Patrol Problem Solving Handout

You and your partner are lieutenants over patrol in the police department. The chief has full confidence in your ability to manage the patrol division so he routinely brings you and your partner situations he has been made aware of for you to take care of. Below is a current problem presented for you to solve. Your job is to determine what patrol methods, types, and patterns you want your officers using, and how many officers you will need for the situation to take care of the problem. You will present this proposal to the chief for approval. You will need to summarize the problem, give a detailed description of how it will be dealt with, and explain why your solution will work. Each student will need to first work independently to develop his or her own solution, and then combine it with the strengths of the other student’s solution for a final proposal. Students must document what they each contributed to the final solution.

1. Violence and riots have increased in the Northeast Sector. The area is known for random attacks on officers who are patrolling.

2. In the Northwest Sector there is an area that has had several burglaries and robberies lately. These always seem to occur right after officers have just patrolled the area. It is believed that there is a certain building where a lookout is assisting the criminals.

3. The neighborhoods in the Southwest Sector have had a rash of car break-ins at night.

4. There are teenagers in the park in the Northwest Sector after hours. The park cameras show the teenagers coming back after police tell them to go and the police leave.

5. Center Street in the Northeast Sector has had several businesses broken into at night. The common trait with these burglaries is that the telephone wires are being cut so the alarms are not going off and the owners find out about what happened when they arrive the next morning.

6. There have been several near accidents in the afternoons involving children pedestrians in the Moore Elementary school zone in the Northwest Sector because of people speeding and texting while driving.

7. There are unsolicited salesmen violating city code and going from business to business in the downtown business strip.

8. There have been several serious accidents at the intersection of Main St. and Center St., where people are continually running the red light.

9. There is reported drug dealing and suspicious activity every day in the city park in the Southeast Sector. This is mostly done in the sports fields in the park.

10. Citizens are constantly reporting about a strong belief of drug transactions occurring at 123 Easy St. where different people are visiting all hours of the night.
11. Officers are frequently chasing suspects into wooded areas and setting up perimeters, but oftentimes the suspects slip through the perimeters and escape.

12. ABC Business in the Southeast Sector is losing a lot of money because of shoplifters.

13. The 123 gas station in the Northeast Sector is losing a lot of money because of gas drive-offs at certain times of the day and night when it is the busiest.

14. At the corner of Church St. and Main St. in the Northeast Sector prostitution is reportedly being solicited at night.

15. A few nights ago there was a domestic disturbance at 456 Lazy St. in the Southwest Sector. The husband severely beat his wife but left before the police arrived. The wife is out of the hospital and back at the house, but is afraid that the husband will show up and abuse her again any day now.