



Wilmington Police Department Hurricane Florence Update

Deputy Chief Mitch Cunningham

Preparations

- Activated the EOC
- Strongly encouraged evacuations
- Placed officers on 12 on/12 off
- Decided to open HQ as a shelter for officers and their families (and pets!)

More preparations

- Moved critical resources out of the storm path
- Hardened our facilities
- Thank you to World Kitchen!
- The community gives back

It arrives...





Once it hits..

- Landfall at 7:15 am on September 14th
- 28 inches of rain
- Over 105 mph gusts
- Higher than 5 foot storm surge

Tragedy







September 15th

- The entire city goes dark
- Suspend calls for service
- Go to higher ground
- Account for everyone
- 9-11 center fails

“I’ve never been so scared”



WPD debrief

- We make a out of state Peer Support request
- Viper channels-needed more
- Improve Mutual Aid
- Improve WEBEOC and routing requests

Caring for our staff

- Samaritan's Purse
- Donation coordination
- Local churches
- Working to assist our employees who had to leave their homes

The aftermath

- Impacts will remain
- Cost of debris clean up-
\$14,000,000.00
- 874,000 yards of vegetative debris collected, hauled off by over 60 trucks in the first 30 days of collection

Long term infrastructure impacts



Questions

