

# Empowering Government Agencies to Deploy the Appropriate Resources for Quality-of-Life Issues

Over the last two decades, public priorities surrounding homelessness, behavioral health, and substance abuse have worked their way into policing strategies. As a collaborative partner, local policing agencies are not only frequently first on scene to overdose incidents; they are often the first point of contact for individuals suffering from mental illness and provide needed resources to communities struggling with homelessness and quality of life issues.

Social Service agencies primarily work with the same populations, facing the same kinds of problems and challenges that law enforcement works with, making collaboration among agencies of paramount importance. Effective prevention, intervention, and stabilization requires the cooperation of all agencies. Versaterm OpsIntel can help with this collaboration.

Versaterm OpsIntel is a unique and proprietary web-based application that allows law enforcement agencies to share critical information quickly with social service agencies such as Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Code Enforcement Officers, Mental Health Agencies, Homeless Outreach Teams, and so many others. By working together, these agencies can support each other to tackle issues that lie beyond the scope of any single organization. This collaboration is invaluable in order to address the evolving needs of a community. Additionally, this will reduce the duplication of efforts by separate organizations within a jurisdiction.

Versaterm OpsIntel enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of agencies by giving them access to critical, real-time data such as homeless camp locations, overdose incidents, graffiti, vandalism and crime patterns that impact a community's quality of life. Versaterm OpsIntel goes above and beyond the standard CAD and RMS search by supplying up-to-the minute data feeds, maps, discussions, bulletins and case management tools.

With its flexibility, Versaterm OpsIntel helps agencies adapt with the times and change the way they handle crime and quality of life issues.

# Vandalism

When an area is targeted by graffiti and acts of vandalism, it is imperative that the governing jurisdiction cleans and repairs the damage as soon as possible. If left unaddressed, the magnitude of destruction will naturally increase. Versaterm OpsIntel provides a collaboration tool for law enforcement and city, county or state workers to identify and coordinate remediation efforts. The ability to document, photograph and discuss is invaluable to defending a community from acts of vandalism.

# **Homeless Outreach**

The nature of homelessness has not changed significantly in 25 years. What has changed is how law enforcement views the issue of homelessness, and how they respond to it. Making arrests is not an effective response as it is not a crime to be homeless. Today's law enforcement officers are often the first point of contact to provide the needed resources and outreach to the homeless population. They are tasked with taking on a leadership role and finding innovative solutions to help combat homelessness.

Versaterm OpsIntel's technology can help agencies better understand and provide a more effective response to homelessness in their community. For example, agencies can map homeless encampments as they evolve, and overlay social service locations to speed the process of bringing the two parties together. The map layer in Versaterm OpsIntel will aid in sharing the information with specialty trained resource providers. This information can be lifesaving during severe weather or events where evacuations may be necessary.

# **Behavioral Health**

People with serious and untreated mental health conditions often encounter barriers that prevent them from receiving the right services. Police officers, behavioral health providers, and community stakeholders face challenges in determining and implementing the proper ways to intervene during a behavioral health crisis. The real-time intelligence that Versaterm OpsIntel offers with the delivery of discussion forums and crime bulletins helps agencies take a more surgical approach to managing and deploying resources and addressing the community's needs.

### Substance Abuse

Fighting the opioid crisis is not just up to law enforcement. It is a collaborative effort with local governments, health care centers, first responders and more. With Versaterm OpsIntel, users can plot locations where opioid overdoses are occurring, share discussions related to overdoses and deaths, and put a more localized human touch on the national crisis.

Mapping this data can help show how widespread the crisis is and direct affected people on where to go to get help. It can also help police intensify their surveillance of high activity areas to enhance enforcement efforts.

#### **About Versaterm**

Versaterm, a global public safety solutions company, empowers agencies to transform their organizations by providing innovative technology, expertise, and an unwavering dedication to service. Our ecosystem supports community safety through purposeful integrations across the public safety spectrum that improve workflows, customer service and just outcomes.