a strong and supportive bond between local police and the community will promote a positive and productive crime prevention program. The cornerstone of community life is the neighborhood; neighborhoods provide an already established and easily definable context within which to organize a viable community crime prevention activity.

With this in mind, several local police agencies participating in the RCPB took advantage of the Bureau's services to establish their own Neighborhood Watch programs in their respective communities. While the basic premise behind all Neighborhood Watch programs is the same - encourage local residents to cooperate with police and their neighbors in the prevention of crime - each program may be modified to fit the special needs or characteristics of a given community. By requesting local citizens to report any suspicious activity occurring in their neighborhood to the police, Neighborhood Watch programs in the South Central region have encouraged citizens to become acquainted with their neighbors and surroundings and to become involved in community based crime prevention programs which are responsive to the special needs of the particular community. Above all, these programs have further encouraged and promoted continuous dialogue and communication between the local law enforcement agencies and the particular communities which they serve.

A Neighborhood Watch Sign is checked by Officer Stanley Konesky of the Branford Department of Police Service.
Eight of the police agencies participating in the regional crime prevention program are responsible for providing police services along 150 miles of coastal shoreline and inland waterways. This responsibility necessarily entails a specialized crime prevention service which focuses on the special crime prevention problems associated with shoreline boating activity.

All of the eight shoreline police departments participated in the anti-boat theft campaign sponsored by the RCPB. The only fully coordinated and comprehensive boat theft program in the State of Connecticut, this program supported local police efforts to educate their respective communities in boating safety and theft prevention. Each department was provided with a supply of a specially prepared brochure, "Protect Your Boat and Its Valuables", and accompanying posters which were then distributed and displayed throughout the region's local marinas and landing areas by the appropriate police marine division. This brochure contained substantive tips and suggestions for boat-owners on preventing thefts of their boats or boating equipment. Several other RCPB programs were used in conjunction with this special anti-boat theft campaign, most notably Operation Identification for boating equipment, Neighborhood Watch and security analysis for marinas, and the Regional Crime Prevention Van for general marine theft prevention education.

This effort was fostered by recent increases in the theft of boats and boating equipment experienced in South Central region communities.

Officer Thomas Candia of the Milford Department of Police Service conducts a security analysis at a local marina.
Losses attributed to shoplifting have been estimated at reaching 4 billion dollars per year. In fact, it has been estimated that the shoplifter may account for more commercial losses due to crime than the burglar and armed robber combined. The end result of these losses is that the consumer must pay more to offset these excessive operating costs. Indeed, it is estimated that the price of merchandise must be increased 3% to 15% to compensate for losses due to shoplifting and other criminal acts against businesses.

The problem of shoplifting has been no less prevalent in South Central Connecticut. Recognizing this fact, the RCPB sponsored special shoplifting clinics for businessmen and their employees. Based on the premise that the most effective means of combating the shoplifter was to know who he is and how to catch him, these clinics were designed to train store personnel on the state statutes on shoplifting, the motives and techniques of shoplifters, and methods of apprehension. Special stickers were given to the merchant to display on cash registers, doors, and windows warning that all shoplifters will be fully prosecuted when apprehended.

"A PERSON IS GUILTY OF SHOPLIFTING WHO INTENTIONALLY TAKES POSSESSION OF ANY GOODS ... WITHOUT PAYING THE PURCHASE PRICE THEREOF."

CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES 53a-119 through 53a-125

NORTH HAVEN Department of Police Service Crime Prevention Unit

Anti-shoplifting warning utilized by commercial establishments.
AUTO THEFT

In its Uniform Crime Reports of 1975, the FBI reported that the Northeastern states accounted for the highest number of reported motor vehicle thefts in the country. In 1975, 32% of all reported motor vehicle thefts in the United States occurred in the highly populated Northeastern states.

In response to these facts, the region's local law enforcement agencies, with the assistance of the RCPB, initiated a public education campaign to inform citizens on how they can help reduce the incidence of auto theft. Through the distribution and display of specially prepared posters, local citizens were constantly reminded by their local police department to "LOCK IT AND POCKET THE KEY".

EMERGENCY REPORTING NETWORK

Police have long recognized that citizen crime reporting is the primary means of obtaining information on emergencies, suspicious activity and crimes. To facilitate a more direct and responsive means of citizen reporting, an emergency CB radio network was developed by the participating police agencies in the RCPB. Citizen Band radio Channel 9, the F.C.C. designated emergency CB channel, is currently monitored on a 24-hour basis by local police departments. With the increased use of the CB radio in the region and the institution of the Channel 9 monitoring programs, local police have greatly expanded their "eyes and ears" within the community. CBers now have the potential to report directly to the police department emergencies such as accidents, fires, injured persons, suspicious activity, and crimes in progress. Police departments monitoring Channel 9 all display road signs on major access highways entering the community and at highly travelled intersections.

In addition, programs utilizing Operation Identification have been implemented by the RCPB in order to decrease the potential for Citizen Band radio thefts. A manual has been developed containing guidelines for emergency reporting and outlining CB theft prevention steps. These manuals are distributed throughout the region by local police departments to Citizen Band radio clubs, civic organizations and commercial CB sales and service representatives. Theft of CB radios have increased dramatically with the use of this device by private citizens.
Detective Robert Nolan of the Hamden Department of Police Service displays a sign informing CBers that Emergency Channel 9 is being monitored by the department.

East Haven Patrol Sergeant monitoring a transmission over Emergency Channel 9.
A primary emphasis of the RCPB was to develop an in-house capability within the region's local police agencies to provide responsive crime prevention services to their respective communities. Tapping the resources of the regional effort, these local agencies adapted the RCPB's programs to meet the particular needs of a uniquely local crime prevention problem. Some of these local initiatives included store registry, public address, bicycle registration, HELPING HAND, and telephone canvassing.

PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM

A Crime Prevention Public Address System was developed and implemented by the Orange Department of Police Service. Designed to maintain public awareness of vital crime prevention information, the Orange Public Address System program combined crime analysis and crime prevention to bring the crime prevention message closer to the public in high crime areas. With crime analysis identifying a particular area of the community as having a special problem with burglary, vandalism, or robbery, the crime prevention officer will park his police cruiser in that area, with warning lights on, and broadcast on the cruiser's public address system a continuous, pre-recorded crime prevention message.

STORE REGISTRY PROGRAM

Commercial burglary cost the American consumer and businessman over $400 million in 1975. In addition to other burglary prevention efforts the Guilford Department of Police Service sponsored and implemented the Guilford Store Registry Program as a local initiative in commercial crime prevention. Supported with funds and technical assistance from the RCPB, the Guilford Store Registry program was designed to actively involve the individual businessman and his employees in the police department's crime prevention effort. Under this program, the businessman registers his business with the police department and provides such information as who to contact in the event of an emergency, location of any safes or valuable equipment, and whether the premises is alarmed. The business is then assigned its own special identifying number which provides a readily accessible data base to enable the prompt and accurate response to a call for police service. Special stickers are provided each registered businessman to place on a door or window which informs all persons that his store and its contents are registered with the local police department. In conjunction with the store registry program, the business also undergoes a perimeter commercial security check, and its employees are educated in such areas as armed robbery protection, check/credit card fraud and shoplifting prevention.
Officer Robert Stankye of the Orange Department of Police Service uses his P.A. System to broadcast crime prevention information in local neighborhoods.

Store registry sticker utilized by the Guilford Department of Police Service.

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<th>BUSINESS REGISTRY NUMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner's Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Owner's Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>In an Emergency Call</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premix Alarmed</td>
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<tr>
<td>If You Name of Alarm Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To React an Alarm Contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe or Vault or precious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If You Where it Located</td>
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For Additional Information Refer to Back of Card

Businessmen completing the above registration card provide the Guilford Crime Prevention Unit with vital operational information in the event of a burglary.
BICYCLE REGISTRATION

Bicycle theft has been a special problem plaguing all communities. While some South Central region police agencies had implemented bicycle registration programs prior to the RCPB's inception, still others had yet to develop a responsive strategy on procedures to deal with this problem. Thus, one such community in the region, North Branford, in the face of an alarming increase in bicycle theft, tapped the RCPB for technical assistance in developing and implementing a bicycle registration program. Combining Operation Identification with the South Central Region Crime Prevention Van, North Branford Police crime prevention personnel engraved neighborhood bicycles with a special identifying number kept on file at the police department. The program was conducted from the van and concentrated on individual neighborhoods in the community.

HELPING HAND

Protecting school children during their travels to and from school in an organized manner was also identified as a special need in several communities. The HELPING HAND program was instituted in neighborhood homes which were specially identified to provide assistance to children in time of an emergency. Special HELPING HAND posters were placed in the windows of participating homes for easy identification by school children.

TELEPHONE CANVASSING

The telephone provides another readily accessible and convenient means to increase citizen participation in crime prevention. The Madison Police Department Crime Prevention Bureau employed the telephone to alert burglary victims of the availability of special crime prevention services. As a result of this effort, a total of 69% of the burglary victims reached requested such crime prevention services as Operation Identification and burglary security analysis from the Madison Crime Prevention Bureau.
PUBLIC
AWARENESS/EDUCATION
The South Central Region Crime Prevention Vehicle “Show on Wheels” is utilized by the sixteen Departments of Police Service.
PUBLIC AWARENESS/EDUCATION

Understandably, crime prevention is essentially a public education effort. Recognizing that police alone cannot solve the crime problem, law enforcement administrators must solicit community support of crime prevention activities. A truly effective crime prevention effort requires citizens and law enforcement agencies to work together to minimize the opportunity for criminal activity to occur; any police crime prevention unit, regardless of the sophistication of its programs or expertise of its personnel, cannot be fully effective if the citizens which it serves remain unaware of the need for, and their role in, crime prevention.

Obviously, then, at the heart of any crime prevention effort must be public education; education which not only alerts the public to the nature and extent of the crime problems and which creates a general awareness of crime prevention programs, but which also serves to change public attitudes, increase public knowledge, and change public behavior in support of the concept and practices of crime prevention. In short, the public must be educated, and a climate created, which encourages and stimulates an active public awareness of, and participation in, a police/community crime prevention program.

The administrators of the South Central RCPB and its participating police agencies were keenly aware of this basic need for public awareness and education if the regional crime prevention program was to be as effective as possible. Consequently, the project devoted much of its resources towards a concerted, coordinated, and multi-faceted public education campaign throughout the entire region. This campaign took advantage of all available mass media and public information services; the extent of this public education effort will be briefly described in this section.

RADIO/TV/NEWSPAPERS

The mass media, is probably the most convenient and direct means by which to reach and educate large segments of the public about the magnitude of the crime problem and what they, the public, can do about it. In recognition of this fact, the RCPB sponsored several mass media public education initiatives:
Radio - "RSVP", a popular radio "call-in" program broadcast throughout the entire South Central region on radio station WELI (96.5kz), provided a convenient forum for the exchange of information between representatives of the RCPB and the local community. On two separate occasions selected local crime prevention officers appeared on the "RSVP" program and answered listeners' questions and offered advice on proper crime prevention techniques and practices. Well received by the listening audience, these programs contributed towards the initial education of the community on the efforts underway in crime prevention.

TV - A television program similar in concept to the radio "RSVP" program was also employed by the RCPB to communicate the crime prevention message to the public at large. "AM Connecticut", broadcast on WTNH-TV, the local ABC-TV affiliate in New Haven, provided a graphic demonstration of the fundamental techniques of crime prevention and illustrated to the public that specific, concrete measures do exist to allow community participation in a crime prevention program.

Newspapers - The print media was probably the most utilized mechanism for public education on crime prevention. On behalf of both the overall regional effort and individual local initiatives, the RCPB prepared and released press releases, photographs, and articles to both local and national publications to inform the public of the programs and services available in all phases of crime prevention. Whether emphasizing Halloween safety, vacation tips to prevent burglary, or the announcement of a new crime prevention initiative, the printed page brought the crime prevention message to the public in a tangible, easily accessible, and easily comprehensible form. Hundreds of articles have appeared in the region's daily and weekly newspapers such as the New Haven Register, Journal-Courier, Milford Citizen, Shoreline Times, Branford Review, Evening Sentinel, and Meriden Record.

Burglary Drop Credited To Prevention Program

Headline appearing in the New Haven Register on Thursday, March 17, 1977.
This collage displays the variety of public information material prepared and distributed by the Regional Crime Prevention Program.
PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

The public presentation is probably the most personable, and thus perhaps the most effective, means to discuss crime prevention with the community. Through a single presentation, the crime prevention officer may not only reach over 100 persons, but may also, through his personal appearances, encourage a greater public commitment to the problem of crime control and the goal of police/community cooperation.

With this in mind, crime prevention officers throughout the region participated in several speaking engagements in their respective communities. Audiences ranged from elementary school children to senior citizens groups, and topics varied from bicycle theft prevention to rape, personal crime, and burglary prevention. It is estimated that these presentations reached over 20,000 individuals and perhaps helped prevent an untold number of personal or property crimes.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE COOPERATION IN CRIME PREVENTION

Just as the responsibility for crime prevention does not rest solely with the local police, so must the task of public education be a joint effort between the police and private, community based local organizations if all the resources available for this purpose are to be utilized. Recognizing this fact, the RCPB solicited, and received, the support of several local private companies to promote the local crime prevention effort.

This support was most notably illustrated by the efforts of the utility companies serving South Central Connecticut: United Illuminating Company, Connecticut Light and Power Company, Southern Connecticut Gas Company, and the Southern New England Telephone Company. All four companies, in their monthly newsletter to their respective customers, included, at no cost, crime prevention educational information prepared by the RCPB. In addition, Knudsen's Dairy, a local dairy serving the South Central region, but engaged in the state-wide distribution of dairy products, allowed the RCPB to utilize its milk cartons to further publicize the crime prevention message. In addition, several lock and alarm displays were donated to the RCPB by independent, private lock and hardware companies for use in public presentations. These illustrations of public and private cooperation enhanced an already concerted public education effort by the South Central RCPB and its composite local police agencies.

In addition, security representatives from banks and businesses have been made available as lecturers and trainers for police personnel.
Speaking engagements are one of the most effective means of informing the public of the crime prevention effort.

MEDIA CENTER

To insure that each crime prevention officer is able to present a quality presentation to the public, a media resource center was established at the SCCJSB. Developed and maintained by the RCPB Project Coordinator, the resource center includes catalogues of existing crime prevention brochures from throughout the country and abroad, audio visual equipment, and a library of crime prevention films and slide presentations. The media resource center also serves as a distribution point for crime prevention literature prepared by the RCPB and of brochures and pamphlets acquired from private industry. Thus, the media resource center has provided a firm information base from which crime prevention officers may develop their own crime prevention program addressing any specific area.
BUSINESS SECURITY SEMINAR

Educating businessmen of the need for, and techniques of, commercial security and crime prevention presents many unique problems. Although the region's crime prevention officers regularly address such business groups as Retail Trade Associations, Chambers of Commerce, and civic organizations, the crime prevention officer is still not able to reach every business owner with his crime prevention message. Recognizing the special problems confronting the local businessman, but also intent on fully communicating the crime prevention message to him, the RCPB developed the Business Security Seminar.

The Business Security Seminar, which may be offered on a sub-regional or even local basis, entails a complete, systematic, and concise presentation to businessmen of basic commercial crime prevention concepts and practices. One such seminar offered by the RCPB was the East Shore Businessman's Day which was a joint effort between the Bureau and the police departments and Chambers of Commerce of the five East Shore towns (Branford, East Haven, Guilford, Madison and North Branford) and the Small Business Administration. The half-day seminar focused, in workshop format, on such commercial security issues as external security, robbery prevention, shoplifting, internal theft, check cashing procedures, and credit card fraud. Officials from local banking institutions, private industry, and the State judicial system were included as valuable resources of practical security information and continue to remain available to the RCPB for additional engagements. All material associated with the seminar was then packaged and may now be transferred for application in any other municipality or sub-region within the RCPB's jurisdiction.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

A

BUSINESS SECURITY SEMINAR

FOR

EAST SHORE COMMERCIAL and RETAIL BUSINESSES

Thursday, September 16, 1976
TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Tabor Drive
Branford, Connecticut
8:30 A.M.

Brochure announcing the scheduling of a Business Security Seminar held in conjunction with five East Shore towns.
SOUTH CENTRAL CRIME PREVENTION VAN

A highly visible 27 foot long crime prevention van has produced a new dimension for the RCPB in promoting crime prevention. Crime prevention officers using the mobile "Show on Wheels" van are able to take a complete crime prevention presentation anywhere in the community. On board are crime prevention displays extensively covering locks and alarms. Also, additional security precautions such as Neighborhood Watch and Operation Identification are highlighted. Panels describing crime specific areas, on the street, in a car, or in the home provide continuity for a crime prevention officer's presentation. During the van's first operational year, over 7,000 persons heard crime prevention presentations and received brochures to help reduce criminal opportunity.

BILLBOARDS

Part of a continuing effort to increase citizen awareness of crime prevention was a comprehensive billboard campaign. Billboards were erected throughout the region in areas which had large numbers of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. This highly visible medium urged the public to "Stop This Burglar Now!". A total of 32 billboards were placed in the sixteen town area and the City of New Haven.
Law-abiding citizens are not as helpless to prevent crime as they might think they are. Individually and collectively they can do a great deal to check the rising crime rate. And the South Central Connecticut Regional Crime Prevention Unit (RCPU) is spreading the word of precisely what can be done.

Public awareness of crime-fighting possibilities is being increased through four specific publicity programs. The aim is to increase community support and participation in local crime efforts. Throughout the region, billboards depict a masked burglar and urge the public to "Stop Him Now." Furthermore, the billboards offer free home and business security surveys analyses so that the home owners can act to protect themselves.

Through regional and local newspapers, the RCPU is giving weekly crime prevention news tips as the second phase of its publicity campaign. Follow-up information can be gained by contacting local crime prevention units.

The third phase of the campaign will be achieved through mass mailings. Public utilities, such as the telephone, electric, gas and water companies, are being asked to include crime prevention information in their monthly billings. The utility patrons will be urged to use the free services offered by their local crime prevention unit.

A regional van is featured as the fourth phase of the publicity drive. The vehicle will be used on a rotating basis by local law-enforcers. It will enable crime-fighters to carry their programs to a wide area and thus reach as many people in a community as possible. The van is especially useful since it will display working lock and alarm systems, and offer other demonstrations through slide and movie projectors. There is room for about 20 people in the van.

We can't become vigilantes to fight crime but we can take every precaution to protect ourselves and to impede the lawbreaker. Let the regional crime prevention unit show you just what measures are practical to defend yourself against the rising tide of lawlessness.

Editorial which appeared in the New Haven Register April 18, 1976.
PATROL INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME PREVENTION

The patrol force is the largest and the most visible component of the police department. It is in the patrol force, and the individual patrol officer, where the primary responsibility for the delivery of all forms of police service lies. Inherent in this responsibility is the involvement of the patrol officer in the community; whether in the course of routine patrol or specific police activity, the patrol officer comes into constant contact with the local community and its residents. As such, the police patrol force is in a pivotal position to encourage community participation in a police crime prevention program.

The RCPB directed special attention at efforts to include all patrol personnel in selected crime prevention activities. Police patrol involvement in crime prevention may take several forms, but at the cornerstone is training. The traditional focus of police work has been the apprehension of criminals and the investigation of criminal activity; police patrol personnel are becoming increasingly aware that the reduction of criminal opportunity may also play a vital role in their efforts to adequately perform their police patrol responsibilities. Thus, the East Haven and Madison Police Departments initiated special training programs to educate and train their patrol personnel in the concepts, principles and techniques of crime prevention. In Madison, a special 8-hour training block was set aside for patrol officer crime prevention training, and in East Haven a special curriculum was developed for training at roll call.

Other activities to promote patrol involvement in crime prevention may include the dissemination of crime prevention information and the conducting of perimeter burglary security analyses by patrol personnel. In Woodbridge, which initiated the former, patrol personnel, while on routine patrol, will note any security risks around a business establishment or residential dwelling and note these risks on a special security check card. This card is then left on the premises for the businessman's or homeowner's information.

In the Milford and North Branford Police Departments, patrol officers on the midnight shift will photograph businesses to graphically illustrate "invitations to a burglary" on the premises. The developed photos are referred to the department's crime prevention officer for his more detailed follow-up security check of the business.

These activities have provided a foundation for the total commitment of all police resources to the practice of crime prevention in South Central Connecticut. It is anticipated that these and other activities necessitating patrol involvement in crime prevention will be further integrated into all region departments as crime specific planning is instituted in the region's criminal justice planning effort.
Dear Homeowner:

While on a routine patrol of your neighborhood, a Woodbridge Police Officer observed the following risk(s) on your property:

- □ Lighting Inadequate
- □ Open Garage Door
- □ Ladders Available
- □ High Shrubbery
- □ Mail Accumulating
- □ Accumulated Delivery Goods
- □ Other

Calling Card left by Woodbridge patrol officers discovering security risks in residential dwellings or commercial establishments.

Officer John McKeown of the Woodbridge Department of Police Service leaving a homeowner notification of observed security risks.
1976
REGIONAL CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU
PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BURGLARY SECURITY ANALYSIS</td>
<td>Surveys 1,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPERATION IDENTIFICATION</td>
<td>Participants 480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS</td>
<td>Presentations 236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Persons Attending 13,760</td>
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<tr>
<td>BURGLARY PREVENTION BOOKLETS</td>
<td>Distribution 15,450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOBILE CRIME PREVENTION VAN</td>
<td>Participants 14,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRIME PREVENTION PRINTED MATERIAL</td>
<td>Distribution 48,250</td>
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</table>
TRAINING
CRIME PREVENTION TRAINING

The provision of a comprehensive and effective police crime prevention service requires a special expertise on the part of all crime prevention personnel. Crime prevention is a specialty; one which has its own technology apart from standard police activities. Moreover, as the technology of criminal activity has become more complex and sophisticated over the years, so must the techniques of crime prevention continuously grow to meet this challenge. The need for training, therefore, is self-evident; police personnel must be fully trained in crime prevention strategies and technologies if they are to provide a responsive crime prevention program to their community.

A major effort of the RCPB, therefore, was the provision of a full range of specialized training programs to the region's crime prevention officers. The Project Coordinator of the Bureau served as the central clearinghouse and coordinative force behind these training programs. Through his efforts, both public and private resources were tapped to ensure a wide range of training activities. These training efforts are briefly described as follows:

PRIVATE

General Electric Company - Properly designed lighting systems are well recognized as an effective crime deterrent device. In a one-day training session, the General Electric Company, at its branch office in West Haven, educated the region's crime prevention officers in effective street lighting design, the cost factors in lighting, and the different kinds of lighting systems for different spatial arrangements.

Schlage Security Institute - Properly utilized, the lock serves as an effective deterrent to criminal activity, especially burglary. In two one-day training sessions held at the East Haven Police Department, representatives from the Schlage Security Institute provided the region's police crime prevention officers with practical information on the proper utilization of locking mechanisms. This training included a demonstration of the vulnerability of all types of locks, ways in which locks may be upgraded, and the proper locks to use in different security risk settings.

Educational Crime Prevention Programs, Inc. - A major component of the regional crime prevention effort is to take crime prevention to the public. Towards this end, crime prevention officers utilize the Regional Crime Prevention Van. A one-week training session in the proper utilization of the van and its numerous crime prevention displays was provided by its manufacturer, Educational Crime Prevention Programs, Inc. Further on-site training with the van is given by the Project Coordinator.
Stop and Shop, Inc. - Prior to the Christmas season, a one-day shoplifting seminar was conducted for all crime prevention officers. The New England Security Field Manager for Stop and Shop, Inc. lectured on the methods used by shoplifters and how the crime prevention officer could effectively work with retail businessmen and their employees to deal with this problem.

Burns Security - With alarm systems becoming prevalent as one means of preventing criminal activity, crime prevention officers have an added responsibility to be fully versed in alarm system technology. To meet this need, the Burns Security Company provided all crime prevention officers with training in all aspects of alarm systems design, care, and technology.

PUBLIC

New York City Department of Police Services Crime Prevention Section - To take advantage of the crime prevention knowledge and advances of other police departments, the RCPB sponsored a one-day trip to New York City to enable the region's crime prevention officers to receive training from the New York City Police Department's Crime Prevention Section. This training, which covered the topical areas of security hardware and alarm systems theory and practice, was found to be extremely helpful in the region's crime prevention education campaign. Through this initial training session, a firm basis for the crime prevention officers' security recommendations was established.

Municipal Police Training Council - Two one-week training schools were offered at the Meriden Police Academy dealing specifically with the police role in crime prevention. The course covered crime prevention theory, robbery prevention, locks and alarms, internal theft, shoplifting, auto theft, bunco/fraud, security checks, personal safety, and programming. The RCPB project coordinator provided technical assistance in the planning, implementation, and operation of this crime prevention educational effort.

Texas Crime Prevention Institute - Recognizing the need for formalized training concentrating on the development and implementation of crime prevention programs, crime prevention officers were sent to South West Texas University's Texas Crime Prevention Institute. All RCPB crime prevention officers, including the project coordinator, received the complete 80-hour basic crime prevention training curriculum of this nationally recognized crime prevention education institute.
Texas Crime Prevention Institute

hereby attests that

JAMES J. CAMERON

HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE

BASIC CRIME PREVENTION SCHOOL

consisting of 80 hours of classroom instruction


Certificate received by crime prevention officers completing the training courses offered by the Texas Crime Prevention Institute.

MUNICIPAL POLICE TRAINING COUNCIL

Certificate

This is to certify that

GLENN ODELL

has satisfactorily completed a course in CRIME PREVENTION

conducted at CONNECTICUT POLICE ACADEMY
from May 24, 1976 to May 28, 1976
as authorized by the General Statutes of Connecticut pertaining to Municipal Police Training.

Municipal Police Training Council's certificate of course completion.
SUMMARY

THE FUTURE
EVALUATION: RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY SECURITY ANALYSIS

In order to properly assess the true impact of the Crime Prevention Bureau, an evaluation process was instituted utilizing methodologies which could be transferred from one department to another. Implementation of the evaluation process was concentrated on the Milford Crime Prevention Bureau and focused on the unit's application of the RCPB sponsored Burglary Security Analysis program.

Approximately one month was spent by South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board (SCCJSB) staff reviewing the Residential Burglary Security Analysis (RBSA) program in Milford. The evaluation attempted to measure the:

- reasons why residents requested this service
- what security recommendations were implemented by residents and to what degree had the residents ever been burglarized before or after the RBSA
- demographic information of residents involved, such as age and occupation of participants

Results of the evaluation showed that:

1. RBSA fulfilled a necessary service according to respondents
2. Residents do follow security recommendations of a crime prevention officer
3. None of the respondents had been burglarized since RBSA.

Positive feedback such as this provides answers to police chiefs and crime prevention officers throughout the region as to why the RBSA is a valuable weapon towards reducing criminal opportunity and the incidence of burglary.

KEY RESULTS OF THE RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY SECURITY ANALYSIS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Compliance Rate of Respondents: 64% Mean 75% Median</th>
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<tr>
<th>Recommendations Implemented by Respondents:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUXILIARY LOCKS (i.e. DEADBOLTS) 68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINNED DOUBLE HUNG WINDOWS 50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRUNED SHRUBBERY 44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECURED GARAGE 27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSTALLED BREAK RESISTIVE GLASS 22%</td>
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</table>
IMPACT

The South Central Regional Crime Prevention Bureau has represented an innovative and responsive approach to not only the overall problem of crime prevention, but also towards encouraging a productive and cooperative effort between the police and the public in dealing with their mutual concerns of crime control and prevention. The RCPB was designed to achieve a spirit of total community involvement in the prevention of crime.

The regional scope proved central to this successful endeavor. Crime does not respect political boundaries, and the citizens and police of one municipality are faced with the same concerns as those of another, especially those in neighboring communities. At the same time, the ever-present constraints placed upon local governments and their agencies through financial and personnel limitations have, in some cases, limited the extent and nature of government service delivery. However, the regional approach, with its pooling and sharing of resources, has served to counteract the deficiencies inherent in a singular patchwork effort.

Through combining resources in the RCPB, the police agencies of South Central Connecticut have provided their constituents with a fully coordinated and efficient crime prevention service. These police agencies have collectively recognized their crime prevention responsibilities, and also the need for community support and involvement. With almost 15,000 persons reached through the South Central region crime prevention van, and 1,000 residential dwellings and commercial establishments given complete security analyses, and including the thousands of individuals who may have been reached through public presentations, advertisements, the media, and other public education activities, etc., the RCPB has indeed laid the foundation for a viable police/community crime prevention effort in South Central Connecticut.

The regional approach has received nationwide and state-wide recognition. It is being considered for adaptation in other jurisdictions throughout the country, and also for state-wide expansion in Connecticut. Thus, the South Central RCPB has also served to symbolize the firm commitment by both state and local agencies and governments in Connecticut to the principle and concept of crime prevention and of the important role which the community must play in the fight against crime and the administration of justice.
The South Central Region of Connecticut.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Paul F. Guidone  
Senior Regional Planner
South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board  
269 Orange Street  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510  
(203) 777-5596
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The design, development, and ultimate inception of the RCPB necessarily required the support and assistance of several individuals and agencies. In particular, special acknowledgement is given to Mayor Anthony Proto of the Town of East Haven and Chief Joseph Pascarella of the East Haven Department of Police Service for their cooperation and support while serving as the grantee for the project. In addition, the New Haven Department of Police Service Crime Prevention Unit also provided valuable technical assistance and guidance as the regional concept evolved into a viable and meaningful program.

Printed with funds from a Connecticut Justice Commission grant administered by the South Central Criminal Justice Supervisory Board.
END