

Lab Assignment 2

Here is a description of the situation we will be working with for this lab assignment:

In a town in Pennsylvania there is a bar/restaurant district that has experienced a high number of Dui, public drunkenness, and other alcohol related crimes and arrests. The chief and the mayor are concerned and want to change the conditions that they believe contribute to the problems that are being experienced. They are concerned that the arrests are hurting the image of the downtown area where the bars are located. In addition, this is a university town with the university being located only several hundred yards from the bar district. Many of the patrons realize the value to their business in attracting college students, who number in the thousands. It is believed that the students represent the largest number of offenders and victims of the crimes that are occurring in this area.

The bar district is only five city blocks long, which is less than one mile. There is metered parking on either side of the street, which is limited. There are a number of off-streets where there is no metered parking that is often in high demand. The neighbors on those streets complain about difficulty finding a parking spot in the evening when the bars are most active, and about the garbage and vandalism committed by the people who park in the available spots. Mostly the complaints center around the time that the bars close and the bar patrons are returning to their cars.

Although this is the “downtown” district for this community this area is residential and several hundred yards away the university begins. The bars (in excess of 8) are found on both sides of the street and are interspersed between other retail establishments and apartment-style housing rented to the college students. Each of the bars closes at 2:00 AM. There are no bars that have extended hours. Each of the establishments offers two happy hour specials: one from 4-6 and another from 10-12. The bars are very crowded and cater to the college students, whose number well exceeds 10,000.

To complicate matter for the police department, the number of students triples the population when school is in session. The chief does not feel that the department is large enough to service the needs of a community that is three times larger than it normally would be without the students. She does not feel as if she can devote additional police resources to police the area (overtime or additional officers). She has requested that the town hire additional officers and the city council has refused. In turn, city council has asked the university to compensate the city for additional staff the chief feels is necessary to address the community concerns. The university does not feel that it can provide assistance as it is struggling to keep tuition low and cannot afford to provide financial support to the chief. The university president feels that the business that is generated from the students in the downtown district more than compensates for the situation. Without the patronage of the students the bars, restaurants, and other retail establishments would not exist. Since the university is so close, there is limited vehicle traffic from the students.

The event that has generated the most concern and started the calls for reform involved the beating death of an intoxicated college student that occurred in the early morning hours after

the bars closed. Several teenage town residents targeted the college student because he was visibly intoxicated and was walking back to the university. In attempting to rob him, they beat him to death. That was the second serious assault of a student in a relatively short period of time, although the first assault did not result in the victim's death.

Student lab assignment

Your assignment is to create three different initiatives that could be instituted that would fall under the heading of a community policing solution to the problems described. In creating the solutions, keep in mind that you are to identify ones that are not police-centered. That means that you are not creating ways to "arrest" your way out of the problem. Create solutions that address the problems in a way that benefits the stakeholders. Each of the interventions must be designed to address a different problem that you have identified.

To be a little more specific as to what is expected of you, here are some of the things that must be present in your response:

1. Identify key stakeholders who the police will want to partner with in order to address the crime problem. For each of the stakeholders you must identify why they are a stakeholder and how they will benefit from partnering with the police to address the problems.
2. Next, you must identify the problems that you can identify from the scenario. Obviously safety is an issue, but there are other problems that you need to be able to identify.
3. Finally, you must create three solutions, changes, or programs the community may want to make to address the problem. The interventions you create must be explained in detail. Just don't tell me what should be done but explain how it would be done and how it would help solve the problem it is linked to. Also, please identify in your response how it would benefit one or more of the stakeholders.

Please make sure that you understand that this is a college-level, essay-style assignment. As such, you are required to have an introductory paragraph, several paragraphs that contain the body of your work, and a concluding paragraph. You may use subheadings if you like, but they are not a requirement for the assignment. Please use 12-point font, double spaced, with one-inch margins. It must be submitted in an MS word-style document. If you submit it as a PDF your grade will be reduced by 10 points.