

NEW ORLEANS CRIME COALITION

Media Contact:

Bentley Boldt

Beurman Miller Fitzgerald (BMF)

bboldt@bmfcomms.com

o: 504-524-3342 | c: 314-488-1466

New Orleans Crime Coalition Announces Results of Fourteenth Citizen Perception of NOPD Survey

New Orleans, LA (September 19, 2018) – Today, the New Orleans Crime Coalition (NOCC) announced the results of its annual survey measuring public perception of police performance in the City of New Orleans. The study is not only citizen-driven, but also a randomized, representative, independent survey designed to track trends over time in how New Orleans residents view the New Orleans Police Department (NOPD). The latest survey, which was conducted from September 4-6, 2018, is the coalition's 14th since 2009.

RESULTS

The survey found that from September 2017 to September 2018:

- Overall resident satisfaction of 55% is up 4 points from last year, slightly above the overall average since March 2014, while those who were unsatisfied dropped from 38% in 2017 to 30% this year.
- Satisfaction with how the NOPD is handling violent crime (47%) increased by 8 points since 2017 and dissatisfaction (41%) fell 5 points. This is a positive change compared to the 20-point drop in satisfaction last year.
- 67% of adults are satisfied with police performance in their own neighborhoods
- 83% feel safe in their own neighborhoods, now 3 points higher than the average since March 2014.
- Satisfaction with interaction with the NOPD remains strong (70%), three points higher than the four-year average, meaning 7/10 people say they were satisfied with the way NOPD handled their situation.
- 87% of people say the NOPD employee they interacted with was pleasant and courteous. This is an 8-point increase from 2017 and 10 points above the four-year average.

- Satisfaction with efforts to get drugs off the street (37%) decreased by four points since 2017.

While the decrease in satisfaction with drug efforts could reflect the known shortage of police officers and staff, respondents' satisfaction who had contact with NOPD has increased since last year. Also of note, respondents are saying NOPD interactions are increasingly positive.

Loyola University's Dr. Michael Cowan, chairman of the Crime Coalition, commented, "Since our last survey in September 2017, overall citizen satisfaction is up and respondents' feelings towards NOPD are increasingly positive. According to the survey, respondents also feel NOPD is doing a better job addressing violent crime."

Cowan added, "This survey and the Crime Coalition are completely independent and citizen-driven. We will continue to track and report on public perceptions of the NOPD because it is a fundamental indicator of our community's overall well-being. We strive to make this survey a tool for our Coalition members, the NOPD, and the public to make our city safer."

THE REPORT

NOCC initiates and reports this independently and professionally conducted survey with the strong conviction that a regular public spotlight on how citizens perceive their police department is a powerful ongoing catalyst for decision making and reforms within NOPD that will build the trust between citizens and their police department required to make New Orleans streets safer.

In August 2009, NOCC hired Wilson Research Strategies (WRS) and Wilson Perkins Allen Opinion Research (WPA) because of their nationally recognized expertise in police perception surveys. WPA selects a random sample of adults living in New Orleans and conducts 75 interviews per police district to ensure sufficient sample in each police district for analysis. The sample for this survey was weighted based on gender, age, ethnicity, and geography.

The survey was conducted by telephone from September 4-6, 2018. The margin of error is +/- 4 percent at a 95% confidence interval. The full survey may be found at crimecoalitionnola.com/news.

About the New Orleans Crime Coalition

The New Orleans Crime Coalition (NOCC) includes fifteen community organizations working together to reform our local criminal justice system for the benefit of all. The member organizations are listed below.

Since its founding in 2007, the NOCC has played a key role in obtaining an additional \$5.7 million in federal funding for local criminal justice agencies and monitoring the expenditure of those funds; seeking improved cooperation between the District Attorney's office and NOPD; supporting the creation of an independent NOPD monitor; obtaining city funding for the Orleans Public Defenders Office for the first time; promoting the practice of community policing; influencing the public debate on the proper size of the Orleans Parish Prison; and creating one integrated computer-based information management system for the local criminal justice system.

The coalition works to address violent crime in New Orleans by engaging all components of the local criminal justice system and their integration. It does so by identifying best practices and holding those responsible for implementing such practices through focused, strategic plans that will result in an improved justice system leading to the removal of violent criminals from our streets and the fair, efficient and effective administration of justice.

Members of the New Orleans Crime Coalition include The Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region, Common Good, Citizens for 1 Greater New Orleans, Urban League of Greater New Orleans, Crimestoppers, Metropolitan Crime Commission, New Orleans Police and Justice Foundation, Court Watch NOLA, Young Leadership Council, Bridge House, New Orleans & Company, Young Leadership Council, Youth Empowerment Project and the New Orleans Family Justice Center.

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