

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FLATIRON BID LAUNCHES PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

NEW YORK – The Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership Business Improvement District (BID) has launched a comprehensive Public Safety program that will address matters ranging from assisting visitors to documenting quality-of-life violations.

The BID’s Public Safety officers, easily recognized by their light blue and navy uniforms with the distinctive Flatiron patch, will be on duty seven days a week. Four officers and a supervisor will be on patrol each day during the week, and two officers and a supervisor will be on patrol on the weekends.

The program will be supervised by Scott Kimmins, the BID’s Director of Operations, whose intimate knowledge of the neighborhood was honed by his 20 years patrolling the Flatiron district as a member of the New York Police Department’s 13th Precinct.

“Our BID officers are there to give the area an additional layer of safety and security,” Kimmins said. “Although they are not law enforcement officials, they will provide a uniformed presence that will document and address a multitude of conditions in the neighborhood.”

Their mission:

- Serve as neighborhood ambassadors to residents, property owners, merchants and visitors, providing directions and assistance in whatever way they can.
- Function as the eyes and ears of the Flatiron BID and the New York Police Department by observing conditions around them, so that suspicious activities can be quickly reported to the 13th Precinct.
- Notify the appropriate authorities about quality-of-life concerns, ranging from illegal vendors to uncollected garbage.
- Document safety concerns such as malfunctioning traffic lights, broken curbs and potholes.
- Offer appropriate assistance to the homeless.
- Assist the appropriate authorities in emergency situations such as traffic accidents or cases of personal injury.

Kimmins said he plans to introduce members of the public safety team to roll calls at the 13th Precinct so they will be familiar to NYPD officers in the district.

The BID’s Public Safety program is provided through a contract with American Commercial Security Services (ACSS), a nationwide security organization. ACSS is one of the 10 biggest security companies in

the United States, with over 11,000 employees and 31 branch offices. Many of ACSS's New York personnel are former high-ranking officials of the NYPD and other police departments.

About the Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership

The Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership Business Improvement District (www.discoverflatiron.org) is a not-for-profit organization formed in 2006 by property owners, tenants, city officials and others with a stake in the community, an approximately 38-block area with borders extending from 21st Street to 28th Street and from Third Avenue to Sixth Avenue. The mission of the Partnership is to make a great neighborhood even better by making it cleaner, safer, and more beautiful through supplemental sanitation and security services, the promotion and marketing of the area's diverse offerings and undertaking additional neighborhood improvements.

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