FPS collaboration with FEBs critical to protecting federal communities

Last October, FPS formalized a strategic partnership with the Office of Personnel Management’s Federal Executive Board National Program Office to solidify a joint commitment to collaboration, transparency, and communication in protecting federal properties. On July 11, FPS and FEB leaders took another critical step in that partnership by participating in a roundtable discussion. During the hour-long virtual call, FPS and FEB regional staff members discussed key topics revolving around the criticality of information sharing between FPS and the FEBs, which are charged with providing a forum for communication and collaboration among federal agencies outside of the National Capital Region.

Here's a summary of the topics discussed during the roundtable:

**Quarterly intel briefing to FEBs**
- Region 1’s Deputy Regional Director Michael Palmer explained how providing quarterly intelligence briefings to federal partners helps foster awareness about current threats and crime trends.
- “It’s allowed us to develop a relationship and dialogue between all the agencies and we’ve found that it shortens the time between agencies becoming aware of issues, such as potential threats,” said DRD Palmer. “We found that really helps in any emergencies. People know who people are, and we’re able to pass on information very quickly.”

**“In an FPS Minute”**
- Region 6 RD Dave Thomas shared a reporting template coined, “In an FPS Minute” that provides a snapshot of local FPS incidents from the previous 30 days.
- RD Thomas explained that the short report has proven valuable because it provides quick information and threat trends to FEBs.
- You can read an example of the In an FPS Minute report here.

**Security and safety**
- Some FEBs are receiving more requests from federal tenants for security and personal safety training to help delineate law enforcement response authorities and responsibilities—does a federal employee call 911 or a MegaCenter if something happens just off federal property?
- Federal employees may not know or understand the different jurisdictions and are unsure who to contact to report incidents and/or suspicious activities just off federal property. For example, in Boston, personal safety is a concern when federal employees are walking to and from the federal building to local transit.
- Region 7 RD (Acting) Wilbur Hooks explained that the federal-local authority nexus may vary region-to-region and even property, but FPS can respond on and near federal properties if “we see that our customers are in danger and they’re still around federal property.”

Stay tuned! We’ll be sure to report out on future FEB-FPS roundtables in future editions of the #FPSWeekly.