



# City of Cooper City

## Police Chief's Quarterly Report

Submitted to the City Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter (April to June) 2025

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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We are pleased to share an update on public safety and law enforcement activity for the second quarter of 2025. With your continued partnership and support, Cooper City remains one of the safest communities in Broward County.

Overall crime remained stable this quarter and has decreased by 30% compared to the same time last year. The most common offenses involve theft-related crimes. One area we continue to monitor closely is fraud. Methods used by scammers are becoming more sophisticated, with many schemes involving social engineering – a tactic where scammers manipulate victims into revealing personal information.

This quarter, we responded to 6,953 calls for service, a testament to both proactive policing and a community that actively reports concerns. Key increases include traffic stops, police service calls, and domestic disturbances. We also saw encouraging decreases in juvenile-related disturbances as well as traffic and parking complaints. Both code and traffic complaints decreased this quarter, demonstrating the impact of enforcement, deterrence, and education.

In our ongoing commitment to animal welfare, this month we hosted Animal Crimes Investigations Training. Soon after, our team rescued almost 60 animals from an extreme hoarding situation, the involved staff earning Employees of the Month for their efforts.

As always, we thank you for your trust, engagement, and commitment. Public safety is a shared responsibility, and your involvement helps us serve with a greater impact.



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### CRIMES

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During the second quarter of 2025, Cooper City experienced stable overall crime trends since last quarter and a 30% decrease from the same period last year. The most frequently reported Part I crimes included theft-related offenses.

While the number of fraud cases remained relatively consistent, the methods used to commit fraud continue to evolve. In recent months, there have been noticeable increases in scams involving requests for money or the use of personal credentials. For this month's report, we are going to cover some actual recent Cooper City cases.

Case 1: A retail pharmacy store employee received a call from someone claiming to be from the store's corporate office, explaining that the employee would need to test several transactions on an alleged malfunctioning register. The employee made two \$2,000 transactions through Western Union. Fortunately, Western Union was suspicious of and canceled the transactions.

Case 2: After hacking an accountant's QuickBooks account, the suspect sent fraudulent bills to the listed clients, totaling over \$114,000. At the time of the report, the account had been locked, and it was unknown whether any clients sent money to the suspect.

Case 3: The victim received a call from someone posing as a Brightstar fraud representative requesting the completion of a form. The victim believed it to be a legitimate call because she had reported a recent fraud attempt to her Brightstar account. The victim completed the form, which asked for the account and personal information. With that, the suspect was able to withdraw \$1,900 from the account.

Scammers are getting smarter – and more convincing. Here are some tips to avoid scams:

- Never share personal or financial information (e.g., social security number, passwords, bank account details) over the phone, email, or text unless you initiated the contact and verified the recipient.
- If someone claims to be from a government agency, utility company, or bank and demands payment or credentials, hang up and call the official number directly – not the number provided by the caller.
- Legitimate organizations do not ask for immediate payment via gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency.
- Avoid clicking links on any unexpected emails or texts. They may lead to fake websites designed to steal your information.
- Enable account alerts, transaction notifications, and multi-factor authentication on your bank and email accounts to detect unauthorized access early.



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### **CALLS FOR SERVICE**

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Between April and June 2025, BSO responded to a high volume of calls for service (6,953), reflecting both the proactive engagement of deputies and the trust of the community in reporting concerns.

**Notable Increases.** Analyzing increases in specific types of calls for service is critical for effective law enforcement management and community safety planning. This ensures we are identifying emerging problems, deploying resources effectively, and providing community awareness initiatives.

- 1) **Traffic Stops** – The increase in traffic stops is primarily attributed to targeted traffic enforcement initiatives, like Operation TICKET, which focused on high-complaint areas and crash prone corridors.
  - From 892 to 1086
  - Up 194 stops (+18%)
- 2) **Police Service Calls** – These calls are non-criminal, non-emergency calls for assistance. They represent community interactions where law enforcement is needed for service or support, but no crime has occurred. The rise in calls may be attributed to seasonal factors, increased directed patrols, and greater community engagement in reporting issues.
  - From 2590 to 3051
  - Up 461 (+18%)
- 3) **Domestic Disturbances** – Domestic disturbance calls, both verbal and physical, surged this quarter, possibly influenced by population factors or enhanced reporting due to increased public awareness.
  - From 38 to 71
  - Up 33 (+86%)
  - Domestic battery accounted for the top arrest category this quarter.

**Notable Decreases.** Analyzing decreases helps to measure the impact of proactive policing, identify shifts in community needs, and reallocate resources strategically.

- 1) **Traffic/Parking Complaints** – Increased high-visibility traffic enforcement may have deterred unsafe driving behaviors and addressed problem areas before they escalated to resident complaints.
  - From 600 to 497
  - Down 103 (-21%)
- 2) **Juvenile-Related Disturbances** – The decline in juvenile-related disturbances could be related to proactive youth engagement and seasonal school closures, resulting in fewer school-related conflicts and after-school congregation.
  - From 42 to 14
  - Down 28 (-200%)



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### CODE ENFORCEMENT

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Code enforcement complaints decreased this quarter, from 726 in Q1 to 566 in Q2 – a 22% reduction. These trends reflect ongoing efforts by Code Enforcement to maintain neighborhood standards, promote quality of life, and respond to community complaints. Proactive inspections and resident cooperation remain key to achieving voluntary compliance.

### TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

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This quarter, traffic stops increased by 18%, rising from 892 in Q1 to 1,086 in Q2. This increase is largely attributed to Operation 'TICKET', a targeted traffic enforcement initiative. Conversely, traffic and parking complaints decreased by 21%, dropping from 600 in Q1 to 497 in Q2. This inverse trend suggests that enhanced enforcement and officer presence may have proactively addressed many issues that generate complaints.

### VACANCY REPORT

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The district currently has the following vacancies:

- One Deputy Sheriff
- One Sergeant (to be filled on 07/12/25)
- One Lieutenant (to be filled on 07/12/25)
- One Community Service Aide

### JUNE EVENTS

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**Animal Crimes Investigations Training.** On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, BSO hosted Animal Crimes Investigations Training, which was attended by our designated Deputy Animal Advocates, Code Enforcement, Broward County Animal Care, other BSO districts and municipal departments. The class not only helped officers recognize and investigate signs of animal abuse, but the interagency training concept helped to improve collaboration between departments.

**Meet-and-Greet.** On June 4<sup>th</sup>, we hosted a meet-and-greet with Captain Tianga and many of Cooper City's community leaders.

**Optimist Club Meeting.** On June 5<sup>th</sup>, BSO attended the Optimist Club meeting to provide updates on crime trends and prevention efforts.

### JUNE INITIATIVES AND SPECIAL PROJECTS:

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**Social Media Messaging.** BSO posted content related to noise complaints and road rage due to calls for service last month.



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### JUNE COMMENDATIONS

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**Deputy De La Rosa.** Deputy De La Rosa investigated a reported theft involving items taken from a resident's driveway. Although surveillance did not capture the theft, the victim was adamant that a donation truck took the items. Deputy De La Rosa used proactive investigative techniques to confirm the truck driver mistakenly went to the wrong address and collected what he believed to be a donation. Deputy De La Rosa coordinated the successful return of items, his actions saving investigative resources and resolving the case quickly.

**Code Inspector Duvall, Sgt. Mosca, and Deputy Zimmer.** Code Inspector Duvall, Sgt. Mosca, and Deputy Zimmer were recognized for their outstanding teamwork and dedication during a complex investigation involving an extreme hoarding situation. Their efforts – which extended over two weeks – led to the rescue of almost 60 animals living in uninhabitable conditions.