

JURISDICTION

STANDARD NO(S)

NYSLEAP 58.1

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REFER TO :

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I. OBJECTIVE:

To define the geographical boundaries of the SCSO's jurisdiction; to provide for the development of agreements with other police agencies for the delivery of services; to emphasize the existence of state law controlling mutual aid; and, to specify procedures for implementing such aid, when appropriate.

II. POLICY:

It shall be the policy of the SCSO, in discharging its law enforcement and other responsibilities to the people of Seneca County, to respect the prerogatives of those police agencies which also provide police services within the county, whether based on geographic or subject matter jurisdiction. Upon request, however, the SCSO will render any and all appropriate assistance to another police agency having primary jurisdiction for the provision of such service, even if located outside the boundaries of Seneca County.

III. DETAILS:

A. Geographical boundaries - The Seneca County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the delivery of police services within the established boundaries of the county. The county has a total area of 330 square miles, and includes the Towns (townships) of Junius, Tyre, Waterloo, Seneca Falls, Fayette, Varick, Romulus, Ovid, Lodi and Covert.

The county also includes the villages of Waterloo, Ovid, Lodi and Interlaken. A detailed official map, which shows the county, village and town boundaries is displayed in the Communications Division (9-1-1 Center).

B. Agency jurisdiction - With the advent of the E911 system in Seneca County, requests for emergency service, whether police, fire or medical assistance, are answered in the 9-1-1 Center located in the County Office Building in the village of Waterloo. Requests for non-emergency service received by a member of the SCSO, and which originate within the boundaries of Seneca County are handled by the SCSO in accordance with the appropriate procedures, with the following exceptions:

1. A request for service which originates within the Village of Waterloo is referred to the Waterloo Police Department, a full-time agency which has responsibility for law enforcement within Village limits.

2. A request for service which originates within the Town of Seneca Falls is referred to the Seneca Falls Police Department, a full-time agency which has responsibility for law enforcement within Town limits.

3. The Village of Interlaken has part-time officers who are on duty on an irregular schedule. These officers routinely advise the 9-1-1 Center of their availability, and, when on duty, requests for service from these municipalities will be accepted, then relayed appropriately. Depending upon the nature of the request, an SCSO member may also respond to assist or handled the matter in its entirety.

4. A request for service which requires a response on the New York State Thruway shall be referred to the New York State Police.

C. Concurrent jurisdiction -

1. Department of Environmental Conservation - Paragraph 2 of Section 71-0525 of the Environmental Conservation Law provides that "... a police officer shall have the same powers as environmental conservation officers under the fish and wildlife law, except the power to search without a warrant."

2. New York State Police - The New York State Police assumes state-wide jurisdiction for the delivery of all police services and maintains its own dispatching network, except for calls made through the E911 system, which as noted above, are received at Seneca County's 9-1-1 Center. Responses to these calls may be made by either the SCSO or the NYSP, or both, in accordance with the "closest car concept," agreed to by both agencies.

Since the NYSP is also responsible for enforcing the laws of New York State, subject matter jurisdiction is concurrent with every other police agency in the state, except on premises which are clearly within the state's exclusive purview, such as, certain restricted highways. However, neither the SCSO nor the NYSP will hesitate to request needed assistance or back-up from the other.

D. Mutual aid -

1. Legal status - SCSO members shall be guided by the New York State General Municipal Law, Article 10, §209-f and §209-m, and the Executive Law, Article 2-b, §23 and §24, as the controlling legislation affecting the requesting or receiving of mutual aid.

According to the General Municipal Law, "While engaged in duty and rendering services...officers...shall have the same powers, duties, rights, benefits, privileges and immunities as if they were performing their duties in the civil or political subdivision in or by which they are normally employed."

2. Legal authority - When deemed appropriate, that is the requested mutual aid will consist of significant resources in officers, equipment and time, the Sheriff of the aided jurisdiction shall have the authority to deputize officers as emergency special deputy sheriffs of the county and those officers shall have the same legal status as provided in ¶ 1, above.

3. Requesting mutual aid - The Sheriff, when the public interest requires it, may "declare a state of special emergency in a part or parts of the county where the public peace is threatened or where life or property may be endangered, after first advising the governor, by telegram (teletype) addressed to the governor at the executive offices in the city of Albany, New York, that he is about to do so."

4. Authority to request - SCSO members facing emergency situations consistent with a Level III Response as described in ¶ III(D)(3) of "Unusual Occurrences," this Manual, shall make mutual aid requests through the chain of command to the Sheriff or designee. In other situations, when time permits, any necessary requests will be made in advance by the Sheriff as part of a Special Detail Plan described in ¶ III(B)(2) of "**Special Events**" this Manual.

5. Deployment - Outside agencies who are responding to SCSO's request for mutual aid will be apprised of the current situation and informed as to the reporting location, for example, a staging area, SCSO headquarters, a community office, a command or patrol post. When possible, a coordinator for outside resources shall be assigned from the ranks of Sergeant or above with the responsibility for liaison with the reporting agency.

Deployment of SCSO resources shall be controlled from SCSO headquarters, the centralized location for all personnel, equipment and supplies. Manpower deployment shall be done in accordance with current directives relating to minimum staffing as described in ¶ III(D) of "**Road Patrol**" this Manual. Staffing levels necessary to fulfill SCSO's responsibility to respond to calls for service must be maintained.

6. Radio communications - With the recent updating, coordination and cooperation in the sharing of radio frequencies, the incident commander (most likely a Lieutenant or above), shall coordinate with the 9-1-1 Center, utilizing current 9-1-1 protocols to assign a frequency for the exclusive use of the special detail. If, for technical reasons, this cannot be accomplished, all radio communication shall be coordinated through the 9-1-1 Center.

7. Expenditures and liability - The General Municipal Law states, "The local government receiving police aid...shall assume liability for all damages arising out of any act performed in rendering such aid and shall reimburse the assisting local government for any moneys paid by it for salaries or for other expenses incurred by it including damage to or loss of equipment and supplies.

An assisting local government may assume such loss, damage, expenses or cost for such equipment and supplies and donate such services to the receiving local government..."

8. Evaluation - After every mutual aid incident, the incident commander shall conduct a briefing and prepare an “after action report” (written evaluation) to the Sheriff to insure that the mutual aid plan was properly executed and, if necessary, recommend that revisions or modifications be made.

E. State and Federal assistance -

1. The request for the assistance of the National Guard in law enforcement matters may be made by the Sheriff of Seneca County to the Governor's Office in Albany, New York.

2. Emergency assistance from a federal law enforcement agency such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Agency, or a similar organization, which goes beyond the kind of cooperation which is described in paragraph III (B)(2) of "**Liaison With Other Agencies**" this Manual, may be obtained by direct contact with such agency, following a recommendation to and approval from the Sheriff.

The facilities of most federal agencies having law enforcement responsibilities operate on a 24 hour a day basis, either through a local representative or from a regional headquarters. Procedures for contacting the appropriate office are available from the 9-1-1 Center or kept in the course of member's regular divisional duties.

F. Regional services -

1. The SCSO has access to two radio frequencies, which are uniform throughout the state, and which permit voice contact between police agencies; between mobile units of one agency and the base station of another; and, between mobile units of two different agencies. The frequencies are controlled and are obtained by the user's selection of the appropriate channel on the user's console, either base station or mobile.

2. The SCSO participates in the statewide fingerprint system as administered by the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) in Albany, New York. The Seneca County Correctional Facility electronically transmits a facsimile copy of every fingerprint record made in connection with an arrest booking via a system entitled “Livescan”. Whenever there are technical difficulties with that system those fingerprints have to be done manually with ink and paper cards and then those are sent in to DCJS by the Records Section.

3. The SCSO, along with the Seneca County e911 Center participates in the eJusticeNY Integrated Justice Portal (eJusticeNY) administered by DCJS. Information from the reporting of crimes to the SCSO is routinely sent to the E911 Center where information pertaining to suspects and stolen property is sent via computer into the system.

4. The SCSO participates in the statewide crime reporting system in accordance with the procedures set out in the New York State Uniform Crime Reporting Procedures Handbook. Collection and submission of data under these procedures is the responsibility of the Records Section. **[See "Records & Reports," paragraph III (S), this Manual]**