Evaluating Team Policing in Las Vegas, Nevada

by

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ABSTRACT

Team policing involves the continuous geographical assignment of both patrol officers and investigators to the same, defined area, which allows them to become familiar with area residents and knowledgeable about community concerns and thus, enables them to develop individualized strategies to resolve the neighborhood problems that can lead to crime and disorder. This study evaluates the impact of a team policing intervention in Las Vegas, Nevada that combines an emphasis on community outreach with problem-focused policing strategies to determine the effectiveness of team policing as a crime control strategy. The results indicate that the team policing did not result in crime displacement though calls for service did increase in the target area during the intervention period. This result, however, may be an indicator of improved police-community relations rather than increasing crime rates.