



BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

SRG's Targeted Public Safety Initiative in Binghamton

Leads to 86 Arrests and 274 Tickets Issued

(BINGHAMTON, NY) On Wednesday, Broome County Sheriff Fred Akshar released the results of the targeted, five-week public safety and crime response initiative conducted by the Broome County Sheriff's Office Strategic Response Group (SRG) in the City of Binghamton.

From October 10, 2024 – November 15, 2024, the SRG team spent 20 days targeting various zones in the City of Binghamton, several of which coincided with the nationally recognized Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative aimed at reducing shootings and firearm-related crime.

“Regardless of where you are in Broome County, you deserve to feel safe,” said Sheriff Fred Akshar. “Our Strategic Response Group’s unique flexibility and use of real-time data to increase police presence in targeted neighborhoods throughout Broome County is elevating our efforts and abilities to keep our communities safe. The SRG also helps lighten the load for regular patrols, allowing them to handle criminal complaints, 911 calls and to reduce response time for emergencies.”

The SRG’s 20-day Targeted Public Safety and Crime Response Initiative in the City of Binghamton resulted in:

- 19 Narcotics Arrests
- 14 Warrant Arrests
- 43 Vehicle and Traffic Arrests
- 10 Other Penal Law Arrests
- 274 Traffic Violations Issued (228 Traffic Stops Conducted)

Since the SRG’s full-time activation in mid-June, their targeted crime response has yielded over 300 arrests across Broome County, which ranged from Narcotics charges to fugitives with outstanding Arrest Warrants, to Vehicle and Traffic arrests, which included driving on a suspended or revoked license, DWI, suspended registration and other charges. During that same

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(607) 778-2924

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time period, the SRG conducted over 800 traffic stop and issued over 760 traffic violations.

Background on the SRG:

Activated in June 2024, the Broome County Sheriff's Office Strategic Response Group is comprised of a versatile team of deputies charged with targeting quality-of-life concerns and safety needs of communities across Broome County. The team primarily focuses on concerns that may not be adequately addressed or not addressed in a timely manner due to high volume of calls for service for normal patrol deputies.

Utilizing statistical and crime-mapping data from the Southern Tier Crime Analysis Center in Binghamton, the SRG is able to identify and respond to reoccurring issues and activity, or "hot spots" in communities throughout Broome County.

These quality-of-life issues include, but are not limited to:

- Areas with a high numbers of speeding vehicles or repeat traffic complaints;
- Frequent or repeated narcotic activities (vehicle and foot traffic in particular areas);
- Persistent or complex calls for service that require greater intervention and solutions;
- Susceptible facility or building checks to prevent property crimes;
- Intervention techniques with persistent criminal offenders;
- Collaboration with community partners to intervene with individuals with substance use disorders;
- Engagement with homeless persons and connecting with services; and
- Targeted enforcement of high crime areas, especially those experiencing gun and gang-related violence.

In addition to statistical crime data, SRG utilizes input from community members, collaboration with community partners, and tips from the community to deploy resources efficiently and effectively to address these issues through a variety of techniques, intervention, and enforcement. Through flexible scheduling, the SRG operates at different times of day depending on community needs.

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