

Jeffrey W. Estes



Captain Jeff Estes joined the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department in November 1992 and spent his early years in various patrol functions. On promotion to Sergeant in 2002 he was assigned to the Center City area, where he supervised both a patrol shift and officers policing the city's entertainment venues. Charlotte's Center City is the world headquarters of Bank of America and Duke Energy and is the home of an NFL franchise, an NBA franchise the Eastern headquarters of Wells Fargo. It is also host to large scale entertainment venues, bars, restaurants and nightclubs. While assigned to the Center City area, Estes developed a comprehensive safe-consumption, serving, and policing initiative involving the owners and managers of alcohol serving establishments, patrons, and the police. This initiative helped reduce crime in these entertainment venues.

From the success of that initial sergeant posting, Estes was assigned as the supervisor in the intelligence section overseeing the gang intelligence unit and the ancillary functions of the violent crime task force. In that role, he was able to coordinate and consolidate the gang intelligence functions in the department with other organizations by partnering with the FBI to create a gang unit under the Safe Streets Task Force program. He oversaw members from the CMPD, FBI, ATF and ICE in the unit, which met with tremendous success in addressing gang problems. On promotion to Captain in 2006, Estes was re-assigned to the Center City as the commander of the patrol division there. He inherited a set of challenges in the division which included growth, vehicle cruising, civil disturbances, and violence associated with bars and nightclubs. Drawing on his earlier experiences as a sergeant in the Center City, Estes implemented several key changes, including a more concentrated emphasis on precursor crimes and behaviors which tend to lead to more serious crimes and holding businesses accountable for crime that emanated from their establishments. He instituted a cruising plan that focused on a regulating traffic through existing traffic laws, traffic lighting patterns, and the use of bicycles as a regulatory vehicle in slow moving traffic, as well as close monitoring of violations of the noise ordinance. There is now no cruising problem in the Center City. Such initiatives contributed to drastically reduced crime and disorder in the Center City, improving quality of life there.

Concentrating on precursor behaviors, police deployment methods and tight control of vehicle and pedestrian traffic also helped to maintain a safe and well-regulated atmosphere during large scale public events that in the past were marred by civil disturbance, violence and disorder. Instead of keeping riot police resources in staged reserve, Estes opted to bring them out onto the street in uniform to police the crowds early, so that any disturbances were dealt with quickly and efficiently before large disturbances could occur. There have been no further civil disturbances during Estes's tenure in the Center City.

Estes holds an undergraduate degree in criminal justice from Gardner-Webb University, as well as an MBA from Pfeiffer University. He is a FBI National Academy Graduate, is a member of various departmental committees and is active in many areas of the police department.