

City Wide Block Watch Council Bylaws

Preamble

It is positive concern of the citizens residing in the City of Milwaukee, that an optimum environment of cooperation exist among and between the department(s) of law enforcement and the citizens they serve. Crime prevention is the responsibility of both the Police Departments and the citizens of this city and, as such, can only be carried out in an atmosphere of mutual respect, cooperation, and partnership. In accordance with this express concern, the City Wide Block Watch Council is established.

Mission

To provide up to date information and assistance to neighborhood block watches throughout the city of Milwaukee.

ARTICLE I - COMPOSITION

Within the city of Milwaukee there shall be an established a body to be known as the City Wide Block Watch Council, which will have been elected by the Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Councils). The Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Councils) will have a representative from each sector within a district and will have been elected by the Block Watch Captains of their district.

BLOCK WATCH CAPTAINS

A trained and responsible person that represents a particular geographical area in a specific district.

Responsibilities of the Block Watch Captain:

- Collect neighborhood information.
- Encourage block watch residents to communicate with each other.
- Act as a liaison and distribute necessary updated crime prevention material.
- Encourage neighbors to participate in the block watch, community meetings and events.

SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES (DISTRICT BLOCK WATCH COUNCILS)

Effective as of June 28, 2010;

District One	Three Sector Areas	Three Representatives
District Two	Four Sector Areas	Four Representatives
District Three	Four Sector Areas	Four Representatives
District Four	Three Sector Areas	Three Representatives
District Five	Three Sector Areas	Three Representatives
District Six	Four Sector Areas	Four Representatives
District Seven	Four Sector Areas	Four Representatives

The Sector Representative shall be a trained and responsible block watch captain elected by majority

vote of respective block watch captains representing a designated geographical sector area in their respective district.

The number of sector representatives will reflect the number of sector areas in their respective Milwaukee Police Department districts.

Responsibilities of the Sector Representative (District Block Watch Council):

- Encourage block watch captains and residents in their designated sector area to communicate with each other.
- Keep their designated block watch captains updated on the latest crime prevention material and informed of the instructions from the Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council), Citywide Block Watch Council and the Milwaukee Police Department.
- Report all concerns from their designated block watch captains and residents to their City Wide Block Watch Council Representatives.
- Maintain an update roster of all block watch captains in their designated area.
- Maintain confidentiality with their district police captain/designee and community liaison officers.
- Assist their district police captain/designee; their community liaison officers, and Citywide Block Watch Council in maintaining a high level of integrity with the block watch program and its structure.
- Expansion of community involvement to facilitate the creation of additional block watches.

CITY WIDE BLOCK WATCH COUNCIL

An assembly of District Block Watch Representatives representing the interests of block watch captains and the interests of the districts they represent as a whole.

Responsibilities of the City Wide Block Watch Council Representative:

- Vote on all issues affecting the block watch program.
- Collectively coordinate the activities of the Sector Representative (District Block Watch Council) to help improve the quality of life in the City of Milwaukee.
- Implement directives, suggestions, instructions and guidance from designated personnel of the Milwaukee Police Department.
- Provide Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council) with the latest crime prevention materials and training opportunities.

- Maintain a high level of integrity with the block watch program and its structure.

- Meet the operational needs of block watch captains.
- Maintain confidentiality of block watch contact and statistical information. The information is not shared with anyone but the CLO's and District Captains of the Milwaukee Police Department.

To maintain impartiality, there will be a rotating moderator for each formal meeting of the City Wide Block Watch Council. A Citywide Block Watch Council member can decline acting as a moderator when their turn comes around (by district number).

Article II - VOTING RESPONSIBILITIES

BLOCK WATCH CAPTAINS

Are responsible to elect the Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council).

- Block watch captains, with one (1) or more years of service as a block watch captain, are eligible to vote. Only eligible district block watch captains will be present where a vote is taking place (no proxies).
- A quorum of eligible block watch captains must be present for a vote to take place.
- Voting will be conducted at a monthly Crime and Safety meeting. The location, date and time is determined by the individual police districts.
- A ballot vote made up by the individual police districts will be used as the voting method.

SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES (DISTRICT BLOCK WATCH COUNCILS)

- Election of the Representative for the City Wide Block Watch Council.

CITY WIDE BLOCK WATCH COUNCIL

- Vote on issues that directly affect the City Wide Block Watch Council, and the welfare of block watch captains and districts as a whole.

ARTICLE III - BYLAWS

AMENDMENT

Any block watch captain may recommend amendments to these Bylaws. A block watch captain would take their concern or suggestion to the Sector Representative. The Sector Representative would then take it to the member of the City Wide Block Watch Council that is representing that District. The City Wide Block Watch Council would then vote on the suggested change to the Bylaws.

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- Except for actions taken by the City Wide Block Watch Council in accordance with the Bylaws, business of the organization may only be conducted at regular meetings.
- The City Wide Block Watch Councils meetings and Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council) meetings will be conducted based on the latest Robert's Rule of Order.

TERM OF OFFICERS

Officers shall be described as any district block watch captain elected or appointed to one or more of the following positions: Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council) and City Block Watch Council.

The following offices shall be effective on *April* 1 for a term of two years.

- Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council)

The following office shall be effective on *May* 1 for a term of two years.

- City Wide Block Watch Council

The election for these offices will take place the January prior to the beginning of the new term.

REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

If a block watch captain is not performing his or her duties or is subverting the *goals* of the block watch program and its structure, a block watch member can request that the captain be removed. The City Block Watch Council (less the person in question) will investigate the matter and a recommendation will be made to the Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council), representing the offending Captain, and a vote will be taken on any recommendation for removal and a majority vote shall be sufficient for the removal. A special election will be held to fill the removed captain's position. If the remainder of the term is 3 months or less, another captain can act in that position until the regular elections.

MEETINGS

Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council) and the City Wide Block Watch Council shall determine the date time and location of their meetings.

There shall be mandatory meetings for the City Wide Block Watch Council to be held three times a year in March, June, and October.

There shall be regular meetings for Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council) in the individual Police Districts.

ARTICLE VI - MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

DISTRICT POLICE CAPTAIN

- Each district captain is principally responsible for the actions and conduct of their respective block watch captains, Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council) and City Wide Block Watch Council.
- Each district captain will have discretionary input into decisions made by their block watch captains, Sector Representatives (District Block Watch Council), and City Wide Block Watch Council Member that would have a positive or adverse impact on the operation of their district station, the Milwaukee Police Department and/or the city of Milwaukee.
- Each district captain will act as a mediator to resolve conflicts, to improve efficiency and the overall good of the block watch program as it pertains to their respective district, and to receive guidance and/or instructions to improve the efforts of the program and those involved.
- Act as a final mediator to resolve voting conflicts.

COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICERS

- Each district's community liaison officer will assist and provide guidance, direction and/or instructions to improve the overall efficiency of the City Wide Block Watch program and the structure of this program. All community liaison officers will act as department advisers to the City Wide Block Watch program and structure, with an emphasis on their respective district characteristics.

ARTICLE V – QUORUM:

CITY WIDE BLOCK WATCH COUNCIL

- Shall consist of a majority of sworn in Representatives