

MIT Police

The MIT Police continue to make new strides to partner more effectively with other MIT departments to better meet the needs of the community. The Department continues to base its policing style on a problem-solving method to ensure that its resources are returning maximum value to the community. The community police office in the Stata Center is staffed and operational. An officer drop-in program was also developed, enabling MIT administrators to discuss safety issues and seek advice. This program allows department personnel to personally become familiar and meet patrol officers in their immediate areas. We believe that policing is as much about education as it is enforcement.

In 2005, ground breaking took place for the construction and renovation of the new police station at building W89, the former home of the MIT Professional Learning Center. A building committee was established to give guidance and recommendations to the architects, builders, and suppliers of the new facility. The committee was comprised of the following individuals: Captain David Carlson, Sergeant Cheryl Vossmer, administrative staff assistant Judith Freeman, and patrol officer Robert Molino.

Patrol Division

The MIT Police continue to provide total quality service to the entire MIT community. The officers of this division are focused on maintaining a safe and secure environment on the MIT campus. The constant presence of foot, bicycle, and motorcycle patrols throughout the community continues our efforts to deliver security throughout the campus. Working in partnership with the community continues to be positive and rewarding.

The Bureau of Security Services Division

This division is overseen by Lieutenant Michael Assad, who is responsible for administering and coordinating technical systems, including alarms, access control, and Cambridge Community Television (CCTV) cameras. He also administers and communicates intelligence information from local law enforcement agencies; national security threats are assessed and determined for any relevance to the MIT community. This division oversees the police details provided to the MIT community for student-related functions, sporting events, and MIT construction and projects.

Special Service Division/Community Police

This division is responsible for investigating all part-one crimes, which include but are not limited to robbery, assault and battery, domestic violence, arson, and sensitive crimes. Specialized services in the area of dignitary/VIP protection are coordinated through this division. This division assists members of the community in both civil and criminal court proceedings and complaints. It also provides a 24/7 on-call detective to assist the patrol division during a major incident as well as to prepare a security survey for individual departments and living groups on campus. There is a Hot Tip line, 617-258-8477, for anyone wishing to report a crime. Operation Drop-In is a program that

gives MIT administrators the opportunity to talk with patrol officers about any security issues of concern as well as to become familiar with MIT police officers in their assigned areas.

Criminal Activity

During 2005, crimes against persons decreased in comparison to 2004. The total number of crimes against persons was 18. Computer and computer components continue to be the most frequently stolen items of Institute property. Wallets, laptops, and other electronic devices were the most frequently stolen personal items. Reported thefts from across campus totaled 450. There were three motor vehicles reported stolen from campus during 2005.

Department Activity

The MIT Police remain a major presence in MIT's emergency operations training and planning. Members of the Emergency Operation Center received training on the Incident Command System and began to develop a plan for the emergency dispensing of medication as a result of a request from the Cambridge Health Department.

Also, the MIT Police participate in the Cambridge Local Emergency Planning Committee. This is the city's emergency response team, which also coordinates with state and federal agencies for emergency preparedness.

Under the direction of Lieutenant Costa, patrol commander, the MIT Honor Guard represents MIT in campus activities, local parades, and ceremonies. The MIT Police Special Response Team members are trained in areas such as water rescue and safety, hostage rescue and negotiation, and executive protection. Extensive training is conducted internally and by outside agencies for specialized areas. Team members have ongoing hands-on and classroom training. Lieutenant Costa's leadership and guidance inspires this team to perform with professionalism.

John DiFava
Director of Security and Campus Police Services

More information about MIT Police can be found online at <http://web.mit.edu/cp/www/>.