



## Data Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety CASE STUDY



**Agency:** Everett Police Department, Everett MA



**Workshop Attended:** Saugus, MA

**Date DDACTS Implementation:** July, 2012

### Agency Demographic and Background:

Four miles north of Boston, MA, the city of Everett was settled in 1630, established as a town in 1870, and incorporated as a city in 1892. A small city of about 3.66 square miles, Everett has a reported population in 2014 of 42,231. Based on the 2011 US Census (population in 2011 of 35,701), 61.6% are white, 18.2% are Latino or Hispanic, 13.2% are Black or African American, 3.3% are Asian, and 3.9% are classed as other. Situated on the Mystic River, Everett shares borders with Boston, Revere, Chelsea by the Sea, Malden, Medford, and Somerville, and is part of the Greater Boston Area and the UASI (Urban Areas Security Initiative) region. The Everett Police Department (EPD) is a full-service department with an average of 100 officers, including 3 K9 units, school resource officers, a drug unit and 2 full time crime analysts.

### Lessons Learned:

Although DDACTS has been a success overall in Everett, there have been some challenges.

- Since the onset of DDACTS Zone 2, the area has been condensed to sub area B only. We found that DDACTS 2 zone was too large of a region to patrol in order to achieve the purpose of the DDACTS patrol. After further analysis, it was determined that sub area B would be the focus of DDACTS Zone 2 patrols.
- Due to limited personnel on shift, officers sometimes get called off a DDACTS patrol to attend to a more pressing matter in extreme circumstances.
- It has also been difficult to motivate officers to continue these patrols, and so it is very important to provide continual feedback. With feedback, officers can see the immediate results of their efforts. Significant incidents are posted to Digital Headquarters, and weekly feedback is sent to reinforce and support the efforts of our officers.
- Training is a very important part of effective DDACTS patrols. New officers to EPD are trained when they begin their patrols, and, in addition, dispatchers are trained to understand these patrols and how they work (i.e. closing out DDACTS cards, etc.).
- Officers are encouraged to “look beyond the stop” to take the time to explore the situation a bit further, noting strange behaviors and possible illegal activities beyond the initial stop.

## Inception of DDACTS, July 2012



At the inception of DDACTS Zone 1, there were 45 citations, 29 accidents, and 28 part A crimes in the DDACTS Zone from July 2011-Jan 2012 (see Table below). After the onset of DDACTS, citations in this area increased by 169%, crashes decreased by 28%, arrests increased by 110%, and Part A crimes decreased by 32%.

	Pre-DDACTS	DDACTS I	
	2011	2014	% Change
<b>Phase I</b>			
WRITTEN CITATIONS	1012	1523	50.50%
ACCIDENTS	91	68	-25.27%
ARRESTS	22	35	59.10%
ROBBERY	6	5	-15.67%
PART A CRIMES	84	58	-30.95%

7/25-1/25	Pre- DDACTS	DDACTS	% Change
	2011-2012	2012-2013	
Citations	45	121	169%
Accidents	29	21	-28%
Arrests	10	21	110%
Robbery	3	3	0%
Part A Crimes	28	19	-32%

This pattern continued into 2014 with a further increase of citations and arrests, and decreases of crashes, robberies, and Part A crimes (as shown in Table above), thus demonstrating the success of these patrols.

## DDACTS Zone II was implemented in November of 2013.

With the success of DDACTS Zone 1, another zone, DDACTS Zone 2 was identified, subdivided into areas A and B. DDACTS patrols in this area began in November of 2013, and in its first year supports the trends seen in DDACTS Zone 1 (see Table below).

	Pre-DDACTS	DDACTS	
Phase II ZONE A and B	2013	2014	% Change
WRITTEN CITATIONS	181	216	19.33%
ACCIDENTS	196	170	-13.27%
ARRESTS	42	70	66.67%
ROBBERY	12	17	41.67%
PART A CRIMES	118	106	-10.17%
MV B and E	44	19	-56.82%



As expected, there were an increase in citations and arrests, with a decrease in crashes, Part A crimes, and MV B&E. Robberies, however,

\* Note: Data does not include citations on Ferry or Broadway in the Zone. increased in this period. This is contrary to what would be expected with increased police presence in the area, and is being investigated further with 2015 data to determine if there are other factors that could be contributing to this anomaly.

## The Future:

Officers continue to conduct DDACTS patrols in both Zones 1 and 2 daily. Officers engage with the community through “Walk and Talks” where the officers exit their car and talk with store owners and members of the community to maintain presence and strengthen our relationship with the citizens of Everett. Further, results of the DDACTS patrols and analyses are included in our annual bulletin to keep the public informed of these patrols and crash and crime successful reductions.