

**MERCED POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**FUND NOS. 001, 013, 026, & 451**  
**ACCOUNT NOS. 1001-09, 1013-14, & 1023**

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***DESCRIPTION***

The Merced Police Department is composed of 120 sworn and civilian employees that deliver a full range of law enforcement services to the community. The department is deployed into three police areas, which are defined by geographical landmarks. Each area, North, Central and South, has distinct characteristics which differentiate the way we police that particular area, yet all share many common traits and characteristics which bind them with the other areas and standardize overall operations. In addition to the officers assigned to each area, the department maintains a Street Crime Unit and Gang Violence Suppression Unit, which act as resources to each area commander to address acute or chronic problems.

***MISSION***

The Merced Police Department maintains the traditional mission of protection of life and property. Additionally, the department is committed to provide professional law enforcement services through a highly trained and responsive staff. The department seeks to accomplish its goals by treating all persons fairly, with dignity and respect. The department seeks to establish lasting relationships with existing community and neighborhood groups, through a committed philosophy of Community Based Policing and Problem Solving.

***GOALS***

**CRIME REDUCTION**

- ◇ Continue to develop and implement citywide crime reduction programs, which includes increased prevention, enforcement and investigation.
- ◇ Continue to develop and implement a citywide traffic accident reduction program, which includes increased prevention and enforcement activities.

## **POLICE**

### **CRIME PREVENTION**

- ◇ Continue to educate and implement Community Based Policing and Problem Solving techniques in the neighborhoods and with community groups.
- ◇ Establish 6 new Neighborhood Watch groups in each policing district through the Merced Community Action Network.
- ◇ Continue with the Gang Resistance Education and Training program in the city's middle schools.
- ◇ Continue to work, through community groups and the media, to keep citizens informed of Homeland Security issues.
- ◇ Develop and implement a Citizens Police Academy to educate the citizens about the nature of law enforcement work and their police department.

### **TECHNOLOGY**

- ◇ Improve technology to improve overall effectiveness of service delivery.

### **FUTURE GROWTH**

- ◇ Maintain and study methods of increasing training, retention and deployment of officers,
- ◇ Continue to develop long-range plans for expansion of police facilities, services and department growth.

#### ***OBJECTIVES***

#### ***PERFORMANCE MEASURES / INDICATORS***

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| 1. Expand existing mobile computer system to eliminate paper case records and improve case record management. | Purchase mobile computer upgrade for police vehicles by December 31, 2005 and complete system testing by March 1, 2006 and preoperational testing by June 1, 2006.            |
| 2. Complete Phase II compliance for E- 9-1-1.   | Purchase E- 9-1-1 Interface and computer aided dispatch mapping to come into compliance with E-9-1-1 phase two. CAD mapping would also be used by officers in their vehicles. |

## **POLICE**

### **OBJECTIVES**

### **PERFORMANCE MEASURES INDICATORS**

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| 3. Improve emergency notification capability.  | Identify funding sources to acquire and install a PC-based emergency notification system and telephone lines by December 31, 2005.   |
| 4. Reduce the number of injury and fatal accidents in the city.  | Five percent reduction by June 30, 2005. This will be accomplished through increased enforcement at high accident locations for primary collision factors identified by the Traffic GIS program. In addition DUI and safety checks, education and the continued effort to impound vehicles being driven by persons with suspended/revoked or unlicensed drivers will continue to be an important component of the accident reduction process. Monthly review of statistical information gathered will be done to make sure we are complying with our goal and objective. |
| 5. Continue to educate and implement Community Based Policing and Problem Solving techniques in the neighborhoods and interaction with community groups. | Each area will work with the Merced Community Action Network to establish 6 new Neighborhood Watch groups in each area, to educate the citizens in the philosophy of Community Based Policing and Problem Solving.   |
| 6. Reduce Part I Crimes by 5 percent in targeted areas.  | Each Area will define its high crime area. Through increased patrols, enforcement, and active crime prevention, which includes establishment of Neighborhood Watch programs, crime prevention methods through the media, print, radio and television. Statistical information will be reviewed on a monthly basis to track the progress.   |
| 7. Continue to develop 5- and 10-year long-range plans for expansion of police facilities, services, personnel and sub-stations.                         | This goal and objective is carried over from last year. We need to continue to study and complete analysis of growth patterns, population increases / decreases, and where we should be locating new sub-stations as well as existing sub-stations. An analysis of district and beat boundaries also needs to be included in this study.   |

## **POLICE**

### ***2005-2006 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS***

During the past year the Merced Police Department experienced the tragic murder of one of our police officers. This is the first murder of a police officer in the history of the department. Major expenditures occurred during the 17 day statewide investigation to bring the suspect in this case into custody. Due to the financial assistance provided by the State of California, Department of Justice, Division of Law Enforcement and the solid support of the City Council and City Manager these expenses were covered in the budget. As the Department continues to heal from this tragic experience we have not lost sight of our primary mission and goals and will continue to work hard to keep Merced a safe community.

This past Fiscal Year saw the retirement of two Sergeants and one Corporal. We filled two of three new CSO/Dispatcher positions that were authorized in the last Fiscal Year Budget. In the upcoming year (prior to December 2005) the Department will experience five other retirements in the police officer ranks. The Investigations Unit will lose three officers to retirement and this will impact the experience level in that unit. Retention, training and recruitment remain a top priority within the department and these positions will be filled as soon as possible. Succession training continues to remain a high priority within the Department.

We have continued to upgrade our local area computer network. A major renovation of radio equipment and a remodel of the Communications Center is underway. This is being funded through grants and State 9-1-1 funds. This should be completed in the next budget year.