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Chief of Police

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Dear Neighbor,

I am writing to introduce you to some of the efforts underway in Burlington and throughout northern Vermont designed to make all of our streets and neighborhoods more healthy and vibrant.

In April of 2013 Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and prosecutors announced renewed efforts to combat drugs and serious crime in and around our community. They gathered at the United States Attorney's Office to send a clear and concise message to those who are fraying the fabric of our communities by trafficking narcotics and being involved in felony level crime. That message is simple. Vermonters have a low tolerance for crime. If you choose to deal drugs on our streets and in our neighborhoods and/or to be involved in crime that harms our community we will use every available resource – led by the Office of the United States Attorney and our Federal law enforcement partners – to swiftly and surely bring you to justice.

Beginning in the fall of 2012 Federal, State, and local law enforcement began a set of renewed efforts in response to emerging trends in the drug market and crime patterns throughout northern Vermont. Multi-agency collaboration is a cornerstone of law enforcement operations throughout our State. Building on that foundation, agencies in Chittenden County began operating using a methodology dubbed Community Impact Teams (CIT), which has become a key part of the crime fighting strategy.

Community Impact Teams refers to ongoing collaborative efforts to share information, target key offenders, and work with a variety of community stakeholders to recognize trends, prevent crime, and respond to problems using a three pronged approach of deter – disrupt – and dismantle. Among the key strategies used so far and to be deployed during the spring and summer of 2013 are:

- Working with youth centers, schools, and others to enhance our crime prevention and educational efforts.
- Holding regular meetings among participating agencies and leveraging technology to identify key repetitive offenders and crime trends.
- Targeting key offenders – including repeat offenders, violent criminals, and those dealing drugs in our neighborhoods - for robust enforcement and prosecution efforts.
- Targeting key locations where crime and drug dealing occur for extra patrols and expanded criminal interdiction efforts.

- Targeting key modes of transportation known to be havens for those trafficking narcotics.
- Expanding the use of foot patrols, traffic stops, use of drug sniffing dogs, and high visibility patrols in key locations.
- Advocating for swift, open access to drug treatment programs for those suffering from addiction.
- Exploring with neighborhoods the renewed use of "neighborhood watch"/"eyes and ears" programs in Burlington.
- Conducting proactive high visibility and multi-agency patrols in neighborhoods and in our downtown.
- Targeting those who harbor drug dealers and criminal activity by allowing those perpetrating these crimes to use their homes as bases of operation or places to hide.
- Using tools provided by City Ordinances to hold landlords accountable for properties that are the center of crime or disorder in our neighborhoods.

We are actively engaged with our communities and neighborhoods and will use every available resource to ensure robust detection, investigation, and prosecution of drug dealers and those responsible for violent or serious crime. If you bring drugs into Vermont from out of State the full resources of the Federal justice system will be brought to bear.

We need YOUR HELP. Anyone with information about drug trafficking is urged to contact your local police department or use the Burlington Police Drug Tip Line at 802-540-2420. To report general crime tips call local police or CrimeStoppers at 802-864-6666. Valuable information may result in substantial cash rewards. If you see crime in progress in Burlington call 802-658-2700 or 911.

IF YOU ARE OR HAVE BEEN INVOLVED in crime or drug dealing or are addicted to narcotics and want it to stop DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL FOR HELP. We will work with you to provide help, resources, and referrals for treatment, education, employment, etc. Our goal is to enhance safety and health for ALL in our community. You can call our Street Outreach Team (not staffed by police officers) at 802-343-7504 to talk directly to someone who can *begin* to guide you and provide supportive assistance OR call 211 for general referrals to services.

For more information on these efforts, including the neighborhood watch/eyes and ears program as well as general crime prevention and safety tips, you can subscribe to updates via NIXLE by visiting www.bpdvt.org or see the information available at that site.

Together we will continue to ensure that Burlington is a safe, healthy, and vibrant community!

Sincerely,

Michael Schirling Chief of Police	TJ Donovan State's Attorney	William Sorrell Attorney General	Tristram Coffin United States Attorney

Respect ~ Honor ~ Remember

Officer James P. McGrath, end of watch May 12, 1904; Officer J. Albert Fisher, end of watch December 15, 1947; Officer Robert W. Provost, end of watch January 13, 1954

Call Volume – Year to Date

TOTAL CALLS

2013	20945
2012	20062

Burglary

2013	192
2012	252

Robbery

2013	14
2012	11

Aggravated Assault

2013	18
2012	24

Mental Health

2013	391
2012	293

** Since 2008 Mental Health calls are up 400%

Marketplace Trespass SUMMARY Data Through 8/9/2013

Number of persons arrested for violating a trespass warning	3
Number of persons issued first offense (24 hour) trespass warnings	35
Number of second offense (90 day warnings)	4
Average # of police contacts since 1/1/2012 = 34	
Number of third offense (1 year warnings)	1
84 police contacts since 1/1/2012	
Average number of police contacts since 1/1/2012 for all	23