

RPS Working Group - Meeting #6
Thursday, September 2, 2021 - 6:00 - 7:30 pm ET

Attendees: RPS Working Group, CPE Onsite team, Technical Advisors: Melody Faraday;
Deanna Carrithers, Schelley Michell-Nunn
Did not attend:

Links:

[Meeting #6 Ref Docs](#)
[Call Types Example Sheet](#) - Reference
[DoER Education Q&A](#) - Reference - updated 8/27/21
[Call Types Google Poll](#)

RPS Working Group WorkSheet ([Link Here](#)) we are on section 4
Link to Shared folder - [Internal Communications Folder](#)

Action Items:

Michael Stitley will send information on Language Line (and the process for non-English speaking callers) and Pro Q&A module for law enforcement officers to the working group ([REDACTED] Q. and [REDACTED] Q)

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, September 16, 2021 3:30 - 5:00 pm ET Register [HERE](#)

Notes:

- [REDACTED] Moment of Silence
- [REDACTED] [Group Expectations Reminder](#)

Breakout Room 1:

- [REDACTED] Want to hear more about voting for alternative responses - what could that really mean?
- [REDACTED] If you don't know what other options look like, I might tend to think more conservatively - i.e. armed, to cover most things. With these, intuitively, I'd see why "house alarm" triggers police - I'm probably the only person who said "Alternative response," and this goes back to [REDACTED] point. Knowing more about alternatives helps move away from necessarily armed responses. And I'm suspicious about the "suspicious" - often reflects callers' biases. And I was a little surprised to see the strong armed response to the harassment piece.
- [REDACTED] Surprised that traffic offense had so many unarmed responses - one of the calls where we see officers killed the most. And interesting for domestic violence to have a high co-response rate - I want a clearer definition of co-response - and that more people don't think domestic violence needs to be armed relative to, say, burglary.
 - Josh: You can still have a co-response in the domestic violence - a non-cop off the scene on standby. It doesn't mean the cop isn't on scene. Once the scene is secure, then it can be turned over to non-cops.

- [REDACTED] Two things: I always forget the difference between “robbery” and “burglary” - would appreciate re-explaining. Also, a lot of the call response depends on the caller: an officer could be acting in a racially profiling way when it’s really related to the person who called it in, like the Harvard professor who was trying to enter his house.
 - Josh: That’s a perfect example. Also: Robbery includes threat of physical harm and removing something from someone’s person, whereas burglary is entering a property with the intent to take something.
- Josh: Anything exciting moving forward with these call types?
 - [REDACTED] There are areas of agreement amongst our subgroups - that’s promising, e.g. robbery or shots fired.
 - [REDACTED] Excited for deeper dive into conversations with experts
 - [REDACTED] I don’t know if “excited” is the right word - I did “co-response” a lot because “armed” and “unarmed” is too simplistic. Cops are trained in many things. Also: the unarmed person should be highly trained, e.g. they should know how to de-escalate. If one type of person is unavailable, the other person should. And it’s important that these groups work together.
 - Josh: That speaks to how training and budget are distributed
- Josh: Anything of concern?
 - [REDACTED] DoER is a huge missing link - not missing, because we’ve had meetings - but how the calls are transmitted and nailing down big categories is important.

Breakout Room 2:

- [REDACTED] - surprised by equal split of armed and unarmed responses - raises question of context for a call type — traffic offense is a broad range and could use more specifics to determine
- [REDACTED] thinks they’re too simple in categorization - traffic offense; do people have to stop for people that aren’t police officers?
- [REDACTED] - at this stage, we’re not looking at the legality of things.
- [REDACTED] - I am expressing my concern that this will not be legal.
- [REDACTED] - the concerns of legality will come at another stage, we are just working with the examples we received
- Niles - where we are, we’d like to see how we can actually be creative and innovate something new to make an unarmed response where citizens are legally required to stop, etc.
- [REDACTED] - I was relieved that these calls were split the way they were, let’s us know that the playing field is equal. I am not LE but with a traffic stop, anything can happen - I am curious to see how we work this out if responses come somewhere down the middle.
- [REDACTED] - interested in the split in unarmed/alternative for property check. would like to better understand alternative response in people’s minds
- [REDACTED] - property check examples seem very light, but Scott brought up what other examples exist outside the ones we’re working with
- [REDACTED] - property checks are paying attention to areas of concern, business often burglarized, etc.

- [REDACTED] - I was gonna say the same as [REDACTED] making people aware of when you're leaving town, that could certainly be unarmed, but there can be things that send up red flags
- [REDACTED] - with most of these, you just don't know the circumstances until you arrive. Fender benders can have any number of sources for reasoning for these calls. Most get labeled after you figure out what they are. Also, traffic offenses are for people passing through, too. So to some degree you want a system that is recognizable to people from outside Ithaca.
- [REDACTED] - in the US we have the standard signage in traffic; need to make sure what we come up with is easily identifiable.
- [REDACTED] - assisting another gov. Resource, what is the context? A co-response makes the most sense to me, because we don't know what the situation at hand might be.
- [REDACTED] - traffic complaint, alternative response. Online registration for concern, for example.

Reconvening:

- [REDACTED] Anything noteworthy discussed?
 - [REDACTED] To represent what [REDACTED] said - glad we have common ground. And the conversations we had with DoER were valuable and need more expansion. The categories are so broad: what would the results be like if we broke them down? And how is the caller's report and biases transmitted through the system?
 - Rob: Need breakdown of categories - e.g. domestic violence down into domestic dispute and domestic assault, property check, etc.
 - [REDACTED] Context is really important. E.g. trespassing
 - [REDACTED] It seems difficult to categorize call types as they are now, and we need more nuance, but the system is already complex and call types are often labeled/categorized after you have responded.
 - [REDACTED] I was surprised at the category of "traffic offense." IPD considers that one of the most potentially dangerous things they do, so it's surprising that so many people thought unarmed would be a suitable response.
 - [REDACTED] Reimagining is why we're here - but we have to account for officers' safety. For a lot of the calls, I answered co-response. So much is unknown when arriving on the scene - having both types of responses on site saves time and helps secure the scene.
 - [REDACTED] I'm interested in hearing responses from more folks in the community.
- [REDACTED] Also very interested in the community's reception - we hope that you all will act as ambassadors for guiding people to this tool.
 - www.publicsafetyreimagined.com
 - News and updates posted regularly
 - People can make an account to submit ideas, vote and comment on recommendations, etc.
 - Demo of making an account
- Josh: Next step is examining each bucket, beginning with armed, with the working group, additional experts, and community members
 - Then: finalize the bucketed responses with experts and stakeholders