



NSW Police Strike Force Wins National Award for Reducing ATM Crime

Friday 30th October 2009

Minister for Police Michael Daley today congratulated the past and present members of Strike Force Piccadilly who were recognised at the 2009 Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards.

Mr Daley said Strike Force Piccadilly, formed to reduce the number of attacks on ATMs, was one of eight ground-breaking projects aimed at driving down crime or violence to be recognised at yesterday's awards ceremony in Canberra.

"This NSW Police initiative, which began in 2005, saw the number of successful ATM raids drop from 30 in the year prior to the initiative to two in the final year of the Strike Force," he said.

"The hard work of Strike Force Piccadilly also resulted in offences relating to ATM raids drop from 69 to 19 over the same time period.

"Between August 2005 and June 2007, 97 people were arrested by Strike Force Piccadilly for 491 offences related to ATM ram raids, with 21 separate gangs being incapacitated.

"Strike Force Piccadilly officers worked with retail operators, banks and the security sector to end a spate of ram raid thefts in the greater Sydney area.

"Strike Force Piccadilly's success highlights the importance of partnerships between Government agencies and community groups

"Strike Force Piccadilly officers also installed an alarm system to ensure they could respond rapidly following an attack, and developed anti-ramming devices for ATMs," Mr Daley said.

Mr Daley said the NSW Police Force's Domestic Violence Intervention Response Team (DVIRT) was also recognised with a Meritorious Police Certificate.

"DVIRT were recognised for their integrated case management service model to address domestic and family violence in the Brisbane Water Local Area Command," he said.

"It contacts clients within 24 to 48 hours where possible and provides a range of integrated services including referral, support, advocacy, outreach and case management to clients of domestic and family violence.

"These Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards are further proof that NSW has one of the best Police forces in the country," Mr Daley said.

The annual Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Awards are run by the Australian Institute of Criminology, and sponsored by the heads of Australian governments and the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management.