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Shaun D. Ferguson Superintendent of Police New Orleans Police Department 715 South Broad Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70119

September 16, 2022

Superintendent Ferguson,

Greetings Sir, from Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police, Crescent City Lodge #2,

I am writing to you to in hopes that we can find some compromise to the recently released plans for the redeployment of officers. We certainly understand the need for the redistribution of resources and have the mutual concern for the safety of all officers and an improved response time for our city's residents. We also share the interest in enhancing officer morale and retention and would like to approach the redeployment efforts in a manner that will minimize any negative effect on both.

The 8<sup>th</sup> District Property Crimes Unit devised a plan that could help bridge both ideas. It is similar to Operation DART. Here are the details of that plan:

# DIU/ADMIN - Rotation Weekly Proposal

Two (2) detectives from both Property Crimes and Persons (Total of 4 each week)

Two (2) admin staff and two (2) CLOs to swap each week (total of 2 each week)

The units would work from 6A-235pm; 235pm-11pm, and 11pm-735am for a total of two (2) additional officers for both the day and night watch, with an overlap of officers for shift change, working a regular work week of five days (8.35) per week with two (2) AWP days.

The DIU and Admin Units would be available for report writing and calls for service. The district platoon officers will have more units free to act in a crime prevention/proactive manner.

The DIU and Admin would be assigned on a weekly rotation and would only have a platoon function when assigned to the platoon for the week; they would not be responsible for or take time from the platoon by investigating crimes for follow-up. This would serve the same purpose as having four detectives and admin staff assigned to the platoons for an undetermined amount of time as the same amount of coverage would be available for each platoon and the detective units would still be able to continue follow-up on cases for three (3) weeks out of the month.

This would benefit platoon officers and improve the morale for both the platoon and DIU units and possibly curtail any further exodus of personnel. With the implementation of the rotation rather than the permanent assignment of the officers in the DIU units, the detectives would be able to conduct follow-up on the large caseloads they are subjected to, rather than having only a few detectives inundated with an even larger case load.

This is a well devised plan which will supplement the platoon officers while still providing adequate investigative measures for our citizens. This is also a way to show the department in a collaborative light with its officers.

I truly believe the way to raise morale is to fully invest in the mindset that we are in this together. Having officers and supervisors have input in the changes needed to bring us where we need to be will go a long way with retention and recruitment of officers. It has been said for decades, "Your best recruitment tool is the officers of your department". Who wouldn't want to work for a department where they feel heard by upper management?

Sir, I know this is will not fix all of our problems, but we have many intelligent individuals we entrust on a daily basis to go out into our community to fix problems, let's empower them to assist in fixing our own.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Fraternally,

# Signature on File

Willie Jenkins III, 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P., Labor Committee Chair, Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police, Crescent City Lodge #2

CC: WPJR