

Virtual Roll Call Briefing

Abstract

Despite technological advances, some police departments still conduct roll call briefings at the police station. Wireless technology and mobile devices hold the greatest promise for a 21st century paradigm shift; a shift from policing practices engrained in our police culture for over half a century.

The in-person roll call briefing results in a delayed response to assigned zones by on-duty personnel. In addition, many officers are absent during the briefings for a variety of reasons, i.e., court attendance.

The Pinecrest Police Department recently partnered with Florida International University to develop a digital solution that dramatically improves the roll call briefing, which is an important aspect of intradepartmental information sharing.

Roll call briefings are now conducted in a virtual environment. Rather than reporting to the station *roll call room*, officers report to their assigned zones after checking into service and obtain all briefing information on-line on the agency's secure VPN.

Chief Samuel Ceballos, Jr. 
Florida Police Chiefs Association

Rocky Pomerance Law Enforcement Excellence Award

March 7, 2018

Virtual Roll Call Briefing

There are areas in our policing profession that technology has yet to penetrate. One aspect that has not changed much in 40-years is the roll call briefing. Wireless technology, the internet, and advancements in mobile technology have made it possible to transform this indispensable law enforcement briefing. The Pinecrest Police Department developed and implemented a digital solution for the roll call briefing with the assistance of Florida International University (FIU). Our new, no cost, web-based application ushers the roll call briefing into the 21st century.

The in-person roll call briefing typically results in a 15-minute delayed response to assigned zones by patrol personnel of the incoming shift. In addition, sometimes officers miss the briefings for a variety of reasons, i.e., court attendance. Pinecrest PD used technology to solve these two problems. The idea was to find a way to share information, such as daily crime reports, watch orders, directed patrols, officer safety alerts, BOLOs, etc., in a way that ensures reaching every officer, and doing so without the 15-minute delay in hitting the street, which was occurring at the commencement of each shift.

We submitted a Senior Project Proposal to the School of Computing and Information Sciences at FIU and presented our vision to the spring semester senior class for their Capstone Project. The project was accepted and the web-based

application was developed and implemented. Roll call briefings are now conducted in a virtual environment. Officers report to their assigned zones after checking into service, instead of reporting to the station *roll call room*. Pinecrest officers now obtain all briefing information on-line via the agency's secure VPN.

The web-based roll call briefing software solution improves services and makes the most effective use of resources by cutting down on the time it takes officers to begin patrolling assigned zones. This is no longer a community concern. Folders for shift specific information help tailor briefings to the needs of each shift. New policies can be disseminated quickly. We can confirm through the software that every officer acknowledged, read, and understood the content of the document. In addition, we post and archive officer safety alerts and BOLO information from surrounding agencies on the virtual roll call briefing web-site. Also included is a dynamic interactive component (Watch Orders), designed to improve services to the community, that increases security while providing peace of mind; which results in enhanced quality of life. We offer this service to residents who go on vacation, and to those concerned about suspicious or criminal activity. These Watch Orders are plotted on a map and appear as pins. Officers click on the pins to obtain information about the watch order and periodically visit these locations as time permits. Watch Orders automatically disappear from the map to an archive folder at preset dates. As of this writing there were 67 active watch orders pinned to the google map, which offers satellite imagery too.

The virtual roll call briefing web-application is a creative and innovative digital platform that raises the quality and effectiveness of our police department and improves services to the community. After receiving a demonstration, the South Miami Police Chief and Village of Palmetto Bay Police Commander both said they plan to implement the project in their jurisdiction.

Virtual Roll Call Briefing

Pinecrest Police Department



Login

 Username

 Password

Login

DOCUMENT CATEGORIES

View Watch Orders

A-Shift Pass-Ons

B-Shift Pass-Ons

BOLO

C-Shift Pass-Ons

Crime Reports

Directed Patrol

Archived

Archived

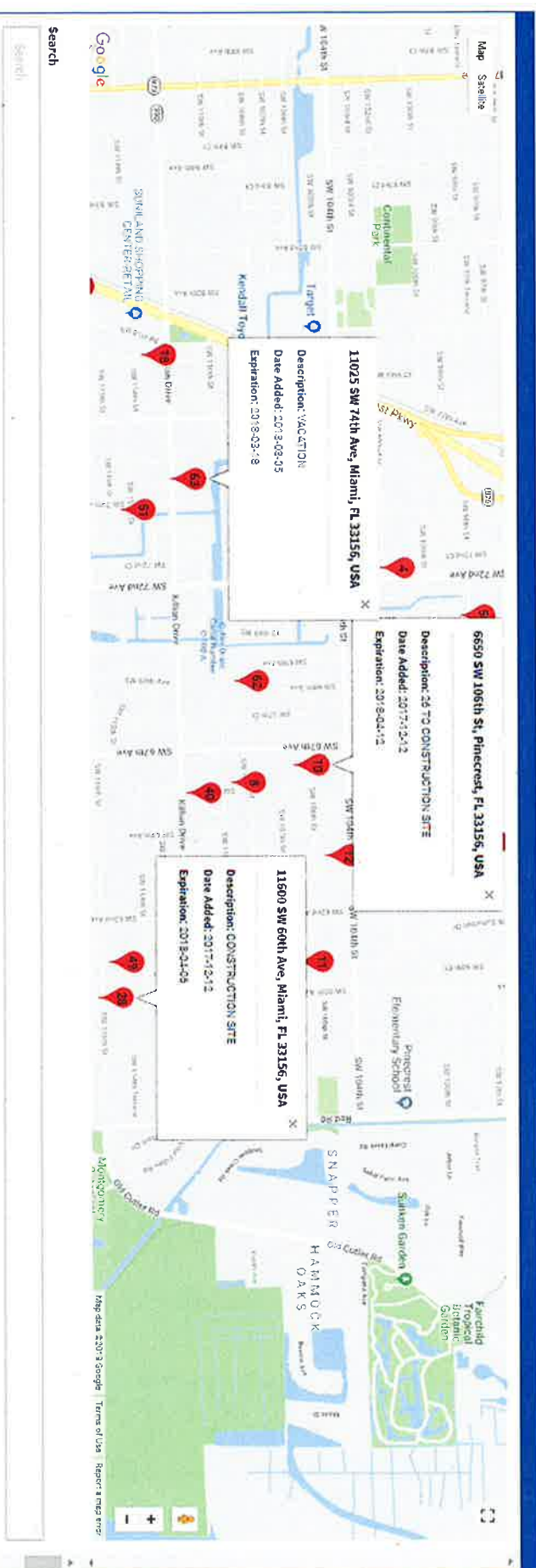
Archived

Watch Orders

Categories

Watch Orders

65



Address

Description

Add Date

Expiration Date