



# Milwaukee County Office of the Sheriff

Kim Brooks  
Chief Public Information Officer  
Phone: 414-278-5015  
Fax: 414-223-1852  
kbrooks@milwcnty.com

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## ***NEWS RELEASE***

David A. Clarke Jr.  
*Sheriff*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Sheriff Releases Results of Two Summer Initiatives**

*A Message From Milwaukee County Sheriff David A. Clarke Jr.*

The Milwaukee County Park System and the lakefront are public spaces that are shared by everyone. In order to provide for an atmosphere of order so that people would feel safe enough to use them for their intended purpose, I ordered a plan of strict enforcement for an acceptable level of behavior and a role for citizens in order to improve the quality of life at the lakefront and in and around county parks during the peak time frame of Memorial Day through Labor Day.

The objective of the plan was to take the fight to the perpetrators of disorder in these public spaces providing calm, tranquility and a sense of security. Law abiding citizens were demanding bold, immediate and decisive action that would be both swift and effective. The **Targeted Enforcement Unit** was formed to focus solely on this initiative.

This initiative generated the following activity which only represents outputs. I'll remind you that this initiative was outcome focused. The number of arrests and citations issued in no way represent the success of Operation Breakwater or the enhanced parks plan. The success is demonstrated by the fact that people felt safe and secure enough to once again enjoy these valued public spaces and by the fact that the criminal element and perpetrators of disorder no longer had free reign to intimidate and victimize law abiding people. We said we would win, and we did!

This approach will become a permanent part of the summer season.



# Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office

DATE: September 6, 2006

REPORT

**TO:** R. Bret Richards, Captain – PSB – Patrol Division  
**FROM:** John R. Nelson, PSB – Patrol Division, TEU  
**RE:** **After Action Review; 2006 Park Patrol - TEU**

## **SITUATION:**

The Milwaukee County Parks System offers many open wide spaces to be shared by everyone. In order to provide for an atmosphere of order, so that both individuals and families will utilize the parks and Lakefront, we will implement a combination of patrols and enforcement. We will partner with the community by working with citizens through park watch meetings to accomplish this. We will focus on problems that disturb the community and law abiding citizens the most, seeking to improve the quality of life in and around the parks and Lakefront. Through strict enforcement of laws and ordinances we will set a standard for an acceptable level of behavior by **EVERYONE** in and around every park, including the Lakefront **unlawful/disruptive behavior is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.**

## **PLAN IMPLEMENTED**

The Milwaukee County Parks & Parkways, including the Lakefront were patrolled beginning on weekends in April as the weather warmed, daily patrols began in mid-May concluding on Labor Day.

During this timeframe Deputy Sheriffs performed a wide variety of duties and services for the citizens using these parks. The Targeted Enforcement Unit (TEU) was implemented, and patrols were to address and take proper law enforcement action on the following:

- Weapons violations
- Fighting/arguing
- Alcohol/drug violations
- Loitering/noise violations
- Traffic violations/reckless driving
- Lewd, profane and abusive language – Disorderly Conduct
- After hours violations
- Animal violations: unleashed, aggressive, posted-restricted areas

## **MEASURABLE OUTPUTS: LAKEFRONT STATISTICS**

### **Quality of Life Violations – 438**

Quality of life violations included: Disorderly Conduct, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, possession of Alcohol – Adult/Juvenile, Park Hours, Parking Violations, and other County Ordinance violations, including illegal sales/solicitation of sales, fireworks, dogs on the beach.

### **Warrants and Summary Arrests – 122**

Summary arrests included: Operating While Intoxicated, Possession of Controlled Substance w/Intent to Deliver, Carrying of Concealed Weapon.

Warrant Arrests included: taking subjects into custody with active Municipal, Misdemeanor and Felony Warrants for their arrests. Such infractions range from Driving While Revoked/Intoxicated and Loitering, to Felony Parole Violators and Armed Robbery Suspects.

### **Traffic Citations – 1310**

Traffic enforcement citations that reduced the occurrence of cruising included: Excessive Speed, Revoked/Suspended Driver, Illegal Window Tint, Seatbelt Violations, Vehicle Accidents, Excessive Vehicle Noise (loud car stereos), and miscellaneous traffic violations.

### **Traffic Stops – 883**

There were **55** vehicles towed from these traffic stops due to subjects with Revoked and/or Suspended Driver's Licenses.

## **TARGETED ENFORCEMENT UNIT – PARKS**

### **Calls for Service – 1073**

There was a wide variety of calls for service. These calls included: General Disturbance, Burglary, Missing Persons, Weapons, Theft, Damage to Property, Parking Violations, and Suspicious Persons.

Not all of the 144 parks in the Milwaukee County Parks System require as many patrols to ensure order and safety of the citizens. Resources are focused on parks that have historically seen a large number of calls for service, and generated a great deal of enforcement activity for Deputies. These parks are frequented daily, and used as meeting points by a large cross section of citizens.

The following is a list of the ten (10) parks/parkways that have the most logged hours from Deputies in 2006:

- 1) Lincoln Memorial Drive - 1627.10
- 2) North Point – 495.34
- 3) Grant Park – 289.3
- 4) McKinley Marina – 280.50
- 5) Lake Park – 215.38
- 6) South Shore – 202.11
- 7) McGovern Park – 190.25
- 8) Mitchell Park – 188.46
- 9) Veterans Park – 180.28
- 10) Bradford Beach – 175.5

**PATROL HOURS: LAKEFRONT & PARKS**

Lakefront – **2981.35**

Lakefront Parks include: Bradford Beach, Lake Park, Lincoln Memorial Drive, McKinley Marina, North Point Lot, and O'Donnell Park.

Remaining Parks – **3548.86**

Respectfully submitted,

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John R.. Nelson, Sergeant  
PSB/Patrol Division – TEU

JRN/dj-lmc  
CIB Captain Richards-2006 Park Patrol

