

Cambridge Police Department Family & Social Justice Section



Disclosures

 Neither I nor my spouse/partner has a relevant financial relationship with a commercial interest to disclose



Family and Social Justice Section

Family Justice Group

Lieutenant

Clinical Support Unit

Director/Psychologist
Licensed Social Workers (2)
Director of Outreach &
Community Programs

Social Justice Group

Lieutenant

Youth & Family Services Unit

Sergeant Youth Resource Officers Juvenile Detectives Strategic Partnerships Coordinator

Social Justice Unit

Sergeant
Homeless outreach
Mental health outreach
Senior outreach
Business outreach

Domestic Violence Unit

Sergeant
DV Advocate
DV Detectives
Sexual Assault Detectives



Case Study

- 23 Year Old Caucasian Male
- Living with father in Vermont
- Known history of mental illness
- Past interactions with local service providers
- No significant history with Cambridge Police



First Contact

- At 11:04AM on October 29, 2014 CPD
 Homeless Outreach Officer receives email
 from Director of local youth homeless
 drop-in center
- Father of client contacted her with concerns regarding son



Information Sharing

- Former client living in VT
- According to father, not taking psychiatric medications
- Showing signs and symptoms of worsening instability
- Making death threats towards two current clients at drop-in center
- Father tracking debit card
- Client is in the Cambridge area



Initial CPD Response

- CRU prepares a brief for roll call to alert patrol units to the situation
- Patrol Units to conduct FIO if client is located



Second Information Sharing

- Director alerts Homeless Outreach Officer to client's presence at drop-in center
- Director shares client known to local crisis team with positive past interactions
- Homeless Outreach and Mental Health Outreach Officers respond to drop-in center.
- Officers contact local crisis team.



Third Information Sharing

- Director of Psychiatric Emergency Services from local hospital contacts CRU.
- Director also alerted by father of clients pending psychiatric crisis.
- Director requests officers bring client to hospital emergency department.



Coordinated Response

- Homeless and Mental Health Outreach
 Officers respond to drop-in center and meet
 Director.
- Client left drop-in center and in near by park.
- Director identified client to officers.
- Officers engaged with client and he went to hospital without incident at 2:18PM.
- Officers meet Director of Psychiatric Emergency Services at ED with client.



Success & Opportunities

- Inter-agency communication
- Inter-agency coordination
- Relationships
- Advanced officer training

- Post-hospitalization information sharing
- Continues to be unstable, unmediated, and homeless in community.
- What next?