

# Aberdeen Police Department

Aberdeen PD WA Policy Manual

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## CHIEF'S PREFACE

Greetings,

Welcome to the Aberdeen Police Department Policy Manual

The following pages in this Policy Manual will help you fulfill your duties with the Aberdeen Police Department. You are all professionals performing a vital service to the people who live, work, and visit the City of Aberdeen. The Aberdeen Police Department has been entrusted with the awesome responsibility of providing both service and protection for our community. With guidance of the law, this manual, and your good judgment, you will be able to perform your duties in an exemplary manor.

Each policy has a "Purpose and Scope." Each policy has been researched for the application of the Federal Constitution, Federal Law, State Constitution and State Law, Best Practice, Risk Management, and then melded to accommodate for our local practice when possible. Some of the policies have been in place and practiced for many years and others will be new. We may have to change some of the methods; we may have new forms and accountabilities.

When you confront a question about how you should perform your duties, you should ask yourself, "What is the law and what is the department policy?" Asking this should provide most of the answers to your questions, but when in doubt, seek guidance from your supervisor.

As the law, our department, and community change, so will our policies. You will need to keep abreast of them as they are issued and reissued.

I hope this manual will help you have a rewarding and successful career at the Aberdeen Police Department.

Thank you for all that you do for the City of Aberdeen and the Aberdeen Police Department.

Dale Green  
Interim Chief of Police

# Aberdeen Police Department

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## **LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS**

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession . . . law enforcement.

## MISSION STATEMENT

# Aberdeen Police Department Mission Statement

As Guardians of our community,  
we are committed to achieving  
trusted problem solving partnerships,  
always ready to serve, with pride and excellence.

## CORE VALUES:

### – APPROACHABLE

- We are engaged in the community we serve
- We seek partnerships with our community to solve problems
- We welcome interaction opportunities with the public

### – COMMITTED

- We aim for continuous improvement in serving the people in our community
- We are dedicated to a strong work ethic and dependable police service
- We are well trained and proficient in dealing with police matters
- We Obey and support the letter and the spirit of the law

### – TEAMWORK

- We are dedicated to our police department and each other
- We are responsible and creative in the management of our resources
- We focus our individual efforts toward teamwork
- We value each member's unique and diverse contributions and individual skill sets

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## *Mission Statement*

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### **– INTEGRITY**

- We carry ourselves in the highest of ethical standards
- We are professional in our delivery of police service
- We value the respect entrusted to us by the public
- We are accountable to each other and the public we serve

### **– OBJECTIVE**

- We recognize and respect the constitutional rights of all people
- We believe in treating people with courtesy, dignity, and respect
- We value innovation and support creativity

### **– NOBLE**

- We are the guardians and protectors in our community
- We exist to preserve human life and prevent harm
- We work to anticipate, prevent, and resolve problems
- We believe in doing the right thing, for the right reason, at the right time

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## **Chapter 1 - Law Enforcement Role and Authority**

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# Law Enforcement Authority

## 100.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to affirm the authority of the members of the Aberdeen Police Department to perform their functions based on established legal authority.

## 100.2 PEACE OFFICER POWERS

Sworn members of this department are authorized to exercise peace officer powers pursuant to applicable state law.

### 100.2.1 CITY AUTHORITY

The Aberdeen Police Department is established by the act of the City Council and Section 37 (31) of the Charter of the City of Aberdeen.

### 100.2.2 RESPONSIBILITY

Commissioned Police Officers are responsible for law enforcement, public safety, and other assigned duties within the City of Aberdeen. The authority of all officers is derived from their commission issued by the Chief of Police in accordance with Section 18 and 28 of the City Charter and City Ordinance 2.68.010.

### 100.2.3 ACCOUNTABILITY

Each Aberdeen Police Department employee is accountable for the use of delegated authority empowered to him/her by virtue of position, Police Commission, and/or rank.

### 100.2.4 DISMISSED OR SUSPENDED MEMBERS

Any member of this department who resigns, is dismissed or who is under suspension without pay shall forthwith be deprived of all police powers and privileges, except as a private citizen, and shall not continue to represent him/her self as a member of this department.

### 100.2.5 ARREST AUTHORITY

The arrest authority of the Aberdeen Police Department includes (RCW 10.31.100):

- (a) When a peace officer has probable cause to believe that a person has committed or is committing a felony, the peace officer shall have the authority to arrest the person without a warrant.
- (b) A peace officer may arrest a person without a warrant for committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor only when the offense is committed in the presence of a peace officer, except as provided in RCW 10.31.100 (e.g., when there is probable cause for certain offenses that involve domestic violence, driving under the influence, motor vehicle accidents).
- (c) A peace officer may arrest a person in compliance with an arrest warrant after confirming the existence and extradition. A peace officer making an arrest must inform the person that the peace officer is acting under the authority of a warrant and must

## *Law Enforcement Authority*

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provide the person with a copy of the warrant at the time of the arrest or arrival at the holding facility.

### **100.3 CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

All members shall observe and comply with every person's clearly established rights under the United States and Washington Constitutions.

### **100.4 JURISDICTION**

The jurisdiction of Aberdeen Police Department personnel is that area, along with the properties and persons contained therein, within the corporate limits of the City of Aberdeen. All personnel are authorized to enforce the laws of the State of Washington and City of Aberdeen within said city limits

#### **100.4.1 AGENCY JURISDICTION**

On-duty officers of the Aberdeen Police Department may exercise their authority when on duty anywhere outside the City of Aberdeen and in the State of Washington when any of the following conditions exist:

- (a) With the written consent of the Sheriff or Chief of Police whose primary jurisdiction the exercise of authority occurs;
- (b) In response to an emergency involving the immediate threat to human life and property;
- (c) In response to a request for assistance pursuant to a mutual law enforcement assistance agreement with that agency of primary territorial jurisdiction or in response to the request of a peace officer with enforcement authority; Except vehicle pursuits as in policy §340.
- (d) When the officer is transporting a prisoner;
- (e) When the officer is executing an arrest or search warrant;
- (f) When the officer is in fresh pursuit. Any peace officer who has statutory authority under Washington law to make an arrest may proceed in fresh pursuit of a person. The officer in fresh pursuit shall have the authority to arrest and to hold such person in custody anywhere in the state. The term fresh pursuit includes, without limitations, fresh pursuit as defined by the common law. Fresh pursuit does not imply immediate pursuit, but pursuit without unreasonable delay of a person:
  - 1. Who is reasonably believed to have committed a violation of traffic or criminal law; or
  - 2. For whom such officer holds a warrant of arrest.

## *Law Enforcement Authority*

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### 100.4.2 OFF DUTY JURISDICTION

- (a) An officer of the Aberdeen Police Department may exercise his/her authority when off duty anywhere outside the City of Aberdeen and in the State of Washington when the following circumstances exist:
  - 1. In response to an emergency involving the immediate threat to human life, or serious threat to property; or
  - 2. In response to the request of a peace officer with enforcement authority.

### **100.5 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to limit its members to only exercise the authority granted to them by law.

While this department recognizes the power of peace officers to make arrests and take other enforcement action, officers are encouraged to use sound discretion in the enforcement of the law. This department does not tolerate abuse of law enforcement authority.

### **100.6 INTERSTATE PEACE OFFICER POWERS**

Peace officer powers may be extended to other states:

- (a) As applicable under interstate compacts, memorandums of understanding or mutual aid agreements in compliance with the laws of each state.
- (b) When an officer enters Idaho or Oregon in fresh pursuit of a person believed to have committed a felony (Idaho Code 19-701; ORS 133.430).

When an officer makes an arrest in Idaho or Oregon, the arresting officer shall cause the person to be taken without delay to a magistrate in the county where the arrest was made (Idaho Code 19-702; ORS 133.440).

# Law Enforcement Certification

## 101.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

All sworn officers employed by the Aberdeen Police Department shall receive certification by CJTC prior to assuming law enforcement duties and responsibilities, and shall begin attending an approved academy within the first six months of employment.

## Oath of Office

### 102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that oaths, when appropriate, are administered to department members.

#### 102.1.1 OFFICIAL OATH OF OFFICE

I, \_\_\_\_\_ DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL UPHOLD

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF WASHINGTON;

ABIDE BY THE CODE, THE STANDARDS OF ETHICAL CONDUCT, AND POLICY ADOPTED BY THE

ABERDEEN POLICE DEPARTMENT; AND THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY AND

IMPARTIALLY PERFORM AND DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF A POLICE OFFICER FOR

THE CITY OF ABERDEEN, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

### 102.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that, when appropriate, department members affirm the oath of their office as an expression of commitment to the constitutional rights of those served by the Department and the dedication of its members to their duties.

### 102.3 OATH OF OFFICE

All department members, when appropriate, shall take and subscribe to the oaths or affirmations applicable to their positions (RCW 43.101.021).

If a member is opposed to taking an oath, he/she shall be permitted to substitute the word "affirm" for the word "swear," and the words "so help me God" may be omitted.

### 102.4 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The oath of office shall be filed in accordance with the established records retention schedule and any applicable state and/or local law.

# Policy Manual

## 103.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The manual of the Aberdeen Police Department is hereby established and shall be referred to as the Policy Manual or the manual. The manual is a statement of the current policies, rules and guidelines of this department. All members are to conform to the provisions of this manual.

All prior and existing manuals, orders and regulations that are in conflict with this manual are rescinded, except to the extent that portions of existing manuals, procedures, orders and other regulations that have not been included herein shall remain in effect, provided that they do not conflict with the provisions of this manual.

### 103.1.1 DISCLAIMER

The provisions contained in this Policy Manual are not intended to create an employment contract, nor any employment rights or entitlements. The policies contained within this manual are for the internal use of the Aberdeen Police Department and shall not be construed to create a higher standard or duty of care for civil or criminal liability against the City, its officials or employees. Violations of any provision of any policy contained within this manual shall only form the basis for departmental administrative action, training or discipline. The Aberdeen Police Department reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

## 103.2 POLICY

Except where otherwise expressly stated, the provisions of this manual shall be considered as guidelines. It is recognized that the work of law enforcement is not always predictable and circumstances may arise which warrant departure from these guidelines. It is the intent of this manual to be viewed from an objective standard, taking into consideration the sound discretion entrusted to members of this department under the circumstances reasonably available at the time of any incident.

### 103.2.1 DISCLAIMER

The provisions contained in the Policy Manual are not intended to create an employment contract nor any employment rights or entitlements. The policies contained within this manual are for the internal use of the Aberdeen Police Department and shall not be construed to create a higher standard or duty of care for civil or criminal liability against the City, its officials or members. Violations of any provision of any policy contained within this manual shall only form the basis for department administrative action, training or discipline. The Aberdeen Police Department reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

### 103.2.2 STAFF

Staff shall consist of the following:

- Chief of Police
- Deputy Chief of Police



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- Section Commanders
- Lieutenants

The staff shall review all recommendations regarding proposed changes to the manual at staff meetings.

### 103.2.3 OTHER PERSONNEL

All department employees suggesting revision of the contents of the Policy Manual shall forward their suggestion, in writing, to their immediate supervisor who will consider the recommendation and forward to staff.

### 103.3 AUTHORITY

The Chief of Police shall be considered the ultimate authority for the content and adoption of the provisions of this manual and shall ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee is authorized to issue Departmental Directives, which shall modify those provisions of the manual to which they pertain. Departmental Directives shall remain in effect until such time as they may be permanently incorporated into the manual.

#### 103.3.1 ACCEPTABLE ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations are acceptable substitutions in the manual:

- Department Orders may be abbreviated as "DO" .
- Policy Manual sections may be abbreviated as "Section 106.X" or "§ 106.X".

#### 103.3.2 DISTRIBUTION OF MANUAL

Copies of the Policy Manual shall be distributed to the following:

- Chief of Police
- Deputy Chief of Police
- Operations Division Commander
- Support Division Commander
- Lieutenant's Office (2)
- Sergeant's Office
- Patrol Office
- Administrative Secretary
- Records Section
- City Corporation Counsel

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A digital version of the Policy Manual will be made available on the Department network for access by all employees. The digital version will be limited to viewing and printing of specific sections. No changes shall be made to the digital version without authorization from Staff.

### **103.4 DEFINITIONS**

The following words and terms shall have these assigned meanings throughout the Policy Manual, unless it is apparent from the content that they have a different meaning:

**Adult** - Any person 18 years of age or older.

**CFR** - Code of Federal Regulations.

**Chain of Command** - The relative order of authority or responsibility, in ascending or descending order or rank.

**City** - The City of Aberdeen.

**Non-sworn** - Employees and volunteers who are not sworn peace officers.

**CJTC** - The Criminal Justice Training Commission.

**Commanding Officer/Commander** - A superior officer having command, either temporarily or permanently, of a division or section.

**Commissioned Employee** - All personnel of the department who are certified by the Aberdeen Civil Service Commission in any class specification, and are commissioned with enforcement powers.

**Department/APD** - The Aberdeen Police Department.

**DOL** - The Department of Licensing.

**Employee** - Any person employed by the Department.

**Juvenile** - Any person under the age of 18 years.

**Limited Commission** - Member of the Aberdeen Police Department with limited/specific enforcement authority.

**Manual** - The Aberdeen Police Department Policy Manual.

**May** - Indicates a permissive, discretionary or conditional action.

**Member** - Any person employed or appointed by the Aberdeen Police Department, including:

- Full- and part-time employees
- Sworn peace officers
- Non-sworn employees
- Volunteers

**Officer** - Those employees, regardless of rank, who are sworn peace officer employees of the Aberdeen Police Department.

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**On-duty** - A member's status during the period when he/she is actually engaged in the performance of his/her assigned duties.

**Order** - A written or verbal instruction issued by a superior.

**Policy** - Policy consists of principles and values which generally guide the performance of the department in a particular situation. It is a statement of guiding principles that should be followed in activities which are directed toward the attainment of departmental objectives. Policy statements guide the actions of personnel in situations which require them to exercise discretionary judgment. Policy is based upon police ethics and experience, the desires of the community and the intent of the law.

**Procedure** - A procedure is a method of performing a particular activity or a way of proceeding under particular circumstances. It differs from policy in that it directs action in a particular situation to perform a specific task within the guidelines of policy. Both policy and procedures are objective oriented; however, policy establishes limits of action while procedure directs response within those limits.

**Rank** - The title of the classification held by an officer.

**Regulations** - Regulations set specific requirements or specific limits on behavior. Regulations allow little deviation other than for stated exceptions.

**RCW** - Revised Code of Washington (Example: RCW 9.41.040).

**Shall or will** - Indicates a mandatory action.

**Should** - Indicates a generally required or expected action, absent a rational basis for failing to conform.

**Supervisor/OIC** - A person in a position of authority that may include responsibility for hiring, transfer, suspension, promotion, discharge, assignment, reward or discipline of other department members, directing the work of other members or having the authority to adjust grievances. The supervisory exercise of authority may not be merely routine or clerical in nature but requires the use of independent judgment.

The term "supervisor" may also include any person (e.g., officer-in-charge, lead or senior worker) given responsibility for the direction of the work of others without regard to a formal job title, rank or compensation.

When there is only one department member on-duty, that person may also be the supervisor, except when circumstances reasonably require the notification or involvement of the member's off-duty supervisor or an on-call supervisor.

**USC** - United States Code.

**WAC** - The Washington Administrative Code (Example: WAC 296-24-567).

**WSP** - The Washington State Patrol.

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### **103.4.1 CORRECTION OF GRAMMAR, SPELLING AND PUNCTUATION**

As is true with all working manuals, this manual is continually revised and updated. All written documents no matter how well written and edited have grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors. The member utilizing the manual is often the first to detect these errors. In order to make this type of correction the member need only make a photocopy of the page on which the error occurs, make the correction and submit the page(s) through the chain of command.

### **103.4.2 DELETION**

Another area of policy which is commonly overlooked is deletion of out of date or discontinued policy and procedure. If the employee encounters policy and procedure which they know to be obsolete they need only photocopy the parts which are obsolete and submit the page(s) up the chain of command. This would occur only if the policy or procedure was no longer in effect and no change is necessary.

### **103.5 ISSUING THE POLICY MANUAL**

An electronic version of the Policy Manual will be made available to all members on the department network for viewing and printing. No changes shall be made to the manual without authorization from the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

Each member shall acknowledge that he/she has been provided access to, and has had the opportunity to review the Policy Manual and Departmental Directives. Members shall seek clarification as needed from an appropriate supervisor for any provisions that they do not fully understand.

### **103.6 PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE POLICY MANUAL**

The Chief of Police will ensure that the Policy Manual is periodically reviewed and updated as necessary.

### **103.7 REVISIONS TO POLICIES**

All revisions to the Policy Manual will be provided to each member on or before the date the policy becomes effective. Each member will be required to acknowledge that he/she has reviewed the revisions and shall seek clarification from an appropriate supervisor as needed.

Members are responsible for keeping abreast of all Policy Manual revisions.

Each Division Commander will ensure that members under his/her command are aware of any Policy Manual revision.

All department members suggesting revision of the contents of the Policy Manual shall forward their written suggestions to their Division Commanders, who will consider the recommendations and forward them to the command staff as appropriate.

## **Chapter 2 - Organization and Administration**

# Organizational Structure and Responsibility

## 200.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The organizational structure of this department is designed to create an efficient means to accomplish our mission and goals and to provide for the best possible service to the public.

## 200.2 DIVISIONS

The Chief of Police is responsible for administering and managing the Aberdeen Police Department. There are three divisions in the Police Department as follows:

- Administrative Division
- Operations Division
- Support Division

### 200.2.1 SUPPORT DIVISION

The Support Services Division is commanded by an assigned Commander or employee, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Support Services Division. The Support Services Division consists of Corrections, Police Services, Evidence, Animal Control, and Parking Enforcement.

### 200.2.2 OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Operations Division is commanded by an assigned Commander or employee, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Operations Division. The Operations Division consists of all functions related to the Patrol Division to include: Force Training Unit, Field Training and Evaluation Program, Traffic, K9, Bicycle Unit, etc. The Operations Division also consists of the Investigations Unit and Special Operations (i.e. Crisis Response Unit)

## 200.3 COMMAND PROTOCOL

### 200.3.1 ORDERS

Members shall respond to and make a good faith and reasonable effort to comply with the lawful order of superior officers and other proper authority. Members shall not obey any order which they know or should know would require them to commit any illegal act. If in doubt as to the legality of an order, members shall request the issuing superior to clarify the order or to confer with higher authority.

Members who are given an otherwise proper order which is in conflict with a previous order, rule, regulation or directive, shall respectfully inform the superior officer issuing the order of the conflict.

If the superior officer issuing the order does not alter or retract the conflicting order, the order shall stand. Under these circumstances, the responsibility for the conflict shall be upon the superior

## *Organizational Structure and Responsibility*

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officer. Members shall obey the conflicting order and shall not be held responsible for obedience of the order, rule, regulation or directive previously issued.

### 200.3.2 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND

The Chief of Police exercises command over all personnel in the Department. During planned absences the Chief of Police will designate the Deputy Chief to serve as the acting Chief of Police.

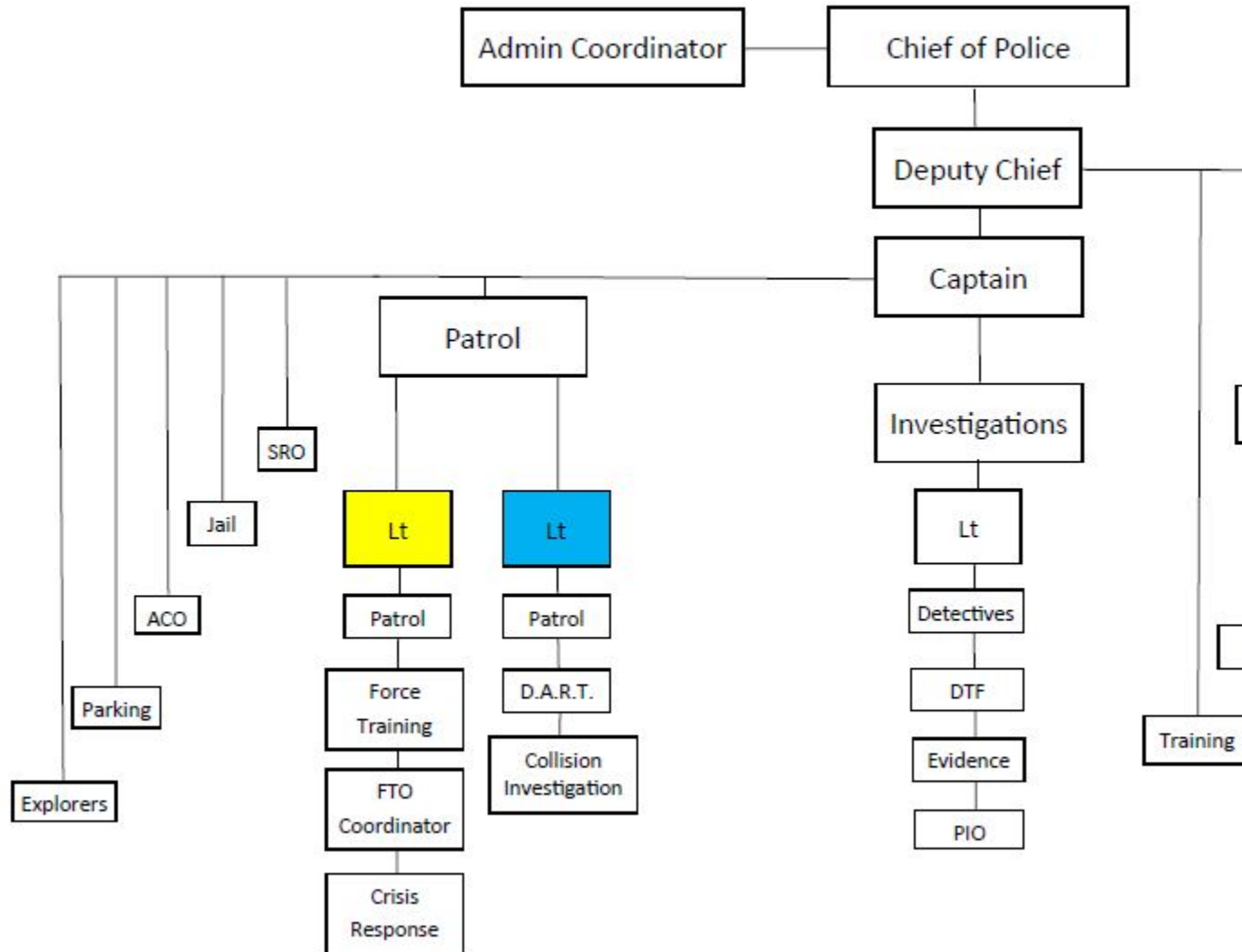
Except when designated as above, the order of command authority in the absence or unavailability of the Chief of Police will be by rank.

### 200.3.3 UNITY OF COMMAND

The principles of unity of command ensure efficient supervision and control within the Department. Generally, each employee shall be accountable to one supervisor at any time for a given assignment or responsibility. Except where specifically delegated authority may exist by policy or special assignment (e.g., K-9, CRU), any supervisor may temporarily direct any subordinate if an operational necessity exists.

## Organizational Chart

**201.1 SECTION TITLE**





# Departmental Directive

## **202.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Departmental Directives establish an interdepartmental communication that may be used by the Chief of Police to make immediate changes to policy and procedure consistent with any collective bargaining agreement(s) or current Memorandums of Understanding. Departmental Directives will immediately modify or change and supersede sections of this manual to which they pertain.

### **202.1.1 DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTIVE PROTOCOL**

Departmental Directives will be incorporated into the manual as required upon approval of Staff. Departmental Directives will modify existing policies or create a new policy as appropriate and will be rescinded upon incorporation into the manual.

All existing Departmental Directives have now been incorporated in the updated Policy Manual as of the below revision date.

Any Departmental Directives issued after publication of the manual shall be numbered consecutively starting with the last two digits of the year, followed by the number "01" For example, 08-01 signifies the first Departmental Directive for the year 2008.

## **202.2 RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **202.2.1 CHIEF OF POLICE**

The Chief of Police shall issue all Departmental Directives.

### **202.3 ACCEPTANCE OF DEPARTMENTAL DIRECTIVES**

All employees are required to read and obtain any necessary clarification of all Departmental Directives. All employees are required to acknowledge in writing the receipt and review of any new Departmental Directive. Signed acknowledgement forms and/or e-mail receipts showing an employee's acknowledgement will be maintained by the Training Coordinator.

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# Emergency Management Plan

## 203.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The City has prepared an Emergency Management Plan Manual for use by all employees in the event of a major disaster, civil disturbance, mass arrest or other emergency event. The manual provides for a strategic response by all employees and assigns specific responsibilities in the event the plan is activated.

The City Emergency Management Plan is written in accordance with the State of Washington's comprehensive emergency management plan and program, and has been approved for local use (RCW 38.52.070). This plan provides guidance for City emergency operations within and outside its borders.

### 203.1.1 ABERDEEN CODES

An emergency management organization has been established by the City of Aberdeen. This ordinance has been approved by the City Council (WAC 118-30-050).

### 203.1.2 COORDINATE PLANNING

The Deputy Chief of Police is appointed Emergency Management Coordinator and will coordinate planning the Department response to disaster and unusual occurrences. The Deputy Chief shall work with the County and/or regional agencies in the development of the city, county, or regional disaster or emergency response plans. This will include an annual review of the agency's policies and procedures dealing with unusual occurrences, the Department's role in the city-wide Disaster Management plan, and any lists for personnel notifications, designations and command and control

### 203.1.3 PRE-EVENT/INCIDENT PLANNING MANUAL

Once a significant incident occurs, or significant event is anticipated, where a substantial and concerted public safety and/or multi-agency/jurisdiction response is required, the use of the department Pre-Event/Incident Planning Manual is suggested. The manual is designed to assist in the organization of the departments response and provides the general responsibilities of the positions within, and requirement of, the ICS system.

## 203.2 ACTIVATING THE EMERGENCY PLAN

The Emergency Management Plan may be activated by the Chief of Police, the highest ranking official on-duty or a responder who is at the scene of a major emergency.

Upon activation of the plan, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee should, if the need is anticipated, contact the State Emergency Operations Center to assist with a mutual aid response in which local, state and federal law enforcement agencies provide resources to this department.

### 203.2.1 RECALL OF PERSONNEL

In the event that the Emergency Management Plan is activated, all employees of the Aberdeen Police Department are subject to immediate recall. Employees may also be subject to recall

## *Emergency Management Plan*

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during extraordinary circumstances as deemed necessary by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

Failure to respond to an order to report for duty may result in discipline.

### **203.3 LOCATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The manual for the employees is available in Support Services, the Patrol Lieutenant's office and in Grays Harbor Communications. All supervisors should familiarize themselves with the Emergency Management Plan and what roles police personnel will play when the plan is implemented. The Training Coordinator should ensure that all personnel receive periodic training on the Emergency Management Plan.

The Support Services Division Commander or the authorized designee shall ensure that all copies of the Emergency Management Plan manual are kept current and available to all personnel.

### **203.4 BUILDING EVACUATION PLAN**

In the event of a disaster or emergency which requires evacuation of the public safety services building, all employees shall follow implemented evacuation plans and posted exit strategies. The posted exit strategies shall include any special directions for physically impaired employees (WAC 296-24-567).

### **203.5 UPDATING OF MANUALS**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall review the Emergency Management Plan Manual at least once every two years to ensure that the manual conforms to any revisions made by the National Incident Management System (NIMS) (WAC 118-30-060(7)).

### **203.6 TRAINING**

The Department should provide annual training in the Emergency Management Plan for all supervisors and other appropriate personnel. All supervisors should familiarize themselves with the Emergency Management Plan and the roles police personnel will play when the plan is implemented. Training should incorporate a full or partial exercise, tabletop or command staff discussion.

## Electronic Mail

### 204.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper use and application of the Department electronic email system by employees of this department. Email is a communication tool available to employees to enhance efficiency in the performance of job duties and is to be used in accordance with generally accepted business practices and current law (e.g., Washington Public Records Act). Messages transmitted over the email system must only be those that involve official business activities or contain information essential to employees for the accomplishment of business-related tasks and/or communication directly related to the business, administration, or practices of the Department.

### 204.2 EMAIL RIGHT OF PRIVACY

All email messages, including any attachments, that are transmitted over department networks are considered department records and therefore are the property of the department. The Department reserves the right to access, audit or disclose, for any lawful reason, any message, including any attachment, that is transmitted over its email system or that is stored on any department system.

The email system is not a confidential system and therefore is not appropriate for confidential communications. If a communication must be confidential, an alternative method to communicate the message should be used. Employees using the department email system shall have no expectation of privacy concerning communications transmitted over the system.

Employees should not use personal accounts to exchange email or other information that is related to the official business of the Department.

### 204.3 PROHIBITED USE OF EMAIL

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive, and harassing or any other inappropriate messages on the email system will not be tolerated and may result in discipline.

Email messages addressed to the entire department are only to be used for official business related items that are of particular interest to all users and must be approved by the Chief of Police or a Division Commander. Personal advertisements are not acceptable.

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message under another user's name. Users are strongly encouraged to log off the network when their computer is unattended. This added security measure would minimize the misuse of an individual's email, name and/or password by others.

### 204.4 EMAIL RECORD MANAGEMENT

Email may, depending upon the individual content, be a public record under the Washington Public Records Act and must be managed in accordance with the established records retention schedule and in compliance with state law.

# Aberdeen Police Department

Aberdeen PD WA Policy Manual

## *Electronic Mail*

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The Public Records Officer shall ensure that email messages are retained and recoverable as outlined in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

# Administrative Communications

## 205.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Administrative communications of this department are governed by the following policies.

## 205.2 MEMORANDUMS

Memorandums may be issued periodically by the Chief of Police to announce and document all promotions, transfers, hiring of new personnel, separations, personnel and group commendations, or other changes in status.

## 205.3 CORRESPONDENCE

In order to ensure that the letterhead and name of the Department are not misused, all external correspondence shall be on department letterhead. All department letterhead shall bear the signature element of the Chief of Police. Personnel should use department letterhead only for official business and with approval of their supervisor.

### 205.3.1 PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND APPEARANCES

Officers shall not publicly criticize or ridicule the department, its policies, or other officers by speech, writing, or other expression, when such speech, writing, or other expression is defamatory, obscene, unlawful, undermines the effectiveness of the department, interferes with the maintenance of discipline, or is made with reckless disregard for truth or falsity.

### 205.3.2 PUBLIC APPEARANCE REQUESTS

Public appearances, speeches and demonstrations by members of the department shall be approved by the section commander, division commander, or the Chief of Police.

### 205.3.3 CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES AND LEGAL COMPROMISE

In matters arising out of his/her position in the department, a member of the department shall not file claims for damages or make any legal compromise with any person that might be binding of the City or Department, without notification and approval through the Chief of Police.

### 205.3.4 SUBPOENA BY DEFENDANT IN A CRIMINAL CASE

A member of the department who has been subpoenaed by any agent for the defense in a police case pending before a Court, shall notify his superior officer in the department and the appropriate City Attorney or Deputy Prosecuting Attorney involved.

### 205.3.5 CONTACT OR INTERVIEW BY THE DEFENSE

Interviews with defense attorneys or private investigators hired by the defense in cases arising out of the member's employment shall be handled as follows:

- (a) Interviews will be by appointment and only after the Department member has thoroughly reviewed the case and his involvement.

# Aberdeen Police Department

Aberdeen PD WA Policy Manual

## *Administrative Communications*

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- (b) Appointments for interviews will be set between the hours of 0900 and 1600, Monday through Friday.
- (c) If applicable, and prior to the interview, the Department member shall notify the appropriate Detective, City Attorney or Deputy Prosecuting Attorney involved with the case.

### **205.4 SURVEYS**

All surveys made in the name of the Department shall be authorized by the Chief of Police or a Division Commander.

## Staffing Levels

### **206.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that proper supervision is available for all shifts. The Department intends to balance the employee's needs against the need to have flexibility and discretion in using personnel to meet operational needs. While balance is desirable, the paramount concern is the need to meet operational requirements of the Department.

### **206.2 MINIMUM STAFFING LEVELS**

Minimum staffing levels should result in the scheduling of at least one regular or acting supervisor on duty. Patrol Lieutenants will ensure that at least one patrol supervisor is deployed at all times.

#### **206.2.1 SUPERVISION DEPLOYMENTS**

In order to accommodate training and other unforeseen circumstances where patrol supervision is reduced, the Chief of Police, or his/her designee may temporarily appoint a designated patrol Officer-in-Charge (OIC). The officer(s) selected may be taken from the patrol sergeant eligibility list, if applicable.

In the absence of a supervisor or designated OIC, a Patrol Lieutenant and/or patrol sergeant will temporarily appoint an acting patrol OIC.



# Concealed Pistol License

## 207.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Chief of Police is given the statutory responsibility to issue, monitor, and revoke a license to carry a concealed pistol to residents within the community (RCW 9.41.070). This policy will provide a written process for the application, issuance, and revocation of such licenses.

## 207.2 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

All applicants for a concealed pistol license shall qualify to receive such a license unless the applicant is ineligible for a license or to possess a pistol under any of the following conditions (RCW 9.41.070):

- (a) The applicant is ineligible or is prohibited to possess a firearm under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040, RCW 9.41.045 or federal law.
- (b) The applicant's concealed pistol license is in a revoked status.
- (c) The applicant is under twenty-one years of age.
- (d) The applicant is subject to a court order or injunction regarding firearms.
- (e) The applicant is free on bond or personal recognizance pending trial, appeal, or sentencing for a felony offense.
- (f) The applicant has an outstanding warrant for his/her arrest from any court of competent jurisdiction for a felony or misdemeanor.
- (g) The applicant has been ordered to forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(e) within one year before filing an application to carry a pistol concealed on his/her person.
- (h) The applicant has been convicted of a felony or is otherwise restricted from possessing a firearm unless the person has been granted relief from disabilities by the United States Attorney General under 18 USC § 925(c), or RCW 9.41.040(3) or (4) applies.

Non-immigrant aliens are not eligible for concealed pistol licenses. However, they may be eligible for an alien firearm license for the purposes of hunting and sport shooting, subject to certain eligibility requirements. Any non-immigrant alien who wishes to obtain an alien firearm license should be directed to apply to the sheriff in the county in which he/she resides (RCW 9.41.173).

## 207.3 APPLICATION PROCESS AND RENEWAL

The Chief of Police has 30 days after the filing of an application of any person to issue a license to carry a concealed pistol. If the applicant does not have a valid permanent Washington driver license or identification card or has not been a resident of the state for the previous consecutive 90 days, the Chief of Police has 60 days to issue a license. The Chief of Police must accept completed applications for concealed pistol licenses during regular business hours (RCW 9.41.070).

## *Concealed Pistol License*

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The Chief of Police is required to check with the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) electronic database, the Department of Social and Health Services electronic database, and with other agencies or resources as appropriate, to determine whether the applicant is ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 or RCW 9.41.045, or is prohibited under federal law to possess a firearm and therefore ineligible for a concealed pistol license. This check applies for a new concealed pistol license or to renew a concealed pistol license.

A background check for an original license shall be conducted through the WSP Criminal Identification Section and shall include a national check from the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the submission of fingerprints. The applicant may request and receive a copy of the results of the background check from the Chief of Police (RCW 9.41.070).

The license application shall bear the full name, residential address, telephone number and/or email address at the option of the applicant, date and place of birth, race, gender, physical description, not more than two complete sets of fingerprints, and signature of the licensee, and the licensee's driver license number or state identification card number if used for identification in applying for the license. A signed application for a concealed pistol license shall constitute a waiver of confidentiality and written request that the Department of Social and Health Services, mental health institutions, and other health care facilities release information relevant to the applicant's eligibility for a concealed pistol license to an inquiring court or law enforcement agency.

If the applicant is not a United States citizen, the applicant must provide his/her country of citizenship, United States-issued alien number or admission number, and the basis for any exemptions from federal prohibitions on firearm possession by aliens. The applicant shall not be required to produce a birth certificate or other evidence of citizenship. A person who is not a citizen of the United States shall meet the additional requirements of RCW 9.41.173 and provide proof of compliance (RCW 9.41.070).

The application for an original license shall include a complete set of fingerprints to be forwarded to the WSP (RCW 9.41.070(4)).

### 207.3.1 REQUIRED WARNINGS

The license and application shall contain a warning substantially as follows:

"CAUTION: Although state and local laws do not differ, federal law and state law on the possession of firearms differ. If you are prohibited by federal law from possessing a firearm, you may be prosecuted in federal court. A state license is not a defense to a federal prosecution."

The license shall contain a description of the major differences between state and federal law and an explanation of the fact that local laws and ordinances on firearms are preempted by state law and must be consistent with state law (RCW 9.41.070). The application shall contain questions about the applicant's eligibility under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a pistol, the applicant's place of birth, and whether the applicant is a United States citizen.

## *Concealed Pistol License*

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### **207.3.2 DOCUMENTATION AND FEES**

The Chief of Police shall deliver the original license to the licensee, within seven days send the duplicate to the Director of Licensing, and shall preserve the triplicate or other form prescribed by the Department of Licensing for six years after the license has expired, been voided or revoked, or as otherwise provided in the department's established records retention schedule (RCW 9.41.070(4)).

The nonrefundable fee for the original five-year license must be paid upon application. Additional charges imposed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation are payable by the applicant. No other state or local branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the applicant for the issuance of the license.

A nonrefundable fee for the renewal of such license, or the replacement of lost or damaged licenses is required of the licensee. No other branch or unit of government may impose any additional charges on the licensee for the renewal of the license.

Payment shall be by cash, check, or money order at the option of the applicant. Additional methods of payment may be allowed at the option of the Chief of Police.

### **207.4 LICENSE RENEWAL**

A licensee may renew a license if the licensee applies for renewal within 90 days before or after the expiration date of the license. A license so renewed shall take effect on the expiration date of the prior license. A licensee renewing after the expiration date of the license must pay a late renewal penalty in addition to the renewal fee (RCW 9.41.070(9)).

An active-duty member of the armed forces who is unable to renew his/her license within the prescribed time period because of assignment, reassignment, or deployment for out-of-state military service may renew his/her license by the department-established mail renewal procedures or within 90 days after returning to Washington state. Verification for this concealed pistol license renewal exception is subject to the requirements of RCW 9.41.070.

### **207.5 TEMPORARY EMERGENCY LICENSE**

The Chief of Police may issue a temporary emergency license for good cause to an applicant who resides within his/her jurisdiction pending review. However, a temporary emergency license issued under this subsection shall not exempt the holder of the license from any records check requirement. The Chief of Police shall assure temporary emergency licenses are easily distinguishable from regular licenses (RCW 9.41.070).

### **207.6 REVOCATION OF LICENSES**

The Chief of Police shall revoke any license issued pursuant to this policy immediately upon (RCW 9.41.075(1)):

- (a) Discovery that the person was ineligible under RCW 9.41.070 for a concealed pistol license when applying for the license or license renewal.

## *Concealed Pistol License*

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- (b) Conviction of the licensee of an offense, or commitment of the licensee for mental health treatment, that makes a person ineligible under RCW 9.41.040 to possess a firearm.
- (c) Conviction of the licensee for a third violation of RCW Chapter 9.41 within five calendar years.
- (d) An order that the licensee forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d).
- (e) Upon notification from the Department of Licensing that the licensee has lost his/her right to possess a firearm as identified in RCW 9.41.047.

### **207.6.1 INELIGIBILITY**

Upon discovering a person issued a concealed pistol license was ineligible for the license, the Chief of Police shall contact the Department of Licensing to determine whether the person purchased a pistol while in possession of the license. If the person did purchase a pistol while in possession of the concealed pistol license, and if the person may not lawfully possess a pistol without a concealed pistol license, the Chief of Police shall require the person to present satisfactory evidence of having lawfully transferred ownership of the pistol. The Chief of Police shall require the person to produce the evidence within fifteen days of the revocation of the license (RCW 9.41.075(2)).

### **207.6.2 FIREARM FORFEITURE**

When a licensee is ordered to forfeit a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d), the Chief of Police shall (RCW 9.41.075(3)):

- (a) On the first forfeiture, revoke the license for one year.
- (b) On the second forfeiture, revoke the license for two years.
- (c) On the third or subsequent forfeiture, revoke the license for five years.

Any person whose license is revoked as a result of a forfeiture of a firearm under RCW 9.41.098(1)(d) may not reapply for a new license until the end of the revocation period.

The Chief of Police shall notify the Department of Licensing in writing of the revocation of a license.

### **207.7 RECIPROCITY**

The Chief of Police will recognize the validity of a concealed pistol license issued from another state if the laws of that state recognize and give effect to a concealed pistol license issued under the laws of the State of Washington (RCW 9.41.073). A nonresident so licensed is authorized to carry a concealed pistol in this state if:

- (a) The licensing state does not issue concealed pistol licenses to persons under twenty-one years of age, and

## *Concealed Pistol License*

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- (b) The licensing state requires mandatory fingerprint-based background checks of criminal and mental health history for all persons who apply for a concealed pistol license, and
- (c) The Chief of Police will honor such a license only while the license holder is not a resident of this state. A license holder from another state must carry the handgun in compliance with the laws of this state.

### **207.8 RESIDENCY**

The Chief of Police may issue a license to an applicant if the applicant resides within this City. The Chief of Police may issue a license to nonresident of the state in accordance with these procedures and state law.

### **207.9 CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS**

Mental health information received by the Chief of Police pursuant to RCW 9.41.047, RCW 9.41.070, RCW 9.41.090 or RCW 9.41.173 is exempt from disclosure except as provided in RCW 42.56.240 (RCW 9.41.097). Disclosure of information otherwise obtained in the licensing process shall be limited as defined by RCW 42.56.240.

### **207.10 SUSPENSION OF LICENSES**

The Chief of Police shall suspend any license issued pursuant to this policy immediately upon notice from the Department of Licensing that the person has been detained under RCW 71.05.150 or RCW 71.05.153 on the grounds that the person presents a likelihood of serious harm due to a behavioral health disorder (RCW 9.41.049).

The license shall remain suspended for a period of six months from the date the person was released from the behavioral health disorder detention or upon notice from the Department of Licensing of a restoration order (RCW 71.05.182; RCW 9.41.047(3)(f)).

## Retiree Concealed Firearms

### 208.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the issuance, denial, suspension or revocation of Aberdeen Police Department identification cards under the Law Enforcement Officers' Safety Act (LEOSA) (18 USC § 926C).

### 208.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to provide identification cards to qualified former or retired officers as provided in this policy.

### 208.3 LEOSA

The Chief of Police may issue an identification card for LEOSA purposes to any qualified former officer of this department who (18 USC § 926C(c)):

- (a) Separated from service in good standing from this department as an officer.
- (b) Before such separation, had regular employment as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 10 years or more or, if employed as a law enforcement officer for less than 10 years, separated from service after completing any applicable probationary period due to a service-connected disability as determined by this department.
- (c) Has not been disqualified for reasons related to mental health.
- (d) Has not entered into an agreement with this department where the officer acknowledges that he/she is not qualified to receive a firearm qualification certificate for reasons related to mental health.
- (e) Is not prohibited by federal law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

#### 208.3.1 LEOSA IDENTIFICATION CARD FORMAT

The LEOSA identification card should contain a photograph of the former officer and identify him/her as having been employed as an officer.

If the Aberdeen Police Department qualifies the former officer, the LEOSA identification card or separate certification should indicate the date the former officer was tested or otherwise found by the Department to meet the active duty standards for qualification to carry a firearm.

#### 208.3.2 AUTHORIZATION

Any qualified former law enforcement officer, including a former officer of this department, may carry a concealed firearm under 18 USC § 926C when he/she is:

- (a) In possession of photographic identification that identifies him/her as having been employed as a law enforcement officer, and one of the following:
  - 1. An indication from the person's former law enforcement agency that he/she has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found by the law enforcement

## *Retiree Concealed Firearms*

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agency to meet agency-established active duty standards for qualification in firearms training to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm.

2. A certification, issued by either the state in which the person resides or by a certified firearms instructor who is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test for active duty law enforcement officers within that state, indicating that the person has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found to meet the standards established by the state or, if not applicable, the standards of any agency in that state.
  - (b) Not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.
  - (c) Not prohibited by federal law from receiving a firearm.
  - (d) Not in a location prohibited by Washington law or by a private person or entity on his/her property if such prohibition is permitted by Washington law.

### **208.4 WASHINGTON IDENTIFICATION CARD**

The Chief of Police may issue an identification card to a retired officer of this department for the purposes of carrying a concealed weapon within the State of Washington under RCW 9.41.060 who:

- (a) Has retired from this department.
- (b) Did not retire because of a mental or stress-related disability.
- (c) Has not been convicted or found not guilty by reason of insanity of a crime making him/her ineligible for a concealed pistol license.

If issued, the identification card must document all of the above qualifications (RCW 9.41.060).

Any retired person receiving such an identification card shall abide by all of the other requirements of this policy that are applicable to a LEOSA identification card.

### **208.5 FORMER OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

A former officer with a card issued under this policy shall immediately notify the Patrol Lieutenant of his/her arrest or conviction in any jurisdiction, or that he/she is the subject of a court order, in accordance with the Reporting of Employee Convictions Policy.

#### **208.5.1 RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER LEOSA**

In order to obtain or retain a LEOSA identification card, the former officer shall:

- (a) Sign a waiver of liability of the Department for all acts taken related to carrying a concealed firearm, acknowledging both his/her personal responsibility as a private person for all acts taken when carrying a concealed firearm as permitted by LEOSA and also that these acts were not taken as an employee or former employee of the Department.
- (b) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state and local laws.

## *Retiree Concealed Firearms*

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- (c) Demonstrate good judgment and character commensurate with carrying a loaded and concealed firearm.
- (d) Successfully pass an annual criminal history background check indicating that he/she is not prohibited by law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

### **208.6 FIREARM QUALIFICATIONS**

The Rangemaster may provide former officers from this department an opportunity to qualify. Written evidence of the qualification and the weapons used will be provided and will contain the date of the qualification. The Rangemaster will maintain a record of the qualifications and weapons used.

If provided, the qualification shall include the firearms course and certificate developed by the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (RCW 36.28A.090).



## Petty Cash

### 209.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- (a) The Police Department Petty Cash fund is created and operated in accordance with City Ordinance 3.24.010. The amount designated for the police department petty cash fund is \$200. Reimbursements and expenditures from this fund are limited to items under \$30.00 dollars. Dispersing of cash from the fund will be through the Administrative Coordinator. Cash advances are not authorized.
- (b) Replenishment of the fund will be handled by the voucher process, signed by the Chief of Police, with corresponding receipts attached. An internal audit will be conducted by the Administrative Coordinator each time the fund is replenished. Replenishment checks are issued by the Finance Department, in the name of and endorsed by the Administrative Coordinator. The petty cash fund is kept in a safe file by the Administrative Coordinator, who will maintain a record of all petty cash activity.

# Purchasing Procedure

## 210.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Section and Division commanders are authorized to initiate a request for purchase, or order equipment and supplies within their individual section budget. All purchases shall conform to the City of Aberdeen purchasing policy.

- (a) Except for supplies ordered under State Contract, or medical and professional services, all purchases in excess of \$100 from one vendor will be made by purchase order.
- (b) If the cost is not known at the time the purchase order is prepared, an estimate amount will be written in, with a note that this is an estimated cost.
- (c) Item description should be complete including sizes, color, model numbers and identifying information as appropriate. This can be accomplished with an attachment to the purchase order.
- (d) Purchase orders will be completed by the Section or Division commander and submitted to the Administrative Coordinator for review and final approval by the Chief of Police.
- (e) In situations where an order for merchandise or services is placed by phone, the following statement will be written on the purchase order: "CONFIRMING ORDER - DO NOT DUPLICATE. Order placed on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_." (date) (name of individual)
- (f) In all cases when ordering by telephone, the person placing the order may give the vendor a purchase order number.
- (g) The original copy of the purchase order is the vendor's copy, the yellow copy is attached to the voucher and the pink copy remains in the purchase order book.
- (h) Vendors will be selected by price, quality and reputability. Local buying is encourage and desirable, if vendors meet the above criteria.
- (i) Three quotes should be obtained prior to ordering any single item costing in excess of \$1,000. The quotes must be submitted with the purchase order prior to purchase. The department may reject the quote of any supplier who has failed to perform satisfactorily in a previous contract with the Police Department or any other City department.
- (j) Specifications for items requiring standardized purchases, such as supplies from State contract, automobiles form State contract, uniforms and weapons are maintained by the Administrative Coordinator.
- (k) Inventory: The Special Assignments Division Officer, with the assistance of the Administrative Coordinator, shall conduct an annual inventory of Department property,

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## *Purchasing Procedure*

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equipment, and other assets, in accordance with the City of Aberdeen Policy and Procedures on Fixed Assets.

# Training

## 211.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department to administer a training program that will provide for the professional growth and continued development of its personnel. By doing so, the Department will ensure its personnel possess the knowledge and skills necessary to provide a professional level of service that meets the needs of the community.

## 211.2 PHILOSOPHY

The Department seeks to provide ongoing training and encourages all personnel to participate in advanced training and formal education on a continual basis. Training is provided within the confines of funding, requirements of a given assignment, staffing levels, and legal mandates. Whenever possible, the Department will use courses certified by the Washington Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC).

## 211.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Training Program are to:

- (a) Enhance the level of law enforcement service to the public.
- (b) Increase the technical expertise and overall effectiveness of department members.
- (c) Provide for continued professional development of department members.

## 211.4 TRAINING PLAN

A training plan for all employees will be developed and maintained by the Training Coordinator. It is the responsibility of the Training Coordinator to maintain, review, and update the training plan on an annual basis. The plan will ensure, at minimum, the following:

- (a) All sworn members will successfully complete an annual in-service training program of no less than 24 hours that includes the training required by the CJTC (WAC 139-05-300).
  - 1. Successful completion of the CJTC's two-hour annual online crisis intervention course shall be included in the 24 hours (RCW 43.101.427).
- (b) All officers must complete a minimum of 40 hours of continuing de-escalation and mental health training every three years as provided in WAC 139-11-020 and WAC 139-11-060.
  - 1. This training may substitute the annual 24 hours in-service requirement under WAC 139-05-300 in the year the officer completes the 40-hour violence de-escalation training.
- (c) All sworn members will successfully complete an annual in-service training program on the department use of force and deadly force policies.
- (d) All sworn members will successfully complete in-service training on less-than-lethal weapons every two years.

## Training

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- (e) Full-time supervisors or managers will receive appropriate training and certification required by CJTC.
- (f) All sworn members will successfully complete the National Incident Management System (NIMS) introductory training course.
- (g) Members who will serve as school resource officers shall receive training for school resource officers (Chapter 38 § 3, 2021 Laws).
  - 1. Training shall include the subject requirements of the safety and security staff training program developed by the educational service districts and completed within the required timeframe (Chapter 38 § 4, 2021 Laws; Chapter 38 § 3, 2021 Laws).
  - 2. Review of applicable school district policies and procedures of duties and responsibilities of school resource officers (RCW 28A.320.124).
- (h) Any request for exemption, waiver, extension, or variance from any requirement of CJTC training must be made under WAC 139-03-030 and corresponding information be made available to the public in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (WAC 139-11-030).

### **211.5 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

The Training Coordinator will conduct an annual training-needs assessment of the Department. The needs assessment will be reviewed by staff. Upon approval by the staff, the needs assessment will form the basis for the training plan for the fiscal year.

### **211.6 TRAINING DOCUMENTATION**

Detailed records shall be kept of all in-service training sponsored by or presented on behalf of the Aberdeen Police Department. Records should minimally include the following:

- An overview of the course content and/or an instructor lesson plan.
- Names and agency contact information of all attendees.
- Instructor credentials or resume.
- Individual attendee test results (if applicable).
- Course completion roster.

### **211.7 TRAINING PROCEDURES**

- (a) All employees assigned to attend training shall attend unless previously excused by their immediate supervisor. Excused absences from mandatory training should be limited to:
  - 1. Court appearances
  - 2. First choice vacation
  - 3. Sick leave

## *Training*

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4. Physical limitations preventing the employee's participation.
  5. Emergency situations
- (b) When an employee is unable to attend mandatory training, that employee shall:
1. Notify his/her Lieutenant as soon as possible, but no later than one hour prior to the start of training.
  2. Document his/her absence in a memorandum to his/her supervisor.
  3. Make arrangements through his/her supervisor and the Training Coordinator to attend an alternate date.

### **211.8 TRAINING COMMITTEE**

The Chief of Police shall establish a Training Committee, which will serve to assist with identifying training needs for the Department.

The Training Committee shall be comprised of the Deputy Chief, Operations Commander, and the Training Coordinator to evaluate and assess the related training needs for all three divisions. Input should be sought from department trainers, supervisors, or any employee who has feedback on training needs.

The Training Committee should review certain incidents to determine whether training would likely improve future outcomes or reduce or prevent the recurrence of the undesirable issues related to the incident. Specific incidents the Training Committee should review include but are not limited to:

- (a) Any incident involving the death or serious injury of an employee.
- (b) Incidents involving a high risk of death, serious injury or civil liability.
- (c) Incidents identified by a supervisor as appropriate to review to identify possible training needs.

The Training Committee should convene on a regular basis as determined by the Deputy Chief to review the identified incidents. The committee shall determine by consensus whether a training need exists and then submit written recommendations of its findings to the Chief of Police. The recommendation should not identify specific facts of any incidents, such as identities of employees involved or the date, time, and location of the incident, but should focus on the type of training being recommended.

The Chief of Police will consider the recommendations of the committee and determine what training should be addressed, taking into consideration the mission of the Department and available resources.

### **211.9 DAILY TRAINING BULLETINS**

The Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) are contained in a web-accessed system that provides training on the Aberdeen Police Department policy manual and other important topics. Generally,

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one training bulletin is available for each day of the month. However, the number of DTBs may be adjusted by the Training Coordinator.

Personnel assigned to participate in DTBs shall only use login credentials assigned to them by the Training Coordinator. Personnel should not share their password with others and should frequently change their password to protect the security of the system. After each session, employees should log off the system to prevent unauthorized access. The content of the DTBs is copyrighted material and shall not be shared with others outside of the Department.

Employees who are assigned to participate in the DTB program should complete each DTB at the beginning of their shift or as otherwise directed by their supervisor. Employees should not allow uncompleted DTBs to build up over time. Personnel may be required to complete DTBs missed during extended absences (e.g., vacation, medical leave) upon returning to duty. Although the DTB system can be accessed from any internet-active computer, employees shall only take DTBs as part of their on-duty assignment unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Supervisors will be responsible for monitoring the progress of personnel under their command to ensure compliance with this policy.

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## Written Goals and Objectives

### 212.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The chief of police shall be ultimately responsible to create written goals and objectives and/or strategic plan for the department.

### 212.2 POLICY

The plan may include:

- (a) Goals and operational objectives for the agency;
- (b) Goals related to personnel;
- (c) Facility goals;
- (d) Anticipated capital improvement and/or equipment needs.

Objectives may be designated as short (annual), medium (two to three years) or long -range (minimum of five years or longer) goals.

The chief may appoint supervisors, officers, or department members to assist in creating and updating the plan. The plan shall be reviewed and updated annually. The completed plan will be posted by the chief of police and distributed to all department members.

Agency goals may also be incorporated within individual department member's annual performance evaluations.



## **Chapter 3 - General Operations**

# Use of Force

## 300.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines on the reasonable use of force. While there is no way to specify the exact amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any situation, every member of this department is expected to use these guidelines to make such decisions in a professional, impartial, and reasonable manner.

In addition to those methods, techniques, and tools set forth below, the guidelines for the reasonable application of force contained in this policy shall apply to all policies addressing the potential use of force, including but not limited to the Control Devices and Techniques and Conducted Energy Device policies.

### 300.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Deadly force** - Force reasonably anticipated and intended to create a substantial likelihood of causing death or very serious injury.

**Feasible** - Reasonably capable of being done or carried out under the circumstances to successfully achieve the arrest or lawful objective without increasing risk to the officer or another person.

**Force** - The application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows an officer to search, escort, handcuff, or restrain the person.

**Imminent** - Ready to take place; impending. Note that imminent does not mean immediate or instantaneous.

**Totality of the circumstances** - All facts and circumstances known to the officer at the time, taken as a whole, including the conduct of the officer and the subject leading up to the use of force (RCW 10.120.010).

## 300.2 POLICY

The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. Officers are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Officers must have an understanding of, and true appreciation for, their authority and limitations. This is especially true with respect to overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties.

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting officers with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation, and a careful balancing of all interests.

## *Use of Force*

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### **300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERVENE AND REPORT**

Any officer present and observing another law enforcement officer or a member using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, intervene to prevent the use of unreasonable force (RCW 10.93.190).

Any officer who observes another law enforcement officer or a member use force that is potentially beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall report these observations to a supervisor as soon as feasible (RCW 10.93.190).

### **300.2.2 PERSPECTIVE**

When observing or reporting force used by a law enforcement officer, each officer should take into account the totality of the circumstances and the possibility that other law enforcement officers may have additional information regarding the threat posed by the subject.

### **300.2.3 ADDITIONAL STATE REQUIREMENTS ON THE DUTY TO INTERCEDE AND REPORT**

An officer shall not be disciplined for or retaliated against in any way for intervening in good faith or for reporting in good faith the unreasonable use of force by another law enforcement officer (RCW 10.93.190) (see the Anti-Retaliation Policy).

## **300.3 USE OF FORCE**

Officers shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow for the fact that officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation an officer might encounter, officers are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident.

It is also recognized that circumstances may arise in which officers reasonably believe that it would be impractical or ineffective to use any of the tools, weapons, or methods provided by this department. Officers may find it more effective or reasonable to improvise their response to rapidly unfolding conditions that they are confronting. In such circumstances, the use of any improvised device or method must nonetheless be reasonable and utilized only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to avoid or minimize injury, nothing in this policy requires an officer to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force.

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### 300.3.1 DEATH AND SERIOUS INJURY FELONIES

- (a) Murder, or manslaughter in the 1st or 2nd degree;
- (b) Kidnapping or attempted kidnapping;
- (c) Rape or attempted rape in the 1st or 2nd degree;
- (d) Attempted or actual bombing or arson which creates or causes a potential threat to life;
- (e) Aggravated assault;
- (f) Robbery;
- (g) Burglary in which the suspect(s) is armed with a deadly weapon or assault any person therein.

### 300.3.2 FACTORS USED TO DETERMINE THE REASONABLENESS OF FORCE

When determining whether to apply force and evaluating whether an officer has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration, as time and circumstances permit. These factors include but are not limited to:

- (a) Immediacy and severity of the threat to officers or others.
- (b) The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the officer at the time.
- (c) Officer/subject factors (e.g., age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of officers available vs. subjects).
- (d) The effects of suspected drug or alcohol use (RCW 10.120.020).
- (e) The individual's mental state or capacity (RCW 10.120.020).
- (f) The individual's ability to understand and comply with officer commands.
- (g) Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.
- (h) The degree to which the individual has been effectively restrained and the individual's ability to resist despite being restrained.
- (i) The availability of other reasonable and feasible options and their possible effectiveness.
- (j) Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual.
- (k) Training and experience of the officer.
- (l) Potential for injury to officers, suspects, and others.
- (m) Whether the individual appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the officer.
- (n) The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.
- (o) The apparent need for immediate control of the individual or a prompt resolution of the situation.

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- (p) Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the officer or others.
- (q) Prior contacts with the individual or awareness of any propensity for violence.
- (r) The individual is visibly pregnant or claims to be pregnant (RCW 10.120.020).
- (s) The individual is a minor, appears to be a minor, or claims to be a minor (RCW 10.120.020).
- (t) The individual is known to be a vulnerable adult or appears to be a vulnerable adult as defined by RCW 74.34.020 (RCW 10.120.020).
- (u) The individual has limited English proficiency (RCW 10.120.020).
- (v) The individual is in the presence of a child (RCW 10.120.020).
- (w) Any other exigent circumstances.

### 300.3.3 PAIN COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUES

Pain compliance techniques may be effective in controlling a physically or actively resisting individual. Officers may only apply those pain compliance techniques for which they have successfully completed department-approved training. Officers utilizing any pain compliance technique should consider:

- (a) The degree to which the application of the technique may be controlled given the level of resistance.
- (b) Whether the individual can comply with the direction or orders of the officer.
- (c) Whether the individual has been given sufficient opportunity to comply.

The application of any pain compliance technique shall be discontinued once the officer determines that compliance has been achieved.

### 300.3.4 USE OF FORCE TO SEIZE EVIDENCE

In general, officers may use reasonable force to lawfully seize evidence and to prevent the destruction of evidence. However, officers are discouraged from using force solely to prevent a person from swallowing evidence or contraband. In the instance when force is used, officers should not intentionally use any technique that restricts blood flow to the head, restricts respiration or which creates a reasonable likelihood that blood flow to the head or respiration would be restricted. Officers are encouraged to use techniques and methods taught by the Aberdeen Police Department for this specific purpose.

### 300.3.5 ALTERNATIVE TACTICS - DE-ESCALATION

When circumstances reasonably permit, officers should use non-violent strategies and techniques to decrease the intensity of a situation, improve decision-making, improve communication, reduce the need for force, and increase voluntary compliance (e.g., summoning additional resources, formulating a plan, attempting verbal persuasion) (RCW 10.120.010; RCW 10.120.020).

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### **300.3.6 RESTRICTIONS ON RESPIRATORY RESTRAINTS**

Officers of this department are not authorized to use respiratory restraints, also known as chokeholds or neck restraints (RCW 10.116.020).

### **300.3.7 WASHINGTON STATE LAW - PHYSICAL FORCE**

Physical force means any act reasonably likely to cause physical pain or injury or any other act exerted upon a person's body to compel, control, constrain, or restrain the person's movement. Physical force does not include pat-downs, incidental touching, verbal commands, or compliant handcuffing where there is no physical pain or injury (RCW 10.120.010).

An officer may use physical force upon another person to the extent necessary to (RCW 10.120.020):

- (a) Protect against a criminal offense when there is probable cause that the person has committed, is committing, or is about to commit the offense.
- (b) Effect an arrest.
- (c) Prevent an escape as defined under chapter 9A.76 RCW.
- (d) Take a person into custody, transport a person for evaluation or treatment, or provide other assistance under RCW 10.77; RCW 71.05; or RCW 71.34.
- (e) Take a minor into protective custody when authorized or directed by statute.
- (f) Execute or enforce a court order authorizing or directing an officer to take a person into custody.
- (g) Execute a search warrant.
- (h) Execute or enforce an oral directive issued by a judicial officer in the courtroom or a written order where the court expressly authorizes an officer to use physical force to execute or enforce the directive or order.
- (i) Prevent a person from fleeing or stop a person who is actively fleeing a lawful temporary investigative detention, provided that the person has been given notice that the person is being detained and is not free to leave.
- (j) Take a person into custody when authorized or directed by statute.
- (k) Protect against an imminent threat of bodily injury to the officer, another person, or the person against whom force is being used.

Officers shall terminate the use of physical force as soon as the necessity for such force ends (RCW 10.120.020).

### **300.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS**

When reasonable, officers shall, prior to the use of deadly force, make efforts to identify themselves as peace officers and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless an officer has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

Use of deadly force is only justified when the officer reasonably believes it is necessary in the following circumstances (RCW 10.120.020):

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- (a) An officer may use deadly force to protect the officer or others from what the officer reasonably believes is an immediate threat of serious physical injury or death.
- (b) An officer may use deadly force to stop a fleeing subject when the officer has probable cause to believe that the individual has committed, or intends to commit, a felony involving the infliction or threatened infliction of serious bodily injury or death, and the officer reasonably believes that there is an immediate threat of serious bodily injury or death to any other person if the individual is not immediately apprehended. Under such circumstances, a verbal warning should precede the use of deadly force, where feasible.

For purposes of deadly force, an "immediate threat of serious physical injury or death" exists when, based on the totality of the circumstances, it is objectively reasonable to believe that a person has the present and apparent ability, opportunity, and intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the peace officer or another person (RCW 10.120.020).

### **300.4.1 MOVING VEHICLES**

Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle involve additional considerations and risks, and are rarely effective.

When feasible, officers should take reasonable steps to move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants.

An officer should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the officer reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the imminent threat of the vehicle or of deadly force other than the vehicle that is directed at the officer or others (RCW 10.116.060).

Officers should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.

A vehicle is not considered a threat for purposes of this policy unless the operator is using it as a deadly weapon and there are no other reasonable means to immediately avoid that threat (RCW 10.116.060).

### **300.5 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE**

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely, and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The officer should articulate the factors perceived and why he/she believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances.

To collect data for purposes of training, resource allocation, analysis, and related purposes, the Department may require the completion of additional report forms, as specified in department policy, procedure, or law. See the Report Preparation Policy for additional circumstances that may require documentation.

#### **300.5.1 NOTIFICATIONS TO SUPERVISORS**

Supervisory notification shall be made as soon as practicable following the application of force.

## *Use of Force*

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### **300.5.2 NOTIFICATION TO INDIAN AFFAIRS**

When the use of force by an officer results in the death of a person who is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, notification shall be made to the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs within a reasonable period of time, but not more than 24 hours after the department has good reason to believe the person was an enrolled member. Notice shall include sufficient information for the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs to attempt to identify the deceased person and tribal affiliation (RCW 10.114.021).

### **300.5.3 NOTIFICATION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION (CJTC)**

Notification shall be made to CJTC within 15 days of learning of the occurrence of any death or serious injury caused by the use of force by an officer (RCW 43.101.135).

### **300.5.4 REPORTING TO WASHINGTON STATEWIDE USE OF FORCE DATA PROGRAM**

The Department shall submit reports regarding use of force incidents as provided by RCW 10.118.030 to the Washington statewide use of force data program in the format and time frame established by the program (RCW 10.118.030).

## **300.6 MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Once it is reasonably safe to do so, medical assistance shall be obtained for any person who exhibits signs of physical distress, has sustained visible injury, expresses a complaint of injury or continuing pain, or was rendered unconscious. Any individual exhibiting signs of physical distress after an encounter should be continuously monitored until the individual can be medically assessed. Individuals should not be placed on their stomachs for an extended period, as this could impair their ability to breathe (RCW 10.93.190).

Based upon the officer's initial assessment of the nature and extent of the individual's injuries, medical assistance may consist of examination by an emergency medical services provider or medical personnel at a hospital or jail. If any such individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal shall be fully documented in related reports and, whenever practicable, should be witnessed by another officer and/or medical personnel. If a recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included in the recording, if possible.

The on-scene supervisor or, if the on-scene supervisor is not available, the primary handling officer shall ensure that any person providing medical care or receiving custody of a person following any use of force is informed that the person was subjected to force. This notification shall include a description of the force used and any other circumstances the officer reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

Individuals who exhibit extreme agitation, violent irrational behavior accompanied by profuse sweating, extraordinary strength beyond their physical characteristics, and imperviousness to pain (sometimes called "excited delirium"), or who require a protracted physical encounter with multiple officers to be brought under control, may be at an increased risk of sudden death. Calls involving



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these persons should be considered medical emergencies. Officers who reasonably suspect a medical emergency should request medical assistance as soon as practicable and have medical personnel stage away.

See the Medical Aid and Response Policy for additional guidelines.

### **300.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

A supervisor should respond to a reported application of force resulting in visible injury, if reasonably available. When a supervisor is able to respond to an incident in which there has been a reported application of force, the supervisor is expected to:

- (a) Obtain the basic facts from the involved officers. Absent an allegation of misconduct or excessive force, this will be considered a routine contact in the normal course of duties.
- (b) Ensure that any injured parties are examined and treated.
- (c) When possible, separately obtain a recorded interview with the individual upon whom force was applied. If this interview is conducted without the individual having voluntarily waived the individual's *Miranda* rights, the following shall apply:
  - 1. The content of the interview should not be summarized or included in any related criminal charges.
  - 2. The fact that a recorded interview was conducted should be documented in a property or other report.
  - 3. The recording of the interview should be distinctly marked for retention until all potential for civil litigation has expired.
- (d) Once any initial medical assessment has been completed or first aid has been rendered, ensure that photographs have been taken of any areas involving visible injury or complaint of pain, as well as overall photographs of uninjured areas.
  - 1. These photographs should be retained until all potential for civil litigation has expired.
- (e) Identify any witnesses not already included in related reports.
- (f) Review and approve all related reports.
- (g) Determine if there is any indication that the individual may pursue civil litigation.
  - 1. If there is an indication of potential civil litigation, the supervisor should complete and route a notification of a potential claim through the appropriate channels.
- (h) Evaluate the circumstances surrounding the incident and initiate an administrative investigation if there is a question of policy noncompliance or if for any reason further investigation may be appropriate.

In the event that a supervisor is unable to respond to the scene of an incident involving the reported application of force, the supervisor is still expected to complete as many of the above items as circumstances permit.

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When an incident results in death, serious bodily harm, or great bodily harm, the supervisor shall immediately contact the Office of Independent Investigations pursuant to the procedures established by the Office of Independent Investigation (RCW 43.102.120).

### **300.7.1 PATROL LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITY**

The Patrol Lieutenant shall review each use of force by any personnel within his/her command to ensure compliance with this policy and to address any training issues.

### **300.8 USE OF FORCE ANALYSIS**

At least annually, the Operations Division Commander should prepare an analysis report on use of force incidents. The report should be submitted to the Chief of Police. The report should not contain the names of officers, suspects, or case numbers, and should include:

- (a) The identification of any trends in the use of force by members.
- (b) Training needs recommendations.
- (c) Equipment needs recommendations.
- (d) Policy revision recommendations.

### **300.9 WASHINGTON STATE LAW - REASONABLE CARE**

Officers shall use reasonable care when determining whether to use and when using any physical force or deadly force against another person. The least amount of physical force necessary shall be used to overcome resistance under the circumstances (RCW 10.120.020).

# Deadly Use of Force Review Boards

## 301.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a process for the Aberdeen Police Department to review the use of force by its employees.

This review process shall be in addition to any other review or investigation that may be conducted by any outside or multi-agency entity having jurisdiction over the investigation or evaluation of the use of deadly force.

Only the Chief of Police may call for the convening of the Use of Force Review Board.

## 301.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will objectively evaluate the use of force by its members to ensure that their authority is used lawfully, appropriately and is consistent with training and policy.

### 301.2.1 CONVENING THE BOARD

- (a) The Use of Deadly Force Review Board should be convened as soon as reasonable after the incident, and as frequently as necessary until the Board has reached a conclusion. The Board shall be authorized to review all reports concerning the incident and to interview witnesses. At the conclusion of the investigation the Board shall submit a written report to the Chief of Police
  - 1. In those instances where the evidence at hand indicates that an inquest, criminal and/or internal investigation will be held as a result of a discharge of firearms, the Use of Deadly Force Review Board may delay final recommendations until after such court actions are concluded.
  - 2. In the event the incident is in litigation, announcement of the Board's conclusion may be postponed until the litigation has ended

## 301.3 REMOVAL FROM LINE DUTY ASSIGNMENT

Generally, whenever an employee's actions or use of force in an official capacity, or while using department equipment, results in death or very serious injury to another, that employee will be placed in a temporary administrative assignment pending an administrative review. The Chief of Police may exercise discretion and choose not to place an employee in an administrative assignment in any case.

## 301.4 REVIEW BOARD

The Use of Deadly Force Review Board will be convened when the use of force by a member results in very serious injury or death to another.

## *Deadly Use of Force Review Boards*

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The Use of Deadly Force Review Board will also investigate and review the circumstances surrounding every discharge of a firearm, whether the employee was on- or off-duty, excluding training, dispatching an injured animal, or recreational use.

The Chief of Police may request the Use of Force Review Board to investigate the circumstances surrounding any use of force incident.

The Deputy Chief will convene the Use of Deadly Force Review Board as directed by the Chief of Police. It will be the responsibility of the Section Commander or supervisor of the involved employee to notify the Deputy Chief of any incidents that may require board review. The involved employee's Division Commander or supervisor will also ensure that all relevant reports, documents and materials are available for consideration and review by the board.

### 301.4.1 COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

The Use of Deadly Force Review Board shall be comprised of the following persons selected by the Deputy Chief:

- A command officer.
- Department Range Master or his/her designee.
- Non-administrative supervisor.
- One member selected by the involved officer.
- Highest ranking member of the Detective Section who has not been directly involved in the investigation.

The Deputy Chief will serve as the chairperson.

### 301.4.2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The Use of Force Review Board is empowered to conduct an administrative review and inquiry into the circumstances of an incident.

The board members may request further investigation, request reports be submitted for the board's review, call persons to present information and request the involved employee to appear. The involved employee will be notified of the meeting of the board and may choose to have a representative through all phases of the review process.

The board does not have the authority to recommend discipline.

The Chief of Police will determine whether the board should delay its review until after completion of any criminal investigation, review by any prosecutorial body, filing of criminal charges, the decision not to file criminal charges, or any other action. The board should be provided all relevant available material from these proceedings for its consideration.

The review shall be based upon those facts which were reasonably believed or known by the officer at the time of the incident, applying any legal requirements, department policies, procedures

## *Deadly Use of Force Review Boards*

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and approved training to those facts. Facts later discovered but unknown to the officer at the time shall neither justify nor call into question an officer's decision regarding the use of force.

Any questioning of the involved employee conducted by the board will be in accordance with the department's disciplinary procedures, the Personnel Complaints Policy, the current collective bargaining agreement and any applicable state or federal law.

The board shall make one of the following recommended findings:

- (a) The employee's actions were within department policy and procedure.
- (b) The employee's actions were in violation of department policy and procedure.

A recommended finding requires a majority vote of the board. The board may also recommend additional investigations or reviews, such as disciplinary investigations, training reviews to consider whether training should be developed or revised, and policy reviews, as may be appropriate. The board chairperson will submit the written recommendation to the Chief of Police.

The Chief of Police shall review the recommendation, make a final determination as to whether the employee's actions were within policy and procedure and will determine whether any additional actions, investigations or reviews are appropriate. The Chief of Police's final findings will be forwarded to the involved employee's Section Commander for review and appropriate action. If the Chief of Police concludes that discipline should be considered, a disciplinary process will be initiated.

At the conclusion of any additional reviews, copies of all relevant reports and information will be filed with the Chief of Police.

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# Handcuffing and Restraints

## 302.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of handcuffs and other restraints during detentions and arrests.

## 302.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department authorizes the use of restraint devices in accordance with this policy, the Use of Force Policy and department training. Restraint devices shall not be used to punish, to display authority or as a show of force.

## 302.3 USE OF RESTRAINTS

Only members who have successfully completed Aberdeen Police Department-approved training on the use of restraint devices described in this policy are authorized to use these devices.

When deciding whether to use any restraint, officers should carefully balance officer safety concerns with factors that include but are not limited to:

- The circumstances or crime leading to the arrest.
- The demeanor and behavior of the arrested person.
- The age and health of the person.
- Whether the person is known to be pregnant.
- Whether the person has a hearing or speaking disability. In such cases, consideration should be given, safety permitting, to handcuffing to the front in order to allow the person to sign or write notes.
- Whether the person has any other apparent disability.

### 302.3.1 RESTRAINT OF DETAINEES

Situations may arise where it may be reasonable to restrain a person who may, after brief investigation, be released without arrest. Unless arrested, the use of restraints on detainees should continue only for as long as is reasonably necessary to ensure the safety of officers and others. When deciding whether to remove restraints from a detainee, officers should continuously weigh the safety interests at hand against the continuing intrusion upon the detainee.

### 302.3.2 RESTRAINT OF PREGNANT PERSONS

Persons who are known to be pregnant should be restrained in the least restrictive manner available and reasonable under the circumstances, but in no case shall leg irons or waist chains be used. Handcuffs behind the body should not be used unless the officer has a reasonable suspicion that the person may resist, attempt escape, injure herself or others, or damage property (RCW 70.48.500).

## *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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When the person is in labor no restraints of any kind shall be used. This does not prohibit a treating physician licensed under Title 18 RCW from requesting the use of hospital restraints for the medical safety of the person (RCW 70.48.500).

### **302.3.3 RESTRAINT OF JUVENILES**

A juvenile under 14 years of age should not be restrained unless he/she is suspected of a dangerous felony or when the officer has a reasonable suspicion that the juvenile may resist, attempt escape, injure him/herself, injure the officer or damage property.

Members who are school resource officers should only use restraints on a student participating in school-sponsored instruction or activity when there is an imminent likelihood of serious harm and pursuant to the school policy for students and staff (RCW 28A.600.485).

### **302.3.4 NOTIFICATIONS**

Whenever an officer transports a person with the use of restraints other than handcuffs, the officer shall inform the jail staff upon arrival at the jail that restraints were used. This notification should include information regarding any other circumstances the officer reasonably believes would be potential safety concerns or medical risks to the person (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration) that may have occurred prior to, or during, transportation to the jail.

### **302.3.5 PRISONER TRANSPORT SECURITY**

In order to ensure the highest possible level of security involving inmates/prisoners of the Aberdeen City Jail the following procedures should be followed:

Any prisoner escorted or transported from the jail facility itself to points of destination as described in J-700 of the Aberdeen Police Department Jail Facility Policies and Procedures Manual shall be handcuffed and/or secured with leg irons.

Use of belly chains or other means of security may be used as necessary at the discretion of the transporting officer.

Removal of such restraint devices will be in accordance with the Aberdeen Police Department Jail Facility Policies and Procedures Manual.

## **302.4 APPLICATION OF HANDCUFFS OR PLASTIC CUFFS**

Handcuffs, including temporary nylon or plastic cuffs, may be used only to restrain a person's hands to ensure officer safety.

Although recommended for most arrest situations, handcuffing is discretionary and not an absolute requirement of the Department. Officers should consider handcuffing any person they reasonably believe warrants that degree of restraint. However, officers should not conclude that in order to avoid risk every person should be handcuffed regardless of the circumstances.

In most situations handcuffs should be applied with the hands behind the person's back. When feasible, handcuffs should be double-locked to prevent tightening, which may cause undue discomfort or injury to the hands or wrists.

## *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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In situations where one pair of handcuffs does not appear sufficient to restrain the person or may cause unreasonable discomfort due to the person's size, officers should consider alternatives, such as using an additional set of handcuffs or multiple plastic cuffs.

Handcuffs should be removed as soon as it is reasonable or after the person has been searched and is safely confined within a detention facility.

### **302.5 APPLICATION OF SPIT HOODS**

Spit hoods are temporary protective devices designed to prevent the wearer from biting and/or transferring or transmitting fluids (saliva and mucous) to others.

Spit hoods may be placed upon persons in custody when the officer reasonably believes the person will bite or spit, either on a person or in an inappropriate place. They are generally used during application of a physical restraint, while the person is restrained, or during or after transport.

Officers utilizing spit hoods should ensure that the spit hood is fastened properly to allow for adequate ventilation and that the restrained person can breathe normally. Officers should provide assistance during the movement of a restrained person due to the potential for impairing or distorting that person's vision. Officers should avoid commingling those wearing spit hoods with others and detainees.

Spit hoods should not be used in situations where the restrained person is bleeding profusely from the area around the mouth or nose, or if there are indications that the person has a medical condition, such as difficulty breathing or vomiting. In such cases, prompt medical care should be obtained. If the person vomits while wearing a spit hood, the spit hood should be promptly removed and discarded. Persons who have been sprayed with oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray should be thoroughly decontaminated including hair, head, and clothing, prior to application of a spit hood.

Those who have been placed in a spit hood should be continually monitored and shall not be left unattended until the spit hood is removed. Spit hoods shall be discarded after each use.

### **302.6 APPLICATION OF AUXILIARY RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Auxiliary restraint devices include transport belts, waist or belly chains, transportation chains, leg irons and other similar devices. Auxiliary restraint devices are intended for use during long-term restraint or transportation. They provide additional security and safety without impeding breathing, while permitting adequate movement, comfort and mobility.

Only department-authorized devices may be used. Any person in auxiliary restraints should be monitored as reasonably appears necessary.

### **302.7 APPLICATION OF LEG RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Leg restraints may be used to restrain the legs of a violent or potentially violent person when it is reasonable to do so during the course of detention, arrest, or transportation. Only restraint devices approved by the department shall be used.



## *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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In determining whether to use the leg restraint, officers should consider:

- (a) Whether the officer or others could be exposed to injury due to the assaultive or resistant behavior of a person.
- (b) Whether it is reasonably necessary to protect the person from his/her own actions (e.g., hitting his/her head against the interior of the patrol vehicle, running away from the arresting officer while handcuffed, kicking at objects or officers).
- (c) Whether it is reasonably necessary to avoid damage to property (e.g., kicking at windows of the patrol vehicle).

### **302.7.1 GUIDELINES FOR USE OF LEG RESTRAINTS**

When applying leg restraints, the following guidelines should be followed:

- (a) If practicable, officers should notify a supervisor of the intent to apply the leg restraint device. In all cases, a supervisor shall be notified as soon as practicable after the application of the leg restraint device.
- (b) Once applied, absent a medical or other emergency, restraints should remain in place until the officer arrives at the jail or other facility or the person no longer reasonably appears to pose a threat.
- (c) Once secured, the person should be placed in a seated or upright position, secured with a seat belt, and shall not be placed on his/her stomach for an extended period, as this could reduce the person's ability to breathe.
- (d) The restrained person should be continually monitored by an officer while in the leg restraint. The officer should ensure that the person does not roll onto and remain on his/her stomach.
- (e) The officer should look for signs of labored breathing and take appropriate steps to relieve and minimize any obvious factors contributing to this condition.
- (f) When transported by emergency medical services, the restrained person should be accompanied by an officer when requested by medical personnel. The transporting officer should describe to medical personnel any unusual behaviors or other circumstances the officer reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the person (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

### **302.8 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

If a person is restrained and released without an arrest, the officer shall document the details of the detention and the need for handcuffs or other restraints.

If a person is arrested, the use of handcuffs or other restraints shall be documented in the related report.

Officers should document the following information in reports, as appropriate, when restraints other than handcuffs are used on a person:

- (a) The factors that led to the decision to use restraints.
- (b) Supervisor notification and approval of restraint use.

## *Handcuffing and Restraints*

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- (c) The types of restraint used.
- (d) The amount of time the person was restrained.
- (e) How the person was transported and the position of the person during transport.
- (f) Observations of the person's behavior and any signs of physiological problems.
- (g) Any known or suspected drug use or other medical problems.

### **302.8.1 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

Members working as school resource officers shall prepare a report pursuant to RCW 28A.600.485 and provide a copy to the school administrator whenever a student is restrained in a room or other enclosure or restrained by handcuffs or other restraint devices during school-sponsored instructions or activities.

### **302.9 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Coordinator should ensure that officers receive periodic training on the proper use of handcuffs and other restraints, including:

- (a) Proper placement and fit of handcuffs and other restraint devices approved for use by the Department.
- (b) Response to complaints of pain by restrained persons.
- (c) Options for restraining those who may be pregnant without the use of leg irons, waist chains, or handcuffs behind the body.
- (d) Options for restraining amputees or those with medical conditions or other physical conditions that may be aggravated by being restrained.

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## Control Devices and Techniques

### 303.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use and maintenance of control devices that are described in this policy.

### 303.2 POLICY

In order to control subjects who are violent or who demonstrate the intent to be violent, the Aberdeen Police Department authorizes officers to use control devices in accordance with the guidelines in this policy and the Use of Force Policy.

### 303.3 ISSUING, CARRYING, AND USING CONTROL DEVICES

Control devices described in this policy may be carried and used by members of this department only if the device has been issued by the Department or approved by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

Only officers who have successfully completed department-approved training and have demonstrated satisfactory skill and proficiency in the use of any control device are authorized to carry and use the device.

Control devices may be used when a decision has been made to control, restrain, or arrest a subject who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent, and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances. When reasonable, a verbal warning and opportunity to comply should precede the use of these devices.

When using control devices, officers should carefully consider potential impact areas in order to minimize injuries and unintentional targets.

### 303.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 303.4.1 PATROL LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Patrol Lieutenant may authorize the use of a control device by selected personnel or members of specialized units who have successfully completed the required training.

#### 303.4.2 RANGEMASTER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Rangemaster shall control the inventory and issuance of all control devices and shall ensure that all damaged, inoperative, outdated or expended control devices or munitions are properly disposed of, repaired or replaced.

Every control device will be periodically inspected by the Rangemaster or the designated instructor for a particular control device. The inspection shall be documented.

## *Control Devices and Techniques*

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### **303.4.3 USER RESPONSIBILITIES**

All normal maintenance, charging or cleaning shall remain the responsibility of personnel using the various devices.

Any damaged, inoperative, outdated or expended control devices or munitions, along with documentation explaining the cause of the damage, shall be returned to the Rangemaster for disposition. Damage to City property forms shall also be prepared and forwarded through the chain of command, when appropriate, explaining the cause of damage.

### **303.5 BATON GUIDELINES**

The need to immediately control a suspect must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury. The head, neck, throat, spine, heart, kidneys and groin should not be intentionally targeted except when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.

When carrying a baton, uniformed personnel shall carry the baton in its authorized holder on the equipment belt. Plainclothes and non-field personnel may carry the baton as authorized and in accordance with the needs of their assignment or at the direction of their supervisor.

#### **303.5.1 MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR INJURED SUSPECTS**

Suspects who are struck by a less-lethal round shall be transported to a medical facility for examination.

### **303.6 TEAR GAS GUIDELINES**

Officers or other members are not authorized to use tear gas unless necessary to alleviate a present risk of serious harm posed by a (RCW 10.116.030):

- (a) Riot.
- (b) Barricaded subject.
- (c) Hostage situation.

Only the Patrol Lieutenant, Incident Commander, or Crisis Response Unit Commander may authorize the delivery and use of tear gas, and only after evaluating all conditions known at the time and determining that such force reasonably appears justified and necessary, and other alternatives to the use of tear gas have been exhausted (RCW 10.116.030).

If tear gas is to be used outside a correctional, jail, or detention facility, authorization shall be obtained from the highest elected official of the jurisdiction in which the tear gas is to be used (RCW 10.116.030).

Prior to any use, an announcement shall be made of the intent to use tear gas. Sufficient time and space shall be allowed for compliance with the announcement (RCW 10.116.030).

When practicable, fire personnel should be alerted or summoned to the scene prior to the deployment of tear gas to control any fires and to assist in providing medical aid or gas evacuation if needed.

## *Control Devices and Techniques*

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### **303.7 OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (OC) GUIDELINES**

As with other control devices, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray and pepper projectiles may be considered for use to bring under control an individual or groups of individuals who are engaging in, or are about to engage in violent behavior. Pepper projectiles and OC spray should not, however, be used against individuals or groups who merely fail to disperse or do not reasonably appear to present a risk to the safety of officers or the public.

#### **303.7.1 OC SPRAY**

Uniformed personnel carrying OC spray shall carry the device in its holster on the equipment belt or approved external carrier. Plainclothes and non-field personnel may carry OC spray as authorized, in accordance with the needs of their assignment or at the direction of their supervisor.

#### **303.7.2 PEPPER PROJECTILE SYSTEMS**

Pepper projectiles are plastic spheres that are filled with a derivative of OC powder. Because the compressed gas launcher delivers the projectiles with enough force to burst the projectiles on impact and release the OC powder, the potential exists for the projectiles to inflict injury if they strike the head, neck, spine or groin. Therefore, personnel using a pepper projectile system should not intentionally target those areas, except when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.

Officers encountering a situation that warrants the use of a pepper projectile system shall notify a supervisor as soon as practicable. A supervisor shall respond to all pepper projectile system incidents where the suspect has been hit or exposed to the chemical agent. The supervisor shall ensure that all notifications and reports are completed as required by the Use of Force Policy.

Each deployment of a pepper projectile system shall be documented. This includes situations where the launcher was directed toward the suspect, whether or not the launcher was used. Unintentional discharges shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented on the appropriate report form. Only non-incident use of a pepper projectile system, such as training and product demonstrations, is exempt from the reporting requirement.

#### **303.7.3 TREATMENT FOR OC SPRAY EXPOSURE**

Persons who have been sprayed with or otherwise affected by the use of OC should be promptly provided with clean water to cleanse the affected areas. Those persons who complain of further severe effects shall be examined by appropriate medical personnel.

### **303.8 POST-APPLICATION NOTICE**

Whenever tear gas or OC has been introduced into a residence, building interior, vehicle or other enclosed area, officers should provide the owners or available occupants with notice of the possible presence of residue that could result in irritation or injury if the area is not properly cleaned. Such notice should include advisement that clean up will be at the owner's expense. Information regarding the method of notice and the individuals notified should be included in related reports.

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### 303.8.1 DEPLOYMENT

Only department-approved kinetic energy munitions shall be carried and deployed. Approved munitions may be used to compel an individual to cease his/her actions when such munitions present a reasonable option.

Officers are not required or compelled to use approved munitions in lieu of other reasonable tactics if the involved officer determines that deployment of these munitions cannot be done safely. The safety of hostages, innocent persons and officers takes priority over the safety of subjects engaged in criminal or suicidal behavior.

Circumstances appropriate for deployment include, but are not limited to, situations in which:

- (a) The suspect is armed with a weapon and the tactical circumstances allow for the safe application of approved munitions.
- (b) The suspect has made credible threats to harm him/herself or others.
- (c) The suspect is engaged in riotous behavior or is throwing rocks, bottles or other dangerous projectiles at people and/or officers.
- (d) There is probable cause to believe that the suspect has already committed a crime of violence and is refusing to comply with lawful orders.

### 303.8.2 DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Before discharging projectiles, the officer should consider such factors as:

- (a) Distance and angle to target.
- (b) Type of munitions employed.
- (c) Type and thickness of subject's clothing.
- (d) The subject's proximity to others.
- (e) The location of the subject.
- (f) Whether the subject's actions dictate the need for an immediate response and the use of control devices appears appropriate.

A verbal warning of the intended use of the device should precede its application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of officers or when it is not practicable due to the circumstances. The purpose of the warning is to give the individual a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply and to warn other officers and individuals that the device is being deployed.

Officers should keep in mind the manufacturer's recommendations and their training regarding deployment distances and target areas. However, officers are not restricted solely to use according to manufacturer recommendations. Each situation must be evaluated on the totality of circumstances at the time of deployment.

The need to immediately incapacitate the subject must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury or death. The head, neck, and spine should not be intentionally targeted, except

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when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.

### **303.9 KINETIC ENERGY PROJECTILE GUIDELINES**

This department is committed to reducing the potential for violent confrontations. Kinetic energy projectiles, when used properly, are less likely to result in death or serious physical injury and can be used in an attempt to de-escalate a potentially deadly situation.

#### **303.9.1 DEPLOYMENT AND USE**

Only department-approved kinetic energy munitions shall be carried and deployed. Approved munitions may be used to compel an individual to cease his/her actions when such munitions present a reasonable option.

Officers are not required or compelled to use approved munitions in lieu of other reasonable tactics if the involved officer determines that deployment of these munitions cannot be done safely. The safety of hostages, innocent persons and officers takes priority over the safety of subjects engaged in criminal or suicidal behavior.

Circumstances appropriate for deployment include, but are not limited to, situations in which:

- (a) The suspect is armed with a weapon and the tactical circumstances allow for the safe application of approved munitions.
- (b) The suspect has made credible threats to harm him/herself or others.
- (c) The suspect is engaged in riotous behavior or is throwing rocks, bottles or other dangerous projectiles at people and/or officers.
- (d) There is probable cause to believe that the suspect has already committed a crime of violence and is refusing to comply with lawful orders.

#### **303.9.2 DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

Before discharging projectiles, the officer should consider such factors as:

- (a) Distance and angle to target.
- (b) Type of munitions employed.
- (c) Type and thickness of subject's clothing.
- (d) The subject's proximity to others.
- (e) The location of the subject.
- (f) Whether the subject's actions dictate the need for an immediate response and the use of control devices appears appropriate.

A verbal warning of the intended use of the device should precede its application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of officers or when it is not practicable due to the circumstances.

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The purpose of the warning is to give the individual a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply and to warn other officers and individuals that the device is being deployed.

Officers should keep in mind the manufacturer's recommendations and their training regarding effective distances and target areas. However, officers are not restricted solely to use according to manufacturer recommendations. Each situation must be evaluated on the totality of circumstances at the time of deployment.

The need to immediately incapacitate the subject must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury or death. The head and neck should not be intentionally targeted, except when the officer reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the officer or others.

### **303.9.3 SAFETY PROCEDURES**

Shotguns specifically designated for use with kinetic energy projectiles will be specially marked in a manner that makes them readily identifiable as such.

Officers will inspect the shotgun and projectiles at the beginning of each shift to ensure that the shotgun is in proper working order and the projectiles are of the approved type and appear to be free from defects. Officers will insure the tube is loaded with approved projectiles and no other ammunition.

When it is not deployed, the shotgun tube will be loaded with no rounds in the chamber and properly and securely stored in the vehicle. When deploying the kinetic energy projectile shotgun, the officer shall visually inspect the kinetic energy projectiles to ensure that conventional ammunition is not being loaded into the shotgun.

### **303.10 TRAINING FOR CONTROL DEVICES**

The Training Coordinator shall ensure that all personnel who are authorized to carry a control device have been properly trained, have demonstrated satisfactory skill and proficiency, are certified to carry the specific control device, and are retrained or recertified as necessary.

- (a) Proficiency training shall be monitored and documented by a certified, control-device weapons or tactics instructor.
- (b) All training and proficiency for control devices will be documented in the officer's training file.
- (c) Officers who fail to demonstrate proficiency with the control device or knowledge of this agency's Use of Force Policy will be provided remedial training. If an officer cannot demonstrate proficiency with a control device or knowledge of this agency's Use of Force Policy after remedial training, the officer will be restricted from carrying the control device and may be subject to discipline.



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### **303.11 REPORTING USE OF CONTROL DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES**

Any application of a control device or technique listed in this policy shall be documented in the related incident report and reported pursuant to the Use of Force Policy.

# Conducted Energy Device

## 304.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the issuance and use of Conducted Energy Device (CED)s.

## 304.2 POLICY

The CED is intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual, while minimizing the risk of serious injury. The appropriate use of such a device should result in fewer serious injuries to officers and suspects.

## 304.3 ISSUANCE AND CARRYING CEDS

Only members who have successfully completed department-approved training and have demonstrated satisfactory skill and proficiency may be issued and carry the CED.

CEDs are issued for use during a member's current assignment. Those leaving a particular assignment may be required to return the device to the department's inventory.

Officers shall only use the CED and cartridges that have been issued by the Department. Uniformed officers who have been issued the CED shall wear the device in an approved holster on their person. Non-uniformed officers may secure the CED in the driver's compartment of their vehicle.

Members carrying the CED should perform a spark test on the unit prior to every shift.

When carrying while in uniform, officers shall carry the CED in a weak-side holster on the side opposite the duty weapon.

- (a) All CEDs shall be clearly and distinctly marked to differentiate them from the duty weapon and any other device.
- (b) Whenever practicable, officers should carry two or more cartridges on their person when carrying the CED.
- (c) Officers shall be responsible for ensuring that their issued CED is properly maintained and in good working order.
- (d) Officers should not hold both a firearm and the CED at the same time.

## 304.4 VERBAL AND VISUAL WARNINGS

A verbal warning of the intended use of the CED should precede its application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of officers or when it is not practicable due to the circumstances.

The purpose of the warning is to:

- (a) Provide the individual with a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply.
- (b) Provide other officers and individuals with a warning that the CED may be deployed.

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If, after a verbal warning, an individual is unwilling to voluntarily comply with an officer's lawful orders and it appears both reasonable and feasible under the circumstances, the officer may, but is not required to, display the electrical arc (provided that a cartridge has not been loaded into the device), or the laser in a further attempt to gain compliance prior to the application of the CED. The aiming laser should never be intentionally directed into the eyes of another as it may permanently impair his/her vision.

The fact that a verbal or other warning was given or the reasons it was not given shall be documented by the officer deploying the CED in the related report.

### **304.5 USE OF THE CED**

The CED has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. The CED should only be used when its operator can safely approach the subject within the operational range of the device. Although the CED is generally effective in controlling most individuals, officers should be aware that the device may not achieve the intended results and be prepared with other options.

#### **304.5.1 APPLICATION OF THE CED**

The CED may be used in any of the following circumstances, when the circumstances perceived by the officer at the time indicate that such application is reasonably necessary to control a person:

- (a) The subject is violent or is physically resisting.
- (b) The subject has demonstrated, by words or action, an intention to be violent or to physically resist, and reasonably appears to present the potential to harm officers, him/herself or others.

Mere flight from a pursuing officer, without other known circumstances or factors, is not good cause for the use of the CED to apprehend an individual.

#### **304.5.2 SPECIAL DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

The use of the CED on certain individuals should generally be avoided unless the totality of the circumstances indicates that other available options reasonably appear ineffective or would present a greater danger to the officer, the subject or others, and the officer reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the risk of using the device. This includes:

- (a) Individuals who are known to be pregnant.
- (b) Elderly individuals or obvious juveniles.
- (c) Individuals with obviously low body mass.
- (d) Individuals who are handcuffed or otherwise restrained.
- (e) Individuals who have been recently sprayed with a flammable chemical agent or who are otherwise in close proximity to any known combustible vapor or flammable material, including alcohol-based oleoresin capicum (OC) spray.

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- (f) Individuals whose position or activity may result in collateral injury (e.g., falls from height, operating vehicles).

Because the application of the CED in the drive-stun mode (i.e., direct contact without probes) relies primarily on pain compliance, the use of the drive-stun mode generally should be limited to supplementing the probe-mode to complete the circuit, or as a distraction technique to gain separation between officers and the subject, thereby giving officers time and distance to consider other force options or actions.

The CED shall not be used to psychologically torment, elicit statements or to punish any individual.

### 304.5.3 TARGETING CONSIDERATIONS

Reasonable efforts should be made to target lower center mass and avoid the head, neck, chest and groin. If the dynamics of a situation or officer safety do not permit the officer to limit the application of the CED probes to a precise target area, officers should monitor the condition of the subject if one or more probes strikes the head, neck, chest or groin until the subject is examined by paramedics or other medical personnel.

### 304.5.4 MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE CED

Officers should apply the CED for only one standard cycle and then evaluate the situation before applying any subsequent cycles. Multiple applications of the CED against a single individual are generally not recommended and should be avoided unless the officer reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the potentially increased risk posed by multiple applications.

If the first application of the CED appears to be ineffective in gaining control of an individual, the officer should consider certain factors before additional applications of the CED, including:

- (a) Whether the probes are making proper contact.
- (b) Whether the individual has the ability and has been given a reasonable opportunity to comply.
- (c) Whether verbal commands, other options or tactics may be more effective.

Officers should generally not intentionally apply more than one CED at a time against a single subject.

### 304.5.5 ACTIONS FOLLOWING DEPLOYMENTS

Officers should take appropriate actions to control and restrain the individual to minimize the need for longer or multiple exposures to the CED. As soon as practicable, officers shall notify a supervisor of all CED discharges. Confetti tags should be collected and the expended cartridge, along with both probes and wire, should be submitted into evidence. The cartridge serial number should be noted and documented on the evidence paperwork. The evidence packaging should be marked "Biohazard" if the probes penetrated the subject's skin.

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### 304.5.6 DANGEROUS ANIMALS

The CED may be deployed against an animal as part of a plan to deal with a potentially dangerous animal, such as a dog, if the animal reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to human safety and alternative methods are not reasonably available or would likely be ineffective.

### 304.5.7 OFF-DUTY CONSIDERATIONS

Officers are not authorized to carry department CEDs while off-duty.

Officers shall ensure that CEDs are secured while in their homes, vehicles or any other area under their control, in a manner that will keep the device inaccessible to others.

## 304.6 DOCUMENTATION

Officers shall document all CED discharges in the related arrest/crime report and the CED report form. Notification shall also be made to a supervisor in compliance with the Use of Force Policy. Unintentional discharges, pointing the device at a person, laser activation and arcing the device will also be documented on the report form.

### 304.6.1 CED FORM

Rangemaster/Items that shall be included in the CED report form are:

- (a) The type and brand of CED and cartridge and cartridge serial number.
- (b) Date, time and location of the incident.
- (c) Whether any display, laser or arc deterred a subject and gained compliance.
- (d) The number of CED activations, the duration of each cycle, the duration between activations, and (as best as can be determined) the duration that the subject received applications.
- (e) The range at which the CED was used.
- (f) The type of mode used (probe or drive-stun).
- (g) Location of any probe impact.
- (h) Location of contact in drive-stun mode.
- (i) Description of where missed probes went.
- (j) Whether medical care was provided to the subject.
- (k) Whether the subject sustained any injuries.
- (l) Whether any officers sustained any injuries.

The Rangemaster should periodically analyze the report forms to identify trends, including deterrence and effectiveness. The Rangemaster should also conduct audits of data downloads and reconcile CED report forms with recorded activations. CED information and statistics, with identifying information removed, should periodically be made available to the public.

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### 304.6.2 REPORTS

The officer should include the following in the arrest/crime report:

- (a) Identification of all personnel firing CEDs
- (b) Identification of all witnesses
- (c) Medical care provided to the subject
- (d) Observations of the subject's physical and physiological actions
- (e) Any known or suspected drug use, intoxication or other medical problems

### 304.7 MEDICAL TREATMENT

Consistent with local medical personnel protocols and absent extenuating circumstances, only appropriate medical personnel should remove CED probes from a person's body. Used CED probes shall be treated as a sharps biohazard, similar to a used hypodermic needle and handled appropriately. Universal precautions should be taken.

All persons who have been struck by CED probes or who have been subjected to the electric discharge of the device or who sustained direct exposure of the laser to the eyes shall be medically assessed prior to booking. Additionally, any such individual who falls under any of the following categories should, as soon as practicable, be examined by paramedics or other qualified medical personnel:

- (a) The person is suspected of being under the influence of controlled substances and/or alcohol.
- (b) The person may be pregnant.
- (c) The person reasonably appears to be in need of medical attention.
- (d) The CED probes are lodged in a sensitive area (e.g., groin, female breast, head, face, neck).
- (e) The person requests medical treatment.

Any individual exhibiting signs of distress or who is exposed to multiple or prolonged applications (i.e., more than 15 seconds) shall be transported to a medical facility for examination or medically evaluated prior to booking. If any individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal should be witnessed by another officer and/or medical personnel and shall be fully documented in related reports. If an audio recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included, if possible.

The transporting officer shall inform any person providing medical care or receiving custody that the individual has been subjected to the application of the CED (see the Medical Aid and Response Policy).

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### **304.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

When possible, supervisors should respond to calls when they reasonably believe there is a likelihood the CED may be used. A supervisor should respond to all incidents where the CED was activated.

A supervisor should review each incident where a person has been exposed to an activation of the CED. The device's onboard memory should be downloaded through the data port by a supervisor or Rangemaster and saved with the related arrest/crime report. Photographs of probe sites should be taken and witnesses interviewed.

### **304.9 TRAINING**

Personnel who are authorized to carry the CED shall be permitted to do so only after successfully completing the initial department-approved training and demonstrating satisfactory skill and proficiency. Any personnel who have not carried the CED as a part of their assignment for a period of six months or more shall be recertified by a department-approved CED instructor prior to again carrying or using the device.

Proficiency training for personnel who have been issued CEDs should occur every year. A reassessment of an officer's knowledge and/or practical skill may be required at any time if deemed appropriate by the Training Coordinator. All training and proficiency for CEDs will be documented in the officer's training file.

Command staff, supervisors, and investigators should receive CED training as appropriate for the investigations they conduct and review.

Officers who do not carry CEDs should receive training that is sufficient to familiarize them with the device and with working with officers who use the device.

The Training Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that all members who carry CEDs have received initial and annual proficiency training. Periodic audits should be used for verification.

Application of CEDs during training could result in injury to personnel and should not be mandatory for certification.

The Training Coordinator should ensure that all training includes:

- (a) A review of this policy.
- (b) A review of the Use of Force Policy.
- (c) Performing weak-hand draws or cross-draws to reduce the possibility of unintentionally drawing and firing a firearm.
- (d) Target area considerations, to include techniques or options to reduce the unintentional application of probes near the head, neck, chest, and groin.
- (e) Handcuffing a subject during the application of the CED and transitioning to other force options.
- (f) De-escalation techniques.

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- (g) Restraint techniques that do not impair respiration following the application of the CED.



# Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths

## 305.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish policy and procedures for the investigation of an incident in which a person is injured or dies as the result of an officer-involved shooting or as a result of other action of an officer.

In other incidents not covered by this policy, the Chief of Police may decide that the investigation will follow the process provided in this policy.

### 305.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Involved Officer** - An officer who used deadly force in the course of their duty.

**Witness Officers** - Officers who were present during the application of deadly force by involved Officer(s).

**Uninvolved officer(s)** - Officers who responded to or were present at the scene but did not witness the application of deadly force, and did not apply deadly force.

## 305.2 POLICY

The policy of the Aberdeen Police Department is to ensure that Officer-Involved Critical Incidents (shootings and deaths) are investigated in a thorough, fair and impartial manner.

## 305.3 TYPES OF INVESTIGATIONS

An incident in which a person is injured or dies as the result of an officer-involved shooting or dies as a result of other action by a member of this department will typically result in a criminal investigation by the agency having jurisdiction and an internal investigation or use-of-force review by this department to determine compliance with policy. If the incident occurred within the City of Aberdeen, the Chief of Police or designee may request the criminal investigation be conducted by an outside agency or multi-jurisdictional investigative team (i.e. Region 3 Critical Incident Investigation Team)

## 305.4 CONTROL OF INVESTIGATIONS

Investigators from surrounding law enforcement agencies may be assigned to work on the criminal investigation of officer-involved shootings and deaths.

Jurisdiction is determined by the location of the shooting or death and the agency employing the involved officer(s). The following scenarios outline the jurisdictional responsibilities for investigating officer-involved shootings and deaths:

1. **ABERDEEN POLICE OFFICER WITHIN THIS JURISDICTION** - The Aberdeen Police Department is responsible for the criminal investigation of the suspect's actions and the administrative investigation. The Chief of Police or designee may request an outside agency or multi-jurisdictional investigative team to conduct this investigation.

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2. **OTHER AGENCY'S OFFICER WITHIN THIS JURISDICTION** - The Aberdeen Police Department is responsible for the criminal investigation of the suspect's actions. The Chief of Police or designee may request another agency or multi-jurisdictional investigative team conduct this investigation. The officer's agency will be responsible for any civil and/or administrative investigation(s).
3. **ABERDEEN POLICE OFFICER IN ANOTHER JURISDICTION** - The agency where the incident occurred has criminal jurisdiction and is responsible for the criminal investigation of the incident. The Aberdeen Police Department will conduct the administrative investigation.

### **305.4.1 OFFICER/DEPUTY USE OF FORCE INVESTIGATIONS**

Where the use of deadly force by an officer results in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm, an investigation shall be completed by an independent investigative team that is independent of the Department and meets the independent investigations criteria of the Criminal Justice Training Commission (RCW 10.114.011; WAC 139-12-020; WAC 139-12-030).

### **305.5 INITIAL ON SCENE DUTIES**

The following procedures are used in the investigation of officer-involved shootings and deaths.

#### **305.5.1 INVOLVED OFFICER(S) DUTIES**

The involved or other on-scene officers should complete the following duties if reasonably possible under the circumstance:

1. Protect the scene. No items, including involved vehicles, should be moved or have their condition altered unless authorized.
2. Immediately notify Grays Harbor Communications and the supervisor.
3. Direct and coordinate back-up units as necessary.
4. Render first aid to any injured parties if the tactical situation allows. Call for paramedics as required.
5. Provide a public safety statement to a supervisor if warranted.
6. Protect weapon(s) for examination.

#### **305.5.2 ONSCENE SUPERVISOR DUTIES**

Upon arrival at the scene of an officer-involved critical incident (shooting/death), the first supervisor (not involved in the incident) should :

1. Take command of the scene until relieved. If the incident occurred in another jurisdiction, respond as an observer representing the Department.
2. Take all reasonable steps to obtain emergency medical attention for all apparently injured individuals.
3. Make necessary notifications and call-outs.
4. Obtain a briefing from any uninvolved or witness officer(s) who were present.
5. Obtain a public safety statement from the involved officer(s) if warranted.

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6. If obtained, disseminate public safety information immediately by radio as appropriate.
7. Utilize available information to take appropriate actions to:
  - (a) Identify likely bullet trajectories and determine if there are secondary victims.
  - (b) Locate and protect evidence.
  - (c) Coordinate search for outstanding suspects.
8. Ensure the crime scene is secured by proper placement of crime scene tape. No one should enter the crime scene, other than medical personnel rendering aid, unless assigned to process the scene or other investigative duties. Assignment to enter the scene will be made by investigative supervisors or commanders.
9. Ensure a crime scene log is established and maintained. Assign at least one officer to guard each crime scene and keep a log of everyone entering the scene.
10. Ensure the involved officer(s) secures their weapons until surrendered to investigators. There is no need to remove the officer's weapon publicly on scene.
11. Identify and separate witnesses.
12. Identify any individual(s) with potential gunshot residue and take the appropriate steps to ensure the person does not destroy this evidence.
13. Ensure that all responding officers complete their responsibilities with regard to reports, evidence and the crime scene.

### 305.5.3 UNINVOLVED OFFICERS DUTIES

Upon arrival at the scene of an officer-involved shooting or death, the first uninvolved APD officer will be the officer-in-charge and will assume the responsibilities of a supervisor until properly relieved. This officer should, as appropriate:

1. Secure the scene and identify and eliminate hazards for all those involved.
2. Take reasonable steps to obtain emergency medical attention for injured individuals.
3. Request additional resources from the Department or other agencies.
4. Coordinate a perimeter or pursuit of suspects.
5. Check for injured persons and evacuate as needed.
6. Brief the supervisor upon arrival.

### 305.5.4 PUBLIC SAFETY STATEMENT

The supervisor may administratively order any involved officer from this department to immediately provide a public safety statement. Supervisors should immediately act on information provided during the public safety statement to check on the safety of others, attempt to apprehend the suspect and protect evidence. This includes a radio broadcast of any information that would help accomplish these goals. The purpose of this statement is to immediately provide sufficient information to facilitate the apprehension of suspects, identify and protect evidence and to check on the safety of the public. Involved officer(s) should not be interviewed at the scene other than to gather the public safety statement, which should be limited to the following:

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1. What was your location when you fired?
2. In what direction did you fire?
3. How many rounds did you fire?
4. If you know of anyone who is injured, what is their location?
5. What is the location of any other involved parties?
6. Are there any outstanding suspects?
7. What is their description?
8. What is their direction of travel?
9. How long have they been gone?
10. What crime(s) are they wanted for?
11. What weapons are they armed with?
12. Is there any evidence that needs to be protected? Where is it located?
13. Are any other personnel involved?

Once the statement is obtained, the officer should refrain from discussing the incident with anyone other than their legal representative, peer counselor or the assigned investigator(s) until authorized.

### 305.5.5 NOTIFICATIONS

The following person(s) shall be notified as soon as practicable:

1. Initial Notifications:
  - (a) Any additional resources needed to manage the scene.
  - (b) On-Duty Patrol Lieutenant.
  - (c) Investigations Supervisor.
2. Secondary Notifications
  - (a) The Chief of Police and rest of the Command Staff.
  - (b) The Coroner - by the Investigations Supervisor.
3. Follow-Up Notifications
  - (a) Guild representative.
  - (b) Grays Harbor County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
  - (c) Psychological/Peer support personnel.
  - (d) Department Chaplain(s).
  - (e) The Mayor - by the Chief of Police or designee.
  - (f) City Attorney - by the Chief of Police or designee.

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### **305.6 HANDLING INVOLVED OFFICER(S)**

As soon as they are no longer needed at the scene, involved officers should be transported (separately, if feasible) to the station.

The involved officer(s) shall remain in uniform or how they were dressed during the incident. Once at the station, the officer(s) shall be photographed as they were dressed at the time of the incident. Their uniform and equipment may then be examined and collected by the investigators. Care should be taken to preserve the integrity of any physical evidence present on the officer, equipment or clothing (e.g., blood, fingerprints, etc.) until investigators can properly retrieve it. Investigators should be assigned to accomplish this within a reasonable period of time.

All reasonable accommodations to care for the officer's physical and emotional needs should be taken.

#### **305.6.1 COMMUNICATION WITH INVOLVED OFFICER(S)**

Following the public safety statement if one was given, each involved officer should be given an administrative order not to discuss the incident with anyone, except personnel assigned to the investigation, the employee's attorney, a designated peer counselor, a mental health professional, the officer's personal clergy or spouse.

Communications between designated peer counselors and involved officers are privileged [RCW 5.60.060]. No involved officers should be permitted to meet collectively with a counselor or in a group for the purposes of a critical incident debrief prior to providing a formal interview or report.

Communications with guild representatives are not privileged. Any statements made by an involved officer to a guild representative about the details of the incident may be compelled to be divulged in both state and federal court proceedings. Involved officers may discuss the post-shooting process with their guild representative.

Discussions with licensed attorneys are considered privileged as attorney client communications, however, no involved officers shall be permitted to meet collectively with an attorney prior to providing a formal interview or report.

#### **305.6.2 FAMILY NOTIFICATIONS**

Arrangements should be made to notify the involved officer's family as soon as possible of the incident. The involved officer should make the notification if at all possible. An open line of communication should be established between the officer's immediate family and a designated member of the police department, who will remain available to answer questions and to see to any reasonable needs of the family.

#### **305.6.3 COMPANION OFFICER**

Involved officers should not be isolated. As soon as resources permit, each should have an officer who was not involved in the shooting available to them. This Companion Officer should:

1. Drive the involved officer to the station.
2. Accompany the involved officer until relieved.

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3. Ensure the involved officer is isolated from other personnel involved in the incident.
4. Ensure the involved officer does not discuss the incident.
5. Attend to any need or request of the involved officer.

### **305.6.4 INVOLVED FIREARMS**

When an officer's firearm is taken, or left at the scene (e.g., evidence), the officer will be provided with a replacement firearm. Absent a compelling need, the officer's firearm should not be taken from the officer at the scene.

Injured involved officers taken to a hospital should have their belt, holster, and weapon secured for examination and collection by investigators.

All weapons, including back-ups, in the possession of the involved officer at the time of the incident should be examined, even if not used. An investigator shall collect and photograph the weapon along with all magazines and additional ammunition and place it into evidence.

### **305.6.5 RELIEF OF DUTY / REASSIGNMENT / ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE**

Any officer involved in an incident which results in serious injury or death shall be removed from duty and shall not be returned to duty until the completion of a preliminary administrative review and a reasonable recuperation period.

The relief from duty may be in the form of administrative leave. The length of the administrative leave shall be for a time period determined on a case-by-case basis.

While on administrative leave, the officer will remain available for interviews and statements, at times designated by the Chief of Police or designee.

The Chief of Police may assign involved officers to administrative or desk duties after a reasonable recuperation period but prior to clearance for return to full duty.

### **305.6.6 PEER SUPPORT COUNSELOR**

The involved officer will be offered a peer support counselor to provide emotional and logistical support following the incident. Involvement with peer support is voluntary.

Communications between the counselor and the involved officer are privileged. The peer support counselor must be designated as such prior to the incident that results in counseling. The privilege only applies when the communication was made to the counselor while acting in his or her capacity as a peer support counselor. The privilege does not apply if the counselor was an initial responding officer or firefighter, a witness, or a party to the incident which prompted the delivery of peer support counseling services (RCW 5.60.060).

Employees experiencing emotional stress may initiate contact with a peer support person at any time.

## **305.7 OFFICER INVOLVED INCIDENT CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

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### 305.7.1 INVESTIGATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

The criminal investigation for officer involved critical incidents will be conducted by an outside law enforcement agency. Should the situation dictate activating the Region 3 Critical Incident Investigation Team (CIIT), the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office will be called upon to evaluate that request. The Chief may select CIIT or another outside law enforcement agency to investigate the incident.

Officer involved critical incidents should be investigated using established protocols and checklists to ensure every aspect is carefully examined.

When the investigation is complete, the investigators will make all reports available to the Chief of Police or designee, through the chain of command.

### 305.7.2 INVOLVED OFFICER INTERVIEWS

Involved officers should be provided with reasonable recovery time before detailed interviewing begins. Officers who have been afforded this opportunity are likely to provide a more coherent and accurate statement.

The involved officer will be afforded the opportunity to consult individually with a representative and/or attorney of his/her choosing, prior to speaking with criminal investigators. Involved officers shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.

The involved officers will be afforded all constitutional rights during the criminal investigation.

Investigators shall request a voluntary report or statement from the involved officer. Involved officers will not be ordered to provide statements or reports without approval from the Chief of Police or designee.

Uninvolved officers who are witnesses will be required to provide necessary reports and statements.

Investigators may ask officers to participate in a reconstruction of the incident.

### 305.7.3 REPORTS BY INVOLVED APD OFFICERS

Involved officers may be requested to write an incident report, provide a statement to investigators or both. Involved officers may consult with legal counsel prior to submitting any required report.

### 305.7.4 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS

Because potential witnesses to an officer-involved shooting or other major incident may be lost or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, a supervisor should take steps to promptly coordinate the following:

1. Identify all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.
  - (a) When feasible, a statement should be obtained from those persons who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred. Officers should seek consent to record such statements whenever possible.

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- (b) Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, officers should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.
- 2. Available personnel should be assigned to promptly contact the suspect's family and associates to obtain any available and untainted background information about the suspect's activities and state of mind prior to contact with officers.

### **305.8 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION**

In addition to all other investigations associated with an officer-involved shooting or death, this department will conduct an internal administrative investigation of involved APD officers to determine conformance with department policy. This investigation will be conducted under the supervision of the Deputy Chief and will be considered a confidential peace officer personnel file. The review will be conducted in accordance with any applicable provisions of the current collective bargaining agreement.

#### **305.8.1 CIVIL LIABILITY RESPONSE**

A member of this department may be assigned to work exclusively under the direction of the legal counsel for the Department to assist in the preparation of materials deemed necessary in anticipation of potential civil litigation.

All materials generated in this capacity shall be considered attorney work product and may not be used for any other purpose. The civil liability response is not intended to interfere with any other investigation but shall be given reasonable access to all other investigations.

### **305.9 AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS**

Any officer involved in a shooting or death may be permitted to review available Mobile Audio/Video (MAV), body-worn video, or other video or audio recordings prior to providing a recorded statement or completing reports.

Upon request, non-law enforcement witnesses who are able to verify their presence and their ability to contemporaneously perceive events at the scene of an incident may also be permitted to review available MAV, body-worn video, or other video or audio recordings with the approval of assigned investigators or a supervisor.

Any MAV, body-worn and other known video or audio recordings of an incident should not be publicly released during an ongoing investigation without consulting the investigators, the prosecuting attorney or City Attorney's Office, as appropriate.

### **305.10 DEBRIEFING**

Following an officer-involved critical incident, the Aberdeen Police Department should conduct both a critical incident/stress debriefing and a tactical debriefing.



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### **305.10.1 CRITICAL INCIDENT/STRESS DEBRIEFING**

A critical incident/stress debriefing should occur as soon as practicable, preferably within 72 hours, after conclusion of an incident but only after involved officers provide a statement or report. A division commander is responsible for organizing the debriefing. Notes and recorded statements should not be taken because the sole purpose of the debriefing is to help mitigate the stress-related effects of a traumatic event.

The debriefing is not part of any investigative process. The debriefing is a confidential discussion of the incident relating to the feelings and perceptions of those directly involved prior to, during, and after a stressful event. It is intended to provide support, education and an outlet for views and feelings associated with the event. Debriefings are neither counseling nor an operational critique of the incident. If an involved officer is unable to participate in a debriefing because they have not completed their official statements, arrangements should be made for the officer to meet individually with a psychologist.

Attendance at the debriefing should only include those members of the Department directly involved in the incident, which can include support personnel (e.g., dispatcher, other non-sworn). Family or other support personnel may attend with the concurrence of those involved in the incident. The debriefing shall be closed to the public and should be closed to all other members of the Department, including supervisory personnel and personnel involved in investigating the incident.

### **305.10.2 TACTICAL DEBRIEFING**

A tactical debriefing should take place to identify any training or areas of policy that need improvement. The Chief of Police should identify the appropriate participants. This debriefing should not be conducted until all involved members have provided recorded or formal statements to criminal and/or administrative investigators.

### **305.11 OFFICER CARE AND RETURN TO DUTY**

Prior to being authorized to return to duty, an involved officer will meet with a psychologist or psychiatrist to ensure the officer is ready to return to work. This is not a fitness for duty exam. Communications between the psychologist or psychiatrist and the involved officer are privileged and will not be divulged other than to notify the City whether or not the officer is ready to return to full duty.

A fitness for duty exam may also be required before the involved officer is authorized to return to full duty.

If the officer has been issued a replacement firearm, the officer will complete a training session at the range with an instructor in order to ensure familiarization and that the replacement weapon is in good working order.

If the involved firearm is cleared to be released from Property and Evidence back to the officer for duty purposes, the involved officer will ensure the weapon has been function-tested at the range prior to carrying it.

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### **305.12 MEDIA RELATIONS**

Any media release shall be prepared with input and concurrence from the supervisor and department representative responsible for each phase of the investigation. Releases will be available to the Patrol Lieutenant, Operations Division Commander and Public Information Officer in the event of inquiries from the media.

No involved APD officer shall make any comment to the media unless he/she is authorized by the Chief of Police or a Division Commander.

Department members receiving inquiries regarding officer-involved shootings or deaths occurring in other jurisdictions shall refrain from public comment and will direct those inquiries to the agency having jurisdiction and primary responsibility for the investigation.

## Excited Delirium

### 306.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Officers periodically come into contact with subjects exhibiting bizarre behavior. This behavior is often a result of alcohol intoxication, the influence of drugs, mental illness, uncontrolled anger, or a combination of these factors. However, in some cases bizarre behavior may be associated with a serious medical condition called excited delirium, which in some instances may be fatal.

The purpose of this policy is to assist officers to (1) identify subjects who are possibly in a state of excited delirium, (2) manage the situation in a manner that minimizes the risks to all those involved and (3) facilitate medical care for the subject as soon as practical.

#### 306.1.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this policy:

"Excited Delirium" means a sudden, abrupt display of exaggerated behavior. The subject becomes very agitated, possibly to the point of extreme violence. The affected subject often, but not always, engages others in a vigorous struggle and may end up dying suddenly regardless of intervention efforts by law enforcement or medical personnel.

#### 306.1.2 RECOGNIZING EXCITED DELIRIUM

- (a) Excited delirium may be caused by several factors including:
  - 1. Chronic drug use (particularly cocaine or methamphetamine abuse).
  - 2. Substance withdrawal.
  - 3. And/or mental illness.
- (b) The subject's ability to focus, sustain, or shift attention is impaired, and he/she is easily distracted.
- (c) The subject's speech may be rambling and incoherent, and it may be difficult or impossible to engage the subject in conversation.
- (d) The subject may also be disoriented, misinterpret perceptions, be delusional, and/or experience hallucinations.
- (e) Due to an elevated body temperature, many of these subjects remove one or more items of clothing, and they often appear impervious to pain.
- (f) A subject in an excited delirium state may exhibit one or more of the following:
  - 1. Physical characteristics.
    - Dilated pupils.
    - High body temperature (hyperthermia).
    - Sweating profusely.

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- Skin discoloration.
- Extremely agitated.
- 2. Behavioral cues.
  - Seemingly unlimited stamina.
  - Impervious to pain.
  - Intense paranoia.
  - Violent and/or bizarre behavior.
  - Attraction to glass, water or shiny objects.
  - Removing clothing.
  - Violently resists during control attempts.
  - Continues to resist after being restrained.
  - 1,000 yard stare.
  - Muscle rigidity.
  - Incoherent speech - guttural noises.
- (g) Persons exhibiting these symptoms may be at an increased risk of sudden death and should be examined by qualified medical personnel as soon as practicable.
- (h) Officers have neither the expertise nor the opportunity in these situations to diagnose the underlying cause of these symptoms and behaviors. However, recognition of these symptoms and behaviors may aid officers in deciding how to respond to the subject exhibiting them.

### 306.1.3 MANAGING EXCITED DELIRIUM

Once a dispatcher or officer concludes that a subject may be in an excited delirium state, the incident should be managed as a medical emergency, in addition to whatever other law enforcement response may be required under the circumstances, including the use of reasonable force.

### 306.1.4 COMMUNICATION CENTER'S ROLE

- (a) If a dispatcher believes, based upon information provided by the reporting party, that a subject involved in an incident may be in an excited delirium state, the dispatcher should forward that information as soon as possible to the responding officers.
- (b) When a dispatcher receives information that a subject involved in an incident may be in an excited delirium state the dispatcher:

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1. Should relay the information to the officers responding to the incident as soon as possible.
  2. Should request EMS when advised by the responding officers, whether or not they have arrived.
  3. Shall use the term "excited delirium" when requesting an EMS response from their dispatching authority
  4. Should advise EMS personnel to stage at a location a safe distance from the scene until notified by the officer that the scene is secure.
  5. Should inform responding officers that EMS is en-route and where they will be staged.
- (c) If possible, a minimum of two officers should be dispatched to the incident.

### 306.1.5 OFFICER'S ROLE

- (a) If officers responding to an incident conclude that a subject may be in an excited delirium state, officers should, as soon as practical, request EMS to respond.
- (b) If the subject involved or others at the scene pose a potential threat, officers should advise EMS to stage until the scene is secure.
- (c) If the subject does not appear to pose an immediate threat to the physical safety of officers or to other persons, or to him or herself, or pose an immediate threat of escape, officers should consider:
  1. containing the subject while maintaining a safe distance.
  2. remove others who might be harmed by the subject from the immediate area.
  3. gaining the subject's voluntary cooperation.
- (d) If the subject to be taken into custody is armed or combative, is attempting to escape custody or otherwise poses a threat to the physical safety of officers or to other persons, or to him or herself, officers may employ that amount of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect themselves and others at the scene and to take the subject into custody.
- (e) To the extent practical, efforts should be made to minimize the intensity and duration of the subject's resistance and to avoid engaging in a potentially prolonged struggle.
- (f) If circumstances allow, it may also be possible to limit the subject's resistance by employing an CED, and /or several officers simultaneously restraining the subject quickly.
- (g) Once the subject is in custody and the scene is safe, EMS personnel should be called to the scene.
- (h) The subjects breathing should be monitored and the person's position adjusted to maximize the ability to breathe until EMS assumes control of medical treatment.

## *Excited Delirium*

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- (i) The subject should be transported by ambulance to an emergency medical facility.

### 306.1.6 EMS'S ROLE

As soon as they are notified at the staging area that the scene is secure, EMS personnel will respond to the scene, evaluate the individual involved, administer appropriate care, and monitor the individual until he/she is delivered to an emergency medical facility.

# Firearms

## 307.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for issuing firearms, the safe and legal carrying of firearms, firearms maintenance, and firearms training.

This policy does not apply to issues related to the use of firearms that are addressed in the Use of Force or Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths policies.

This policy only applies to those members who are authorized to carry firearms.

## 307.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will equip its members with firearms to address the risks posed to the public and department members by violent and sometimes well-armed persons. The Department will ensure firearms are appropriate and in good working order and that relevant training is provided as resources allow.

## 307.3 AUTHORIZED FIREARMS, AMMUNITION, AND OTHER WEAPONS

Members shall only use firearms that are issued or approved by the Department and have been thoroughly inspected by the Rangemaster.

All other weapons not provided by the Department may not be carried by members in the performance of their official duties without the express written authorization of the member's Division Commander including but not limited to:

- (a) ~~Edged weapons.~~
- (b) Chemical or electronic weapons.
- (c) Impact weapons.
- (d) Any weapon prohibited, or restricted by law, or that is not covered elsewhere by department policy.

~~This exclusion does not apply to the carrying of a single folding pocketknife that is not otherwise prohibited by law.~~

### 307.3.1 HANDGUNS

The authorized department-issued handgun is the Glock 9mm.

### 307.3.2 SHOTGUNS

The authorized department-issued shotgun is the Mossberg 12 gauge.

When not deployed, the shotgun shall be properly secured consistent with department training in a locking weapons rack in the patrol vehicle.

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### 307.3.3 PATROL RIFLES

The authorized department-issued patrol rifle is the Daniel Defense DDM4 V7 SLW .223/5.56 caliber.

Members may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the member can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Situations where the member reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.
- (b) When a member is faced with a situation that may require accurate and effective fire at long range.
- (c) Situations where a member reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.
- (d) When a member reasonably believes that there may be a need to fire on a barricaded person or a person with a hostage.
- (e) When a member reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor.
- (f) When authorized or requested by a supervisor.
- (g) When needed to euthanize an animal.

When not deployed, the patrol rifle shall be properly secured consistent with department training in a locking weapons rack and/or in a case inside the department vehicle.

### 307.3.4 PERSONALLY OWNED DUTY FIREARMS

Members desiring to carry an authorized but personally owned duty firearm must receive written approval from the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. Once approved, personally owned duty firearms are subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) The firearm shall be in good working order and on the department list of approved firearms.
- (b) The firearm shall be inspected by the Rangemaster prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.
- (c) Prior to carrying the firearm, members shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the department qualification schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the firearm functions properly.
- (d) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of the firearm to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.

### 307.3.5 AUTHORIZED SECONDARY HANDGUN

Members desiring to carry department or personally owned secondary handguns are subject to the following restrictions:

- (a) The handgun shall be in good working order and on the department list of approved firearms.



## Firearms

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- (b) Only one secondary handgun may be carried at a time.
- (c) The purchase of the handgun and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member unless the handgun and ammunition are provided by the Department.
- (d) The handgun shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.
- (e) The handgun shall be inspected by the Rangemaster prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever it is deemed necessary.
- (f) Ammunition shall be the same as department issue. If the caliber of the handgun is other than department issue, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall approve the ammunition.
- (g) Prior to carrying the secondary handgun, members shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the department qualification schedule. Members must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the handgun functions properly.
- (h) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of a secondary handgun to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.

### 307.3.6 AUTHORIZED OFF-DUTY FIREARMS

The carrying of firearms by members while off-duty is permitted by the Chief of Police but may be rescinded should circumstances dictate (e.g., administrative leave). Members who choose to carry a firearm while off-duty, based on their authority as peace officers, will be required to meet the following guidelines:

- (a) A personally owned firearm shall be used, carried and inspected in accordance with the Personally Owned Duty Firearms requirements in this policy.
  - 1. The purchase of the personally owned firearm and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the member.
- (b) The firearm shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent unintentional cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.
- (c) It will be the responsibility of the member to submit the firearm to the Rangemaster for inspection prior to being personally carried. Thereafter the firearm shall be subject to periodic inspection by the Rangemaster.
- (d) Prior to carrying any off-duty firearm, the member shall demonstrate to the Rangemaster that he/she is proficient in handling and firing the firearm and that it will be carried in a safe manner.
- (e) The member will successfully qualify with the firearm prior to it being carried.
- (f) Members shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number and caliber of the firearm to the Rangemaster, who will maintain a list of the information.
- (g) If a member desires to use more than one firearm while off-duty, he/she may do so, as long as all requirements set forth in this policy for each firearm are met.

## *Firearms*

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- (h) Members shall only carry department-authorized ammunition.
- (i) When armed, officers shall carry their badge and Aberdeen Police Department identification card under circumstances requiring possession of such identification.

### **307.3.7 AMMUNITION**

Members shall carry only department-authorized ammunition. Members shall be issued fresh duty ammunition in the specified quantity for all department-issued firearms during the member's firearms qualification. Replacements for unserviceable or depleted ammunition issued by the Department shall be dispensed by the Rangemaster when needed, in accordance with established policy.

Members carrying personally owned authorized firearms of a caliber differing from department-issued firearms shall be responsible for obtaining fresh duty ammunition in accordance with the above, at their own expense.

### **307.4 EQUIPMENT**

Firearms carried on- or off-duty shall be maintained in a clean, serviceable condition. Maintenance and repair of authorized personally owned firearms are the responsibility of the individual member.

#### **307.4.1 REPAIRS OR MODIFICATIONS**

Each member shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned firearm to a supervisor or the Rangemaster.

Firearms that are the property of the Department or personally owned firearms that are approved for department use may be repaired or modified only by a person who is department-approved and certified as an armorer or gunsmith in the repair of the specific firearm. Such modification or repair must be authorized in advance by the Rangemaster.

Any repairs or modifications to the member's personally owned firearm shall be done at his/her expense and must be approved by the Rangemaster.

#### **307.4.2 HOLSTERS**

Only department-approved holsters shall be used and worn by members. Members shall periodically inspect their holsters to make sure they are serviceable and provide the proper security and retention of the handgun.

#### **307.4.3 TACTICAL LIGHTS**

Tactical lights may only be installed on a firearm carried on- or off-duty after they have been examined and approved by the Rangemaster. Once the approved tactical lights have been properly installed on any firearm, the member shall qualify with the firearm to ensure proper functionality and sighting of the firearm prior to carrying it.

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### **307.5 SAFE HANDLING, INSPECTION AND STORAGE**

Members shall maintain the highest level of safety when handling firearms and shall consider the following:

- (a) Members shall not unnecessarily display or handle any firearm.
- (b) Members shall be governed by all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the range and shall obey all orders issued by the Rangemaster. Members shall not dry fire or practice quick draws except as instructed by the Rangemaster or other firearms training staff.
- (c) Members shall not clean, repair, load or unload a firearm anywhere in the Department, except where clearing barrels are present.
- (d) Shotguns or rifles removed from vehicles or the equipment storage room shall be loaded and unloaded in the parking lot and outside of the vehicle, pointed in a safe direction.
- (e) Members shall not place or store any firearm or other weapon on department premises except where the place of storage is locked. No one shall carry firearms into the jail section or any part thereof when securing or processing an arrestee, but shall place all firearms in a secured location. Members providing access to the jail section to persons from outside agencies are responsible for ensuring firearms are not brought into the jail section.
- (f) Members shall not use any automatic firearm, heavy caliber rifle, gas or other type of chemical weapon or firearm from the armory, except with approval of a supervisor.
- (g) Any firearm authorized by the Department to be carried on- or off-duty that is determined by a member to be malfunctioning or in need of service or repair shall not be carried. It shall be promptly presented to the Department or a Rangemaster approved by the Department for inspection and repair. Any firearm deemed in need of repair or service by the Rangemaster will be immediately removed from service. If the firearm is the member's primary duty firearm, a replacement firearm will be issued to the member until the duty firearm is serviceable.

#### **307.5.1 INSPECTION AND STORAGE**

Handguns shall be inspected regularly and upon access or possession by another person. Shotguns and rifles shall be inspected at the beginning of the shift by the member to whom the weapon is issued. The member shall ensure that the firearm is carried in the proper condition and loaded with approved ammunition. Inspection of the shotgun and rifle shall be done while standing outside of the patrol vehicle. All firearms shall be pointed in a safe direction or into clearing barrels.

Personally owned firearms may be safely stored in lockers at the end of the shift. Department-owned firearms shall be stored in the appropriate equipment storage room. Handguns may remain loaded if they are secured in an appropriate holster. Shotguns and rifles shall be unloaded in a safe manner outside the building and then stored in the appropriate equipment storage room.

## Firearms

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### 307.5.2 STORAGE AT HOME

Members shall ensure that all firearms authorized by the department and ammunition are locked and secured while in their homes, vehicles or any other area under their control, and in a manner that will keep them inaccessible to children and others who should not have access. Members shall not permit department-issued firearms to be handled by anyone not authorized by the Department to do so. Members should be aware that negligent storage of a firearm could result in civil liability.

### 307.5.3 ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Firearms shall not be carried by any member, either on- or off-duty, who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage, taken any drugs or medication, or has taken any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the member's senses or judgment.

## 307.6 FIREARMS TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

All members who carry a firearm while on-duty are required to successfully complete training quarterly with their duty firearms. In addition to quarterly training, all members will qualify at least annually with their duty firearms. Members will qualify with off-duty and secondary firearms at least twice a year. Training and qualifications must be on an approved range course.

At least annually, all members carrying a firearm should receive practical training designed to simulate field situations including low-light shooting.

### 307.6.1 NON-CERTIFICATION OR NON-QUALIFICATION

If any member fails to meet minimum standards for firearms training or qualification for any reason, including injury, illness, duty status or scheduling conflict, that member shall submit a memorandum to his/her immediate supervisor prior to the end of the required training or qualification period.

Those who fail to meet minimum standards or qualify on their first shooting attempt shall be provided remedial training and will be subject to the following requirements:

- (a) Additional range assignments may be scheduled to assist the member in demonstrating consistent firearm proficiency.
- (b) Members shall be given credit for a range training or qualification when obtaining a qualifying score or meeting standards after remedial training.
- (c) No range credit will be given for the following:
  - 1. Unauthorized range make-up.
  - 2. Failure to meet minimum standards or qualify after remedial training.

Members who repeatedly fail to meet minimum standards will be removed from field assignment and may be subject to disciplinary action.

## 307.7 FIREARM DISCHARGE

Except during training or recreational use, any member who discharges a firearm intentionally or unintentionally, on- or off-duty, shall make a verbal report to his/her supervisor as soon as circumstances permit. If the discharge results in injury or death to another person, additional

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statements and reports shall be made in accordance with the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy. If a firearm was discharged as a use of force, the involved member shall adhere to the additional reporting requirements set forth in the Use of Force Policy.

In all other cases, written reports shall be made as follows:

- (a) If on-duty at the time of the incident, the member shall file a written report with his/her Division Commander or provide a recorded statement to investigators prior to the end of shift, unless otherwise directed.
- (b) If off-duty at the time of the incident, a written report shall be submitted or recorded statement provided no later than the end of the next regularly scheduled shift, unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

### **307.7.1 DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS**

Members are authorized to use firearms to stop an animal in circumstances where the animal reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to human safety and alternative methods are not reasonably available or would likely be ineffective.

In circumstances where there is sufficient advance notice that a potentially dangerous animal may be encountered, department members should develop reasonable contingency plans for dealing with the animal (e.g., fire extinguisher, CED, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, animal control officer). Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any member from shooting a dangerous animal if circumstances reasonably dictate that a contingency plan has failed or becomes impractical.

### **307.7.2 INJURED ANIMALS**

With the approval of a supervisor, a member may euthanize an animal that is so badly injured that human compassion requires its removal from further suffering and where other dispositions are impractical.

### **307.7.3 WARNING AND OTHER SHOTS**

Generally, warning shots or shots fired for the purpose of summoning aid are discouraged and may not be discharged unless the member reasonably believes that they appear necessary, effective and reasonably safe.

## **307.8 RANGEMASTER DUTIES**

The range will be under the exclusive control of the Rangemaster. All members attending will follow the directions of the Rangemaster. The Rangemaster will maintain a roster of all members attending the range and will submit the roster to the Training Coordinator after each range date. Failure of any officer to sign in and out with the Rangemaster may result in non-participation or non-qualification.

The range shall remain operational and accessible to department members during hours established by the Department.

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The Rangemaster has the responsibility of making periodic inspections, at least once a year, of all duty weapons carried by officers of this department to verify proper operation. The Rangemaster has the authority to deem any department-issued or personally owned firearm unfit for service. The member will be responsible for all repairs to his/her personally owned firearm; it will not be returned to service until inspected and approved by the Rangemaster.

The Rangemaster has the responsibility for ensuring each member meets the minimum requirements during training shoots and, on at least a yearly basis, can demonstrate proficiency in the care, cleaning and safety of all firearms the member is authorized to carry.

The Rangemaster shall complete and submit to the Training Coordinator documentation of the training courses provided. Documentation shall include the qualifications of each instructor who provides the training, a description of the training provided and, on a form that has been approved by the Department, a list of each member who completes the training. The Rangemaster should keep accurate records of all training shoots, qualifications, repairs, maintenance or other records as directed by the Training Coordinator.

### **307.9 FLYING WHILE ARMED**

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has imposed rules governing law enforcement officers flying armed on commercial aircraft. The following requirements apply to officers who intend to be armed while flying on a commercial air carrier or flights where screening is conducted (49 CFR 1544.219):

- (a) Officers wishing to fly while armed must be flying in an official capacity, not for vacation or pleasure, and must have a need to have the firearm accessible, as determined by the Department based on the law and published TSA rules.
- (b) Officers must carry their Aberdeen Police Department identification card, bearing the officer's name, a full-face photograph, identification number, the officer's signature and the signature of the Chief of Police or the official seal of the Department and must present this identification to airline officials when requested. The officer should also carry the standard photo identification needed for passenger screening by airline and TSA officials (e.g., driver license, passport).
- (c) The Aberdeen Police Department must submit a National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) message prior to the officer's travel. If approved, TSA will send the Aberdeen Police Department an NLETS message containing a unique alphanumeric identifier. The officer must present the message on the day of travel to airport personnel as authorization to travel while armed.
- (d) An official letter signed by the Chief of Police authorizing armed travel may also accompany the officer. The letter should outline the officer's need to fly armed, detail his/her itinerary, and include that the officer has completed the mandatory TSA training for a law enforcement officer flying while armed.
- (e) Officers must have completed the mandated TSA security training covering officers flying while armed. The training shall be given by the department-appointed instructor.

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- (f) It is the officer's responsibility to notify the air carrier in advance of the intended armed travel. This notification should be accomplished by early check-in at the carrier's check-in counter.
- (g) Any officer flying while armed should discreetly contact the flight crew prior to take-off and notify them of his/her assigned seat.
- (h) Discretion must be used to avoid alarming passengers or crew by displaying a firearm. The officer must keep the firearm concealed on his/her person at all times. Firearms are not permitted in carry-on luggage and may not be stored in an overhead compartment.
- (i) Officers should try to resolve any problems associated with flying armed through the flight captain, ground security manager, TSA representative or other management representative of the air carrier.
- (j) Officers shall not consume alcoholic beverages while aboard an aircraft, or within eight hours prior to boarding an aircraft.

### **307.10 CARRYING FIREARMS OUT OF STATE**

Qualified, active, full-time officers of this department are authorized to carry a concealed firearm in all other states subject to the following conditions (18 USC § 926B):

- (a) The officer shall carry his/her Aberdeen Police Department identification card whenever carrying such firearm.
- (b) The officer is not the subject of any current disciplinary action.
- (c) The officer may not be under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating or hallucinatory drug.
- (d) The officer will remain subject to this and all other department policies (including qualifying and training).

Officers are cautioned that individual states may enact local regulations that permit private persons or entities to prohibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms on their property, or that prohibit or restrict the possession of firearms on any state or local government property, installation, building, base or park. Federal authority may not shield an officer from arrest and prosecution in such locally restricted areas.

Active permits from other states are subject to all requirements set forth in 18 USC § 926B.

# Vehicle Pursuits

## 308.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for vehicle pursuits in order to protect the safety of involved officers, the public, and fleeing suspects.

### 308.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Blocking or vehicle intercept** - A slow-speed coordinated maneuver where two or more pursuing vehicles simultaneously intercept and block the movement of a suspect vehicle, the driver of which may be unaware of the impending enforcement stop. The goal is containment and preventing a pursuit. Blocking is not a moving or stationary roadblock.

**Boxing-in** - A tactic designed to stop a suspect's vehicle by surrounding it with law enforcement vehicles and then slowing all vehicles to a stop.

**Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)** - A low-speed maneuver designed to cause the suspect vehicle to spin out, stall, and come to a stop.

**Ramming** - The deliberate act of contacting a suspect's vehicle with another law enforcement vehicle to functionally damage or otherwise force the suspect's vehicle to stop.

**Roadblocks** - A tactic designed to stop a suspect's vehicle by intentionally placing a law enforcement vehicle or other immovable object in the path of the suspect's vehicle.

**Terminate** - To discontinue a pursuit or stop chasing fleeing vehicles.

**Tire deflation device** - A device designed to puncture the tires of the pursued vehicle.

**Trail** - Following the path of the pursuit at a safe speed while obeying all traffic laws and without activating emergency equipment. If the pursuit is at a slow rate of speed, the trailing vehicle will maintain sufficient distance from the pursuit vehicles so as to clearly indicate an absence of participation in the pursuit.

**Vehicle pursuit** - An event involving one or more law enforcement officers attempting to apprehend a suspect, who is attempting to avoid arrest while operating a vehicle by using high-speed driving or other evasive tactics, such as driving off a highway, turning suddenly, or driving in a legal manner but willfully failing to yield to an officer's emergency signal to stop (RCW 10.116.060).

## 308.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to weigh the importance of apprehending suspects who unlawfully flee from law enforcement against the risks associated with vehicle pursuits.



## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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### **308.3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Vehicle pursuits shall only be conducted using authorized police department emergency vehicles that are equipped with and displaying emergency lighting and sirens as required by law.

Officers shall drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property. However, officers may, when in pursuit of a suspect and provided there is no unreasonable risk to persons and property (RCW 46.61.035):

- (a) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.
- (b) Exceed the speed limit.
- (c) Disregard regulations governing parking, direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

#### **308.3.1 WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT**

Officers are not authorized to initiate a pursuit unless authorized by a supervisor and the following criteria exists (RCW 10.116.060):

- (a) Either:
  - 1. There is probable cause to believe that a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing a violent offense or sex offense as defined in RCW 9A.030 or an escape under Chapter 9A.76 RCW; or
  - 2. There is reasonable suspicion that a person in the vehicle has committed or is committing an impaired driving offense under RCW 46.61.502.
- (b) The pursuit is necessary for the purpose of identifying or apprehending the person.
- (c) The person poses an imminent threat to the safety of others and the safety risks of failing to apprehend or identify the person is considered to be greater than the safety risks of the vehicle pursuit under the circumstances.

The officer requesting authorization and the supervisor shall consider alternatives to initiating a vehicle pursuit as well as safety considerations (RCW 10.116.060).

#### **308.3.2 WHEN TO TERMINATE A PURSUIT**

Pursuits should be terminated whenever the totality of objective circumstances known or which reasonably ought to be known to the officer or supervisor during the pursuit indicates that the present risks of continuing the pursuit reasonably appear to outweigh the risks resulting from the suspect's escape.

When a supervisor directs the pursuit to be terminated, officers will immediately terminate the pursuit.

The factors listed in this policy on when to initiate a pursuit will apply equally to the decision to terminate a pursuit. Officers and supervisors must objectively and continuously weigh the seriousness of the offense against the potential danger to innocent motorists, themselves and the public when electing to continue a pursuit.

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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In addition to the factors that govern when to initiate a pursuit, other factors should be considered in deciding whether to terminate a pursuit, including:

- (a) The distance between the pursuing vehicle and the fleeing vehicle is so great that further pursuit would be futile or require the pursuit to continue for an unreasonable time or distance.
- (b) The pursued vehicle's location is no longer definitely known.
- (c) The pursuing vehicle sustains damage or a mechanical failure that renders it unsafe to drive.
- (d) The pursuing vehicle's emergency lighting equipment or siren becomes partially or completely inoperable.
- (e) Hazards to uninvolved bystanders or motorists.
- (f) The danger that the continued pursuit poses to the public, the officers or the suspect, balanced against the risk of allowing the suspect to remain at large.
- (g) The identity of the suspect is known and it does not reasonably appear that the need for immediate capture outweighs the risks associated with continuing the pursuit.
- (h) Extended pursuits of violators for misdemeanors not involving violence or weapons (independent of the pursuit) are generally discouraged.

### 308.3.3 VEHICLE PURSUIT FACTORS

Factors that shall be considered, both individually and collectively, when deciding to initiate or continue a pursuit include but are not limited to (RCW 10.116.060):

- (a) The seriousness of the known or reasonably suspected crime and its relationship to community safety.
- (b) The importance of protecting the public and balancing the known or reasonably suspected offense and the apparent need for immediate capture against the risks to officers, innocent motorists, and others.
- (c) The safety of the public in the area of the pursuit, including the type of area, time of day, the amount of vehicular and pedestrian traffic (e.g., school zones), and the speed of the pursuit relative to these factors.
- (d) The pursuing officers' familiarity with the area of the pursuit, the quality of radio communications between the pursuing vehicles and the dispatcher/supervisor, and the driving capabilities of the pursuing officers under the conditions of the pursuit.
- (e) Whether weather, traffic, and road conditions unreasonably increase the danger of the pursuit when weighed against the risks resulting from the suspect's escape.
- (f) Whether the identity of the suspect has been verified and whether there is comparatively minimal risk in allowing the suspect to be apprehended at a later time.
- (g) The performance capabilities of the vehicles used in the pursuit in relation to the speed and other conditions of the pursuit.
- (h) Emergency lighting and siren limitations on unmarked police department vehicles that may reduce visibility of the vehicle, such as visor or dash-mounted lights,

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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concealable or temporary emergency lighting equipment, and concealed or obstructed siren positioning.

- (i) Vehicle speeds.
- (j) Other persons in or on the pursued vehicle (e.g., minors, passengers, co-offenders, hostages).
- (k) The availability of other resources, such as air support assistance.
- (l) Whether the pursuing vehicle is carrying passengers other than on-duty police officers. Pursuits should not be undertaken with an arrestee in the pursuit vehicle unless exigent circumstances exist, and then only after the need to apprehend the suspect is weighed against the safety of the arrestee in transport. A vehicle containing more than a single arrestee should not be involved in a pursuit.

### **308.4 PURSUIT VEHICLES**

When involved in a pursuit, unmarked police department emergency vehicles should be replaced by marked emergency vehicles whenever practicable.

Vehicle pursuits should be limited to three police department emergency vehicles (two pursuit vehicles and the supervisor vehicle). However, the number of vehicles involved will vary with the circumstances.

An officer or supervisor may request that additional vehicles join a pursuit if, after assessing the factors outlined above, it appears that the number of officers involved would be insufficient to safely arrest the number of suspects. All other officers shall stay out of the pursuit but should remain alert to its progress and location. Any officer who drops out of a pursuit may then, if necessary, proceed to the pursuit termination point at legal speeds, following the appropriate rules of the road.

#### **308.4.1 MOTORCYCLES**

When involved in a pursuit, police department motorcycles should be replaced by marked emergency vehicles as soon as practicable.

#### **308.4.2 VEHICLES WITHOUT EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**

Officers operating vehicles not equipped with emergency lights and siren are prohibited from initiating or joining in any pursuit. Officers in such vehicles may provide support to pursuing vehicles as long as the vehicle is operated in compliance with all traffic laws. Those officers should discontinue such support immediately upon arrival of a sufficient number of authorized emergency police department vehicles or any air support.

#### **308.4.3 PRIMARY PURSUIT VEHICLE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The initial pursuing officer will be designated as the primary pursuit vehicle and will be responsible for the conduct of the pursuit unless he/she is unable to remain reasonably close to the suspect's vehicle. The primary responsibility of the officer initiating the pursuit is the apprehension of the suspect without unreasonable danger to him/herself or others.

## *Vehicle Pursuits*

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The primary pursuing officer should notify the dispatcher, commencing with a request for priority radio traffic, that a vehicle pursuit has been initiated, and as soon as practicable provide information including, but not limited to:

- (a) The location, direction of travel and estimated speed of the suspect's vehicle.
- (b) The description of the suspect's vehicle including the license plate number, if known.
- (c) The reason for the pursuit.
- (d) The use of firearms, threat of force, violence, injuries, hostages or other unusual hazards.
- (e) The number of occupants and identity or description.
- (f) The weather, road and traffic conditions.
- (g) The need for any additional resources or equipment.
- (h) The identity of other law enforcement agencies involved in the pursuit.

Until relieved by a supervisor or a secondary pursuing officer, the officer in the primary pursuit vehicle shall be responsible for broadcasting the progress of the pursuit. Unless circumstances reasonably indicate otherwise, the primary pursuing officer should, as soon as practicable, relinquish the responsibility of broadcasting the progress of the pursuit to an officer in a secondary pursuit vehicle or to air support joining the pursuit to minimize distractions and allow the primary pursuing officer to concentrate foremost on safe pursuit tactics.

### **308.4.4 SECONDARY PURSUIT VEHICLE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The second officer in the pursuit will be designated as the secondary pursuit vehicle and is responsible for:

- (a) Immediately notifying the dispatcher of his/her entry into the pursuit.
- (b) Remaining a safe distance behind the primary pursuit vehicle unless directed to assume the role of primary pursuit vehicle or if the primary pursuit vehicle is unable to continue the pursuit.
- (c) Broadcasting information that the primary pursuing officer is unable to provide.
- (d) Broadcasting the progress of the pursuit, updating known or critical information and providing changes in the pursuit, unless the situation indicates otherwise.
- (e) Identifying the need for additional resources or equipment as appropriate.
- (f) Serving as backup to the primary pursuing officer once the suspect has been stopped.

### **308.5 PURSUIT DRIVING**

The decision to use specific driving tactics requires the same assessment of the factors the officer considered when determining whether to initiate and/or terminate a pursuit. The following are tactics for officers who are involved in the pursuit:

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- (a) Officers, considering their driving skills and vehicle performance capabilities, will space themselves from other involved vehicles such that they are able to see and avoid hazards or react safely to unusual maneuvers by the fleeing vehicle.
- (b) Because intersections can present increased risks, the following tactics should be considered:
  - 1. Available officers not directly involved in the pursuit may proceed safely to controlled intersections ahead of the pursuit in an effort to warn cross traffic.
  - 2. Pursuing officers should exercise due caution and slow down as may be necessary when proceeding through controlled intersections.
- (c) As a general rule, officers should not pursue a vehicle driving the wrong direction on a roadway, highway or freeway. In the event the pursued vehicle does so, the following tactics should be considered:
  - 1. Request assistance from available air support.
  - 2. Maintain visual contact with the pursued vehicle by paralleling the vehicle while driving on the correct side of the roadway.
  - 3. Request other officers to observe exits available to the suspect.
- (d) Notify the Washington State Patrol or other law enforcement agency if it appears that the pursuit may enter its jurisdiction.
- (e) Officers involved in a pursuit should not attempt to pass other pursuing vehicles unless the situation indicates otherwise or they are requested to do so by the pursuing officer and with a clear understanding of the maneuver process between the involved officers.

### 308.5.1 PURSUIT TRAILING

In the event that initial pursuing officers relinquish control of the pursuit to another agency, the initial officers may, with the permission of a supervisor, trail the pursuit to the termination point in order to provide information and assistance for the arrest of the suspect and reporting the incident.

### 308.5.2 AIR SUPPORT ASSISTANCE

When available, air support assistance should be requested. Once the air support crew has established visual contact with the pursued vehicle, they should assume communication control over the pursuit. The primary and secondary ground pursuit vehicles, or involved supervisor, will maintain operational control but should consider whether the participation of air support warrants their continued close proximity and/or involvement in the pursuit.

The air support crew should coordinate the activities of resources on the ground, report progress of the pursuit, and provide officers and supervisors with details of upcoming traffic congestion, road hazards or other pertinent information to evaluate whether to continue the pursuit. If officers on the ground are not within visual contact of the pursued vehicle and the air support crew determines that it is unsafe to continue the pursuit, the air support crew should recommend terminating the pursuit.

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### **308.5.3 OFFICERS NOT INVOLVED IN THE PURSUIT**

Officers who are not involved in the pursuit should remain in their assigned areas, should not parallel the pursuit route and should not become involved with the pursuit unless directed otherwise by a supervisor. Uninvolved officers are authorized to use emergency equipment at intersections along the pursuit path to clear intersections of vehicular and pedestrian traffic to protect the public. Those officers should attempt to place their vehicles in locations that provide some safety or an escape route in the event of an unintended collision or if the suspect intentionally tries to ram the police department vehicle.

Non-pursuing members needed at the pursuit termination point should respond in a nonemergency manner, observing the rules of the road.

The primary pursuit vehicle, secondary pursuit vehicle and supervisor vehicle should be the only vehicles operating under emergency conditions (emergency lights and siren) unless other officers are assigned to the pursuit.

### **308.6 SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Available supervisory and management control will be exercised over all vehicle pursuits involving officers from this department (RCW 10.116.060).

The field supervisor of the officer initiating the pursuit, or if unavailable, the nearest field supervisor, will be responsible for:

- (a) Immediately notifying involved officers and the dispatcher of supervisory presence and ascertaining all reasonably available information to continuously assess the situation and risk factors associated with the pursuit. This is to ensure that the pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.
- (b) Engaging in the pursuit, when appropriate, to provide on-scene supervision.
- (c) Exercising management and control of the pursuit even if not engaged in it.
- (d) Ensuring that no more than the required law enforcement vehicles are involved in the pursuit under the guidelines set forth in this policy.
- (e) Directing that the pursuit be terminated if, in the field supervisor's judgment, it is not justified to continue the pursuit under the guidelines of this policy.
- (f) Ensuring that assistance from air support, canines, or additional resources is requested, if available and appropriate.
- (g) Ensuring that the proper radio channel is being used.
- (h) Ensuring that the Patrol Lieutenant is notified of the pursuit, as soon as practicable.
- (i) Ensuring the notification and/or coordination of outside agencies if the pursuit either leaves or is likely to leave the jurisdiction of this department.
- (j) Controlling and managing Aberdeen Police Department officers when a pursuit enters another jurisdiction.
- (k) Preparing a post-pursuit review and documentation of the pursuit as required.

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### **308.6.1 PATROL LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon becoming aware that a pursuit has been initiated, if on duty, the Patrol Lieutenant should monitor and continually assess the situation and ensure the pursuit is conducted within the guidelines and requirements of this policy. The Patrol Lieutenant has the final responsibility for the coordination, control and termination of a vehicle pursuit and shall be in overall command.

The Patrol Lieutenant shall review all pertinent reports for content and forward them to the Division Commander.

### **308.7 GRAYS HARBOR COMMUNICATIONS**

If the pursuit is confined within the City limits, radio communications will be conducted on the primary channel unless instructed otherwise by a supervisor or dispatcher. If the pursuit leaves the jurisdiction of this department or such is imminent, involved officers should, whenever available, switch radio communications to a tactical or emergency channel most accessible by participating agencies.

#### **308.7.1 SPIKE STRIP**

Use of the spike strip gives officers an alternative method of stopping fleeing felons without using deadly force. It assists in eliminating potentially long distance and dangerous pursuits while providing a safe and effective manner of minimizing risk to other motorists and law enforcement.

#### **308.7.2 UTILIZATION**

- (a) Familiarization training is mandatory before an officer is authorized to utilize the spike strip.
- (b) Heavy leather gloves or better should be worn while handling the spike strip.
- (c) The spike strip WILL NOT be used on motorcycles unless the circumstances of the situation would constitute the use of deadly force as specified in policy §.
- (d) The spoke strip should not be used in an area which increases the risk of serious injury to the strip operator, the public, or the violator (heavy traffic area, steep embankments, roadways next to rivers with no separation between them).
- (e) If deployed on two-way roadways, the spike strip should only be used after oncoming traffic has been stopped a safe distance from the actual spike strip deployment site.
- (f) The spike strip will only be utilized upon approval of the shift supervisor or higher ranking officer.
- (g) The utilizing officer will make every effort to ensure the safety of any citizens or other law enforcement personnel that may be in the area or assisting in the apprehension.

### **Use of Hollow Spike Strip System:**

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- (a) If time permits, a coordinated decision as to where the spike strip will be utilized should occur between the shift OIC, spike strip operator and pursuing units.
- (b) The officer operating the spike strip must have radio contact with the pursuing officers.
- (c) If needed, patrol vehicles, traffic cones, fuses or similar devices should be used to direct the fleeing vehicle toward the desired direction of travel.
- (d) At no time will the fleeing vehicle be denied avenues of escape other than through the spike strip system. There will be no full roadblocks forcing the fleeing vehicle to make contact with other vehicles or stationary objects thereby enhancing the chance of injury to all involved.
- (e) The operator should lay the spike strip out on the ground in such a manner that the spikes are directed toward the fleeing vehicle.
- (f) Through radio communications, the pursuing officer will keep personnel informed of the following:
  - 1. The fleeing vehicles location and direction of travel by milepost cross streets, block number, etc.
  - 2. The fleeing vehicles speed and erratic driving habits.
  - 3. The number of occupants in the fleeing vehicle and whether weapons are involved.
  - 4. Exits or escape routes that need to be blocked.
  - 5. Other pertinent information related to the pursuit.
- (g) Approaching the spike strip, pursuing officers and the spike strip operator must communicate. Pursuing officers must be made aware of when to decelerate the pursuit in order to allow the spike strip to be removed from the roadway so as not to damage their vehicles.
- (h) When the fleeing vehicle approaches, the operator will pull the spike strip onto the roadway surface and let go of the rope in case the rope jumps when the suspect vehicles passes over it.
- (i) If a situation arises whereby a citizen's vehicle is involved within the pursuit and it appears the citizen vehicle and the suspect vehicle will make imminent contact with the spike strip once the strip is deployed, you are authorized to activate the strip. The shift OIC will be notified as soon as practical with information identifying the citizen vehicle. An officer will be assigned immediately to make contact with the citizen to determine their welfare and explain the situation. The officer will assist in caring for the disabled vehicle (towing, tire repair or replacement). The citizen will be provided with the Police Chief's name and information on how to contact the Chief's office.
- (j) Request by another agency to use the Aberdeen Police Department spike strip system within the cities jurisdiction will be authorized by the shift OIC or higher ranking officer.
- (k) If used within the Aberdeen Police Department's jurisdiction for an outside agency, Aberdeen officers will be in charge of its use and adhere to this policy while coordinating with the requesting agency. The Aberdeen Police Department's spike



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strip will not be loaned to officers from another agency. If another agency requests the use of the Aberdeen Police Department's spike strip outside our jurisdiction, the OIC or higher must determine if its use is warranted. If authorized, the shift OIC will assign an Aberdeen officer to conduct the spike strip utilization using Aberdeen Police Department guidelines and policy for use.

- (I) Whenever the spike strip is deployed, an action report from the senior officer authorizing the use of the strip will be completed and forwarded to the Deputy Chief of Police through the Operations Commander.

### **308.8 LOSS OF PURSUED VEHICLE**

When the pursued vehicle is lost, the involved officers should broadcast pertinent information to assist other officers in locating the vehicle. The primary pursuing officer or supervisor will be responsible for coordinating any further search for either the pursued vehicle or suspects fleeing on foot.

### **308.9 INTERJURISDICTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

When a pursuit enters another agency's jurisdiction, the primary pursuing officer or supervisor, taking into consideration the distance traveled, unfamiliarity with the area and other pertinent facts, should determine whether to request the other agency to assume the pursuit.

Unless entry into another jurisdiction is expected to be brief, it is generally recommended that the primary pursuing officer or supervisor ensure that notification is provided to each outside jurisdiction into which the pursuit is reasonably expected to enter, regardless of whether the jurisdiction is expected to assist.

#### **308.9.1 ASSUMPTION OF PURSUIT BY ANOTHER AGENCY**

Officers will relinquish control of the pursuit when another agency has assumed the pursuit, unless the continued assistance of the Aberdeen Police Department is requested by the agency assuming the pursuit. Upon relinquishing control of the pursuit, the involved officers may proceed, with supervisory approval, to the termination point of the pursuit to assist in the investigation. The supervisor should coordinate such assistance with the assuming agency and obtain any information that is necessary for any reports.

The roles and responsibilities of officers at the termination point of a pursuit initiated by this department shall be coordinated with appropriate consideration of the needs of the agency assuming the pursuit.

Notification of a pursuit in progress should not be construed as a request to join the pursuit. Requests to or from another agency to assume a pursuit should be specific. Because of communication limitations between local law enforcement agencies, a request for another agency's assistance will mean that its personnel will assume responsibility for the pursuit. For the same reasons, when a pursuit leaves another jurisdiction and a request for assistance is made to this department, the other agency should relinquish control.

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### **308.9.2 PURSUITS EXTENDING INTO THIS JURISDICTION**

The agency that initiates a pursuit shall be responsible for conducting the pursuit. Officers from this department should not join a pursuit unless specifically requested to do so by the pursuing agency and with approval from a supervisor. The exception to this is when a single vehicle from the initiating agency is in pursuit. Under this circumstance, an officer from this department may, with supervisor approval, immediately join the pursuit until sufficient vehicles from the initiating agency join the pursuit or until additional information is provided allowing withdrawal from the pursuit.

When a request is made for this department to assist or take over a pursuit that has entered the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department, the supervisor should consider:

- (a) The public's safety within this jurisdiction.
- (b) The safety of the pursuing officers.
- (c) Whether the circumstances are serious enough to continue the pursuit.
- (d) Whether there is adequate staffing to continue the pursuit.
- (e) The ability to maintain the pursuit.

As soon as practicable, a supervisor or the Patrol Lieutenant should review a request for assistance from another agency. The Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor, after considering the above factors, may decline to assist in or assume the other agency's pursuit.

Assistance to a pursuing agency by officers of this department will conclude at the City limits, provided that the pursuing agency has sufficient assistance from other sources. Ongoing participation from this department may continue only until sufficient assistance is present.

In the event that the termination point of a pursuit from another agency is within this jurisdiction, officers shall provide appropriate assistance including, but not limited to, scene control, coordination and completion of supplemental reports and any other assistance requested or needed.

### **308.10 PURSUIT INTERVENTION**

Pursuit intervention is an attempt to stop the suspect's ability to continue to flee in a vehicle through tactical application of technology, tire deflation devices, blocking or vehicle intercept, boxing-in, the PIT, ramming or roadblock procedures.

#### **308.10.1 WHEN USE IS AUTHORIZED**

Whenever practicable, an officer shall seek approval from a supervisor before employing any intervention to stop the pursued vehicle. In deciding whether to use intervention tactics, officers/supervisors should balance the risk of allowing the pursuit to continue with the potential hazards arising from the use of each tactic to the public, the officers and persons in or on the pursued vehicle. With this in mind, the decision to use any intervention tactic should be reasonable in light of the circumstances apparent to the officer at the time of the decision.

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### 308.10.2 USE OF FIREARMS

The use of firearms to disable a pursued vehicle is not generally an effective tactic and involves all the dangers associated with discharging firearms. Officers should not utilize firearms during an ongoing pursuit unless the conditions and circumstances meet the requirements authorizing the use of deadly force. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any officer from using a firearm to stop a suspect from using a vehicle as a deadly weapon (see the Use of Force Policy).

### 308.10.3 INTERVENTION STANDARDS

Any intervention tactic, depending upon the conditions and circumstances under which it is used, may present dangers to the officers, the public, or anyone in or on the vehicle being pursued. Certain applications of intervention tactics may be construed to be a use of force, including deadly force, and are subject to policies guiding such use. Officers shall consider these facts and requirements prior to deciding how, when, where, and if an intervention tactic should be employed.

- (a) Blocking or vehicle intercept should only be considered in cases involving felony suspects or impaired drivers who pose a threat to the public's safety, and when officers reasonably believe that attempting a conventional enforcement stop will likely result in the driver attempting to flee in the vehicle. Because of the potential risks involved, this intervention tactic should only be employed by properly trained officers and after giving consideration to the following:
  - 1. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle or prevent it from leaving substantially outweighs the risk of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, officers, or others.
  - 2. All other reasonable intervention tactics have failed or reasonably appear ineffective.
  - 3. Employing the blocking or vehicle intercept maneuver does not unreasonably increase the risk of danger to those involved or the public.
  - 4. The suspect vehicle is stopped or traveling at a low speed.
  - 5. Only law enforcement vehicles should be used in this tactic.
- (b) The PIT is limited to use by properly trained officers with the approval of a supervisor and upon assessment of the circumstances and conditions presented at the time, including the potential for risk of injury to officers, the public, and occupants of the pursued vehicle.
- (c) Ramming a fleeing vehicle should be done only after other reasonable tactical means at the officer's disposal have been exhausted or would not be effective, and immediate control is necessary. Ramming should be reserved for situations where there does not appear to be another reasonable alternative method. If there does not reasonably appear to be a present or immediately foreseeable serious threat to the public, the use of ramming is not authorized. When ramming is used as a means to stop a fleeing vehicle, the following factors should be present:
  - 1. The suspect is an actual or suspected felon, who reasonably appears to represent a serious threat to the public if not apprehended.

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2. The suspect is driving with willful or wanton disregard for the safety of other persons or is driving in a reckless and life-endangering manner or using the vehicle as a weapon.
- (d) Boxing-in a suspect vehicle should only be attempted upon approval by a supervisor. The use of such a tactic must be carefully coordinated with all involved vehicles, taking into consideration the circumstances and conditions apparent at the time, as well as the potential risk of injury to officers, the public, and occupants of the pursued vehicle. Officers and supervisors should weigh the potential consequences against the need to immediately stop the vehicle.
- (e) Tire deflation devices should be deployed only after notification of pursuing officers and the supervisor of the intent and location of the intended deployment, and in a manner that:
  1. Should reasonably only affect the pursued vehicle.
  2. Provides the deploying officer adequate cover and escape from intentional or unintentional exposure to the approaching vehicle.
  3. Takes into account the limitations of such devices as well as the potential risk to officers, the public, and occupants of the pursued vehicle.
  4. Takes into account whether the pursued vehicle is a motorcycle, a vehicle transporting hazardous materials, or a school bus transporting children.
- (f) Because roadblocks involve a potential for serious injury or death to occupants of the pursued vehicle if the suspect does not stop, the intentional placement of roadblocks in the direct path of a pursued vehicle is generally discouraged and should not be deployed without prior approval of a supervisor. If roadblocks are deployed, it should only be done under extraordinary conditions when all other reasonable intervention tactics have failed or reasonably appear ineffective and the need to immediately stop the pursued vehicle substantially outweighs the risks of injury or death to occupants of the pursued vehicle, officers, or the public.

### **308.11 CAPTURE OF SUSPECTS**

Proper self-discipline and sound professional judgment are the keys to a successful conclusion of a pursuit and apprehension of evading suspects. Officers shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and circumstances perceived by the officer at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

Unless relieved by a supervisor, the primary pursuing officer should coordinate efforts to apprehend the suspect following the pursuit. Officers should consider the safety of the public and the involved officers when formulating plans for setting up perimeters or for containing and capturing the suspect.

### **308.12 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

All appropriate reports shall be completed to comply with appropriate laws and policies or procedures.

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- (a) The primary pursuing officer shall complete appropriate crime/arrest reports.
- (b) The primary pursuing officer or supervisor shall complete the appropriate pursuit report.
- (c) After first obtaining the available information, the involved, or if unavailable, on-duty field supervisor shall promptly complete a supervisor's log or interoffice memorandum, briefly summarizing the pursuit to the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. This log or memorandum should include, at a minimum:
  - 1. Date and time of the pursuit.
  - 2. Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the pursuit.
  - 3. Length of pursuit in distance and time, including the starting and termination points.
  - 4. Involved vehicles and officers.
  - 5. Alleged offenses.
  - 6. Whether a suspect was apprehended, as well as the means and methods used.
    - (a) Any use of force shall be reported and documented in compliance with the Use of Force Policy.
  - 7. Arrestee information, if applicable.
  - 8. Any injuries and/or medical treatment.
  - 9. Any property or equipment damage.
  - 10. Name of supervisor at the scene or who handled the incident.
  - 11. A preliminary determination that the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy or that additional review and/or follow-up is warranted.
- (d) After receiving copies of reports, logs and other pertinent information, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall conduct or assign the completion of a post-pursuit review, as appropriate.
- (e) Annually, the Chief of Police should direct a documented review and analysis of department vehicle pursuits to minimally include policy suitability, policy compliance and training needs.

### **308.13 REGULAR AND PERIODIC PURSUIT TRAINING**

In addition to initial and supplementary training on pursuits, all officers will participate, no less than annually, in regular and periodic training addressing this policy and the importance of vehicle safety and protecting the public. Training will include recognition of the need to balance the known offense and the need for immediate capture against the risks to officers and others.

### **308.14 POLICY REVIEW**

Officers of this department shall certify in writing that they have received, read and understand this policy initially, upon any amendments and whenever training on the policy is provided.

# Officer Response to Calls

## 309.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides officers with guidelines for the safe and appropriate vehicular response to emergency and non-emergency incidents or requests for assistance, whether these are dispatched or self-initiated.

## 309.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to appropriately respond to emergency and non-emergency calls for service or requests for assistance, whether these are dispatched or self-initiated.

### 309.2.1 EMERGENCY CODE-3 CALLS DEFINITION

Emergency Code-3 type calls should be considered emergency response calls where the request for immediate police assistance is needed to save a life or to prevent a victim from sustaining serious injuries and are classified as a felony in progress, serious auto accident, an officer's call for emergency assistance, and all other situations in which human life is in peril and the police have the prime responsibility.

### 309.2.2 AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE OPERATION

- (a) When responding to Code-3 emergency calls, the officer shall proceed with the use of emergency lights and siren and shall be governed by RCW 46.61.035.
- (b) RCW 46.61.035:
  - 1. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section, but subject to the conditions herein stated.
  - 2. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:
  - 3. Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter.
  - 4. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.
  - 5. Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as he does not endanger life or property.
  - 6. Disregard regulations governing direction of movement turning in specified directions.
  - 7. The exemptions herein granted to an authorized emergency vehicle shall apply only when such vehicle is making use of visual signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, except that

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- (a) An authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a red light visible from in front of the vehicle.
  - (b) Authorized emergency vehicles shall use audible signals when necessary to warn others of the emergency nature of the situation, but in no case shall they be required to use audible signals while parked or standing.
- 8. The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of this reckless disregard for the safety of others.

### 309.2.3 USE OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Such police vehicles, authorized by statute as an "Emergency Vehicle", shall be operated in a manner that does not endanger lives and property when responding to calls of an emergency nature. When responding to an emergency call, or when in pursuit of a fleeing vehicle, the member shall have in operation his blue lights and siren.

- (a) When use of the siren may alarm suspects engaging in the commission of a crime, it is not required. However, particular note must be made of Policy §316.2.2.B(8).

## 309.3 RESPONSE TO CALLS

Officers responding to non-emergency calls shall proceed accordingly, unless they are sent or redirected to a higher priority call, and shall obey all traffic laws.

### 309.3.1 EMERGENCY CALLS

Officers responding to an emergency call shall proceed immediately as appropriate and shall continuously operate the emergency vehicle lighting and siren as required by law (RCW 46.61.035).

Officers should only respond to a call as an emergency response when so dispatched or when circumstances reasonably indicate an emergency response is required. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) When in pursuit or apprehending a violator or suspected violator.
- (b) When responding to a reported emergency involving possible personal injury, death or significant property damage.
- (c) When immediate assistance is requested by an officer or other law enforcement agency.

If an officer believes an emergency response to any call is appropriate, the officer shall immediately notify the dispatcher. Officers not responding to a call as an emergency response shall observe all traffic laws and proceed without the use of emergency lights and siren.

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### **309.4 REQUESTING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

When requesting emergency assistance, the involved department member should reasonably believe there is an imminent threat to the safety of him/herself or another person, or that assistance is needed to prevent imminent serious harm to the public.

If circumstances permit, the requesting member should provide the following information:

- Identifying call sign
- Location of the emergency situation
- Suspect information, including weapons
- Reason for the request and type of emergency
- The number of officers or resources required
- Hazards and any known or potential dangers for responding officers

In any event where a situation has stabilized and emergency response is not required, the requesting member shall immediately notify the dispatcher.

### **309.5 SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

Responding with emergency lights and siren does not relieve the operator of an emergency vehicle of the duty to continue to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons and property, and does not protect the operator from the consequences of reckless disregard for the safety of others. However the officer may, when responding to a call with an emergency response, and provided there is no endangerment or unnecessary risk to persons and property (RCW 46.61.035):

- Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.
- Exceed the speed limit.
- Disregard regulations governing parking, direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

#### **309.5.1 NUMBER OF OFFICERS ASSIGNED**

The number of officers assigned to respond to an emergency call or request for assistance should be limited to that which is reasonably necessary.

An emergency response involving more than one police vehicle should be coordinated by Grays Harbor Communications to avoid any unanticipated intersecting of response routes. The patrol supervisor will make a determination regarding the appropriateness of the response and reduce or enhance the response as warranted.

#### **309.5.2 MOTORCYCLES**

An officer operating a police motorcycle should not be assigned to an emergency response. However, an officer operating a police motorcycle in an emergency response should be replaced



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by an authorized emergency vehicle equipped with emergency lights and siren as soon as practicable.

### **309.6 EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**

Vehicles not equipped with emergency lights and siren are prohibited from initiating or joining in an emergency response. Officers in such vehicles may provide support to pursuing vehicles as long as the vehicles are operated in compliance with all traffic laws. Those officers should terminate their involvement in any emergency response immediately upon arrival of a sufficient number of emergency law enforcement vehicles.

If the emergency equipment on the vehicle should fail to operate, the officer must terminate the emergency response and continue accordingly. The officer shall notify the Patrol Lieutenant, field supervisor or the dispatcher of the equipment failure so that another officer may be assigned to the emergency response.

### **309.7 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The decision to initiate or continue an emergency response is at the discretion of the officer. If, in the officer's judgment, the weather, traffic and road conditions do not permit such a response without unreasonable risk, the officer may elect to respond to the call without the use of emergency lights and siren at the legal speed limit. In such an event, the officer should immediately notify the dispatcher. An officer shall also discontinue an emergency response when directed by a supervisor or as otherwise appropriate.

Upon receiving authorization or determining that an emergency response is appropriate, whenever practicable, an officer shall immediately give the location from which he/she is responding.

The first officer arriving at the emergency call should determine whether to increase or reduce the level of the response of additional officers and shall notify the dispatcher of his/her determination. Any subsequent change in the appropriate response level should be communicated to the dispatcher by the officer in charge of the scene unless a supervisor assumes this responsibility.

### **309.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon being notified that an emergency response has been initiated or requested, the Patrol Lieutenant or the field supervisor shall verify that:

- (a) The proper response has been initiated.
- (b) No more than those officers reasonably necessary under the circumstances are involved in the response.
- (c) Affected outside jurisdictions are being notified as practicable.

The field supervisor shall monitor the response until it has been stabilized or terminated and assert control by directing officers into or out of the response, if necessary. If, in the supervisor's

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judgment, the circumstances require additional officers to be assigned an emergency response, the supervisor may do so.

It is the supervisor's responsibility to terminate an emergency response that, in his/her judgment is inappropriate due to the circumstances.

When making the decision to authorize an emergency response, the Patrol Lieutenant or the field supervisor should consider:

- The type of call or crime involved.
- The type and circumstances of the request.
- The necessity of a timely response.
- Weather, traffic and road conditions.
- The location of the responding officers and the location of the incident.

# Canines

## 310.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of canines to augment law enforcement services in the community including, but not limited to, locating individuals and contraband and apprehending criminal offenders.

## 310.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that teams of handlers and canines meet and maintain the appropriate proficiency to effectively and reasonably carry out legitimate law enforcement objectives.

## 310.3 ASSIGNMENT

Canine teams should be assigned to assist and supplement the Operations to function primarily in assist or cover assignments. However, they may be assigned by the Patrol Lieutenant to other functions, such as routine calls for service, based on the current operational needs.

## 310.4 CANINE COORDINATOR

The canine coordinator shall be appointed by and directly responsible to the Operations division or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the coordinator include but are not limited to:

- (a) Reviewing all canine use reports to ensure compliance with policy and to identify training issues and other needs of the program.
- (b) Maintaining a liaison with the vendor kennel.
- (c) Maintaining a liaison with command staff and functional supervisors.
- (d) Maintaining a liaison with other agency canine coordinators.
- (e) Maintaining accurate records to document canine activities.
- (f) Recommending and overseeing the procurement of equipment and services for the teams of handlers and canines.
- (g) Scheduling all canine-related activities.
- (h) Ensuring the canine teams are scheduled for regular training to maximize their capabilities.

## 310.5 REQUESTS FOR CANINE TEAMS

Operations Division members are encouraged to request the use of a canine. Requests for a canine team from department units outside of the Operations Division require police administration notification at the earliest possible convenience.

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### 310.5.1 OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUEST

All requests for canine assistance from outside agencies must be approved by the Patrol Lieutenant or Supervisor and are subject to the following:

- (a) Canine teams shall not be used for any assignment that is not consistent with this policy.
- (b) The canine handler shall have the authority to decline a request for any specific assignment that he/she deems unsuitable.
- (c) Calling out off-duty canine teams is discouraged.
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the canine handler to coordinate operations with agency personnel in order to minimize the risk of unintended injury.
- (e) It shall be the responsibility of the canine handler to complete all necessary reports or as directed.

### 310.5.2 PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS

All public requests for a canine team shall be reviewed and, if appropriate, approved by the canine coordinator prior to making any resource commitment. The canine coordinator is responsible for obtaining resources and coordinating involvement in the demonstration to include proper safety protocols. Canine handlers shall not demonstrate any apprehension work unless authorized to do so by the canine coordinator.

## 310.6 APPREHENSION GUIDELINES

A canine may be used to locate and apprehend a suspect if the canine handler reasonably believes that the individual has committed, is committing, or is threatening to commit any serious offense and if any of the following conditions exist:

- (a) There is a reasonable belief the suspect poses an imminent threat of violence or serious harm to the public, any officers, or the handler.
- (b) The suspect is physically resisting or threatening to resist arrest and the use of a canine reasonably appears to be necessary to overcome such resistance.
- (c) The suspect is believed to be concealed in an area where entry by other than the canine would pose a threat to the safety of officers or the public.

It is recognized that situations may arise that do not fall within the provisions set forth in this policy. Such events require consideration of the totality of the circumstances and the use of an objective reasonableness standard applied to the decision to use a canine.

Absent a reasonable belief that a suspect has committed, is committing, or is threatening to commit a serious offense, mere flight from a pursuing officer, without any of the above conditions, shall not serve as the basis for the use of a canine to apprehend a suspect.

Use of a canine to locate and apprehend a suspect wanted for a lesser criminal offense than those identified above requires approval from the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor. Absent a change in circumstances that presents an imminent threat to officers, the canine, or the public, such canine

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use should be conducted on-leash or under conditions that minimize the likelihood the canine will bite or otherwise injure the individual.

In all applications, once the suspect has been located and no longer reasonably appears to present a threat or risk of escape, the handler should secure the canine as soon as it becomes reasonably practicable.

If the canine has apprehended the suspect with a secure bite, and the handler believes that the suspect no longer poses a threat, the handler should promptly command the canine to release the suspect.

### 310.6.1 PREPARATION FOR DEPLOYMENT

Prior to the use of a canine to search for or apprehend any suspect, the canine handler and/or the supervisor on-scene should carefully consider all pertinent information reasonably available at the time. The information should include but is not limited to:

- (a) The nature and seriousness of the suspected offense.
- (b) Whether violence or weapons were used or are anticipated.
- (c) The degree of resistance or threatened resistance, if any, the suspect has shown.
- (d) The suspect's known or perceived age.
- (e) The potential for injury to officers or the public caused by the suspect if the canine is not utilized.
- (f) Any potential danger to the public and/or other officers at the scene if the canine is released.
- (g) The potential for the suspect to escape or flee if the canine is not utilized.

As circumstances permit, the canine handler should make every reasonable effort to communicate and coordinate with other involved members to minimize the risk of unintended injury.

It is the canine handler's responsibility to evaluate each situation and determine whether the use of a canine is appropriate and reasonable. The canine handler shall have the authority to decline the use of the canine whenever he/she deems deployment is unsuitable.

A supervisor who is sufficiently apprised of the situation may prohibit deploying the canine.

Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor, assisting members should take direction from the handler in order to minimize interference with the canine.

### 310.6.2 WARNINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unless it would increase the risk of injury or escape, a clearly audible warning announcing that a canine will be used if the suspect does not surrender should be made prior to releasing a canine. The handler should allow a reasonable time for a suspect to surrender and should quiet the canine momentarily to listen for any verbal response to the warning. If feasible, other members should be in a location opposite the warning to verify that the announcement could be heard. If available, warnings given in other languages should be used as necessary.

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If a warning is not to be given, the canine handler, when practicable, should first advise the supervisor of his/her decision before releasing the canine. In the event of an apprehension, the handler shall document in any related report how the warning was given and, if none was given, the reasons why.

### **310.6.3 REPORTING DEPLOYMENTS, BITES, AND INJURIES**

Handlers should document canine deployments in a canine use report. Whenever a canine deployment results in a bite or causes injury to an intended suspect, a supervisor should be promptly notified and the injuries documented in the canine use report. The injured person shall be promptly treated by Emergency Medical Services personnel and, if appropriate, transported to an appropriate medical facility for further treatment. The deployment and injuries should also be included in any related incident or arrest report.

Any unintended bite or injury caused by a canine, whether on- or off-duty, shall be promptly reported to the canine coordinator. Unintended bites or injuries caused by a canine should be documented in an administrative report, not in a canine use report.

If an individual alleges an injury, either visible or not visible, a supervisor shall be notified and both the individual's injured and uninjured areas shall be photographed as soon as practicable after first tending to the immediate needs of the injured party. Photographs shall be retained as evidence in accordance with current department evidence procedures. The photographs shall be retained until the criminal proceeding is completed and the time for any related civil proceeding has expired.

### **310.7 NON-APPREHENSION GUIDELINES**

Properly trained canines may be used to track or search for non-criminals (e.g., lost children, individuals who may be disoriented or in need of medical attention). The canine handler is responsible for determining the canine's suitability for such assignments based on the conditions and the particular abilities of the canine. When the canine is deployed in a search or other non-apprehension operation, the following guidelines apply:

- (a) Absent a change in circumstances that presents an imminent threat to officers, the canine, or the public, such applications should be conducted on-leash or under conditions that minimize the likelihood the canine will bite or otherwise injure the individual, if located.
- (b) Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor, assisting members should take direction from the handler in order to minimize interference with the canine.
- (c) Throughout the deployment, the handler should periodically give verbal assurances that the canine will not bite or hurt the individual and encourage the individual to make him/herself known.
- (d) Once the individual has been located, the handler should place the canine in a down-stay or otherwise secure it as soon as reasonably practicable.

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### 310.7.1 ARTICLE DETECTION

A canine trained to find objects or property related to a person or crime may be used to locate or identify articles. A canine search should be conducted in a manner that minimizes the likelihood of unintended bites or injuries.

### 310.8 HANDLER SELECTION

The minimum qualifications for the assignment of canine handler include:

- (a) An officer who is currently off probation.
- (b) Residing in an adequately fenced, single-family residence (minimum 5-foot high fence with locking gates).
- (c) Living within 30 minutes travel time from the Aberdeen City limits.
- (d) Agreeing to be assigned to the position for a minimum of three years.

### 310.9 HANDLER RESPONSIBILITIES

The canine handler shall ultimately be responsible for the health and welfare of the canine and shall ensure that the canine receives proper nutrition, grooming, training, medical care, affection, and living conditions.

The canine handler will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Except as required during appropriate deployment, the handler shall not expose the canine to any foreseeable and unreasonable risk of harm.
- (b) The handler shall maintain all department equipment under his/her control in a clean and serviceable condition.
- (c) When not in service, the handler shall maintain the canine vehicle in a locked garage, away from public view.
- (d) When a handler is off-duty for an extended number of days, the assigned canine vehicle should be stored at the Aberdeen Police Department facility.
- (e) Handlers shall permit the canine coordinator to conduct spontaneous on-site inspections of affected areas of their homes as well as their canine vehicles to verify that conditions and equipment conform to this policy.
- (f) Any changes in the living status of the handler that may affect the lodging or environment of the canine shall be reported to the canine coordinator as soon as possible.
- (g) When off-duty, the canine shall be in a kennel provided by the City at the home of the handler. When a canine is kenneled at the handler's home, the gate shall be secured with a lock. When off-duty, the canine may be let out of the kennel while under the direct control of the handler.
- (h) The canine should be permitted to socialize in the home with the handler's family for short periods of time and under the direct supervision of the handler.
- (i) Under no circumstances will the canine be lodged at another location unless approved by the canine coordinator or Patrol Lieutenant.

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- (j) When off-duty, the handler shall not involve the canine in any law enforcement activity or official conduct unless approved in advance by the canine coordinator or Patrol Lieutenant.
- (k) Whenever a canine handler is off-duty for an extended number of days, it may be necessary to temporarily relocate the canine. In those situations, the handler shall give reasonable notice to the canine coordinator so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

### 310.9.1 CANINE IN PUBLIC AREAS

The canine should be kept on a leash when in areas that allow access to the public. Exceptions to this rule would include specific law enforcement operations for which the canine is trained.

- (a) A canine shall not be left unattended in any area to which the public may have access.
- (b) When the canine vehicle is left unattended, all windows and doors shall be secured in such a manner as to prevent unauthorized access to the canine. The handler shall also ensure that the unattended vehicle remains inhabitable for the canine.

### 310.10 CANINE INJURY AND MEDICAL CARE

In the event that a canine is injured, or there is an indication that the canine is not in good physical condition, the injury or condition will be reported to the canine coordinator or Patrol Lieutenant as soon as practicable and appropriately documented.

All medical attention shall be rendered by the designated canine veterinarian, except during an emergency where treatment should be obtained from the nearest available veterinarian. All records of medical treatment shall be maintained in the handler's personnel file.

### 310.11 TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

Before assignment in the field, each canine team shall be trained and certified to meet current Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) standards. Cross-trained canine teams or those canine teams trained exclusively for the detection of narcotics and/or explosives also shall be trained and certified to meet current CJTC standards (WAC 139-05-915).

The canine coordinator shall be responsible for scheduling periodic training for all department members in order to familiarize them with how to conduct themselves in the presence of department canines. Because canines may be exposed to dangerous substances such as opioids, as resources are available, the canine coordinator should also schedule periodic training for the canine handlers about the risks of exposure and treatment for it.

All canine training shall be conducted while on-duty unless otherwise approved by the canine coordinator or Patrol Lieutenant.

#### 310.11.1 CONTINUED TRAINING

Each canine team shall be recertified to current CJTC standards. A canine team's certification will automatically expire if the handler and canine originally paired at the time of certification are



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no longer working together, or if the function for which the team was certified changes (WAC 139-05-915). Additional training considerations are as follows:

- (a) Canine teams should receive training as defined in the current contract with the Aberdeen Police Department canine training provider.
- (b) Canine handlers are encouraged to engage in additional training with approval of the canine coordinator.
- (c) To ensure that all training is consistent, no handler, trainer or outside vendor is authorized to train to a standard that is not reviewed and approved by the Department.

### 310.11.2 FAILURE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE TRAINING

Any canine team failing to graduate or obtain certification shall not be deployed in the field for tasks the team is not certified to perform until graduation or certification is achieved. When reasonably practicable, pending successful certification, the canine handler shall be temporarily reassigned to regular patrol duties.

### 310.11.3 TRAINING RECORDS

A record for each canine that includes training, performance and identification records, and that meets CJTC requirements, shall be created and maintained in the canine handler's and the canine's training file.

### 310.11.4 TRAINING AIDS

Training aids are required to effectively train and maintain the skills of canines. Officers possessing, using or transporting controlled substances or explosives for canine training purposes must comply with federal and state requirements. Alternatively, the Aberdeen Police Department may work with outside trainers with the applicable licenses or permits.

### 310.11.5 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TRAINING AIDS

Officers acting in the performance of their official duties may possess or transfer controlled substances for the purpose of narcotics-detection canine training in compliance with state and federal laws (21 USC § 823(f); RCW 69.50.302; RCW 69.50.508; WAC 246-945-060).

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee may authorize a member to seek a court order to allow controlled substances seized by the Aberdeen Police Department to be possessed by the member or a narcotics-detection canine trainer who is working under the direction of this department for training purposes, provided the controlled substances are no longer needed as criminal evidence.

As an alternative, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee may request narcotics training aids from the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

These procedures are not required if the canine handler uses commercially available synthetic substances that are not controlled narcotics.

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### 310.11.6 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE PROCEDURES

Due to the responsibilities and liabilities involved with possessing readily usable amounts of controlled substances and the ever-present danger of the canine's accidental ingestion of these controlled substances, the following procedures shall be strictly followed:

- (a) All controlled substance training samples shall be weighed and tested prior to dispensing to the individual canine handler or trainer.
- (b) The weight and test results shall be recorded and maintained by this department.
- (c) Any person possessing controlled substance training samples pursuant to court order or DEA registration shall maintain custody and control of the controlled substances and shall keep records regarding any loss of, or damage to, those controlled substances.
- (d) All controlled substance training samples will be inspected, weighed, and tested quarterly. The results of the quarterly testing shall be recorded and maintained by the canine coordinator with a copy forwarded to the dispensing agency.
- (e) All controlled substance training samples will be stored in locked, airtight, and watertight cases at all times, except during training. The locked cases shall be secured in the trunk of the canine handler's assigned patrol vehicle during transport and stored in an appropriate locked container. There are no exceptions to this procedure.
- (f) The canine coordinator shall periodically inspect every controlled substance training sample for damage or tampering and take any appropriate action.
- (g) Any unusable controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the Evidence Room or to the dispensing agency.
- (h) All controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the dispensing agency upon the conclusion of the training or upon demand by the dispensing agency.

### 310.11.7 EXPLOSIVE TRAINING AIDS

Officers may possess, transport, store, or use explosives or destructive devices in compliance with state and federal laws (18 USC § 842; 27 CFR 555.41; RCW 70.74.191(4)).

Explosive training aids designed specifically for canine teams should be used whenever feasible. Due to the safety concerns in the handling and transportation of explosives, inert or non-hazardous training aids should be employed whenever feasible. The use of explosives or destructive devices for training aids by canine teams is subject to the following:

- (a) All explosive training aids, when not in use, shall be properly stored in a secure facility appropriate for the type of materials.
- (b) An inventory ledger shall be maintained to document the type and quantity of explosive training aids that are stored.
- (c) The canine coordinator shall be responsible for verifying the explosive training aids on hand against the inventory ledger once each quarter.
- (d) Only members of the canine team shall have access to the explosive training aids storage facility.

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- (e) A primary and secondary custodian will be designated to minimize the possibility of loss of explosive training aids during and after the training. Generally, the handler will be designated as the primary custodian while the trainer or authorized second person on-scene will be designated as the secondary custodian.
- (f) Any lost or damaged explosive training aids shall be promptly reported to the canine coordinator, who will determine if any further action will be necessary. Any loss of explosives will be reported to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF).

# Domestic Violence

## 311.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the guidelines necessary to deter, prevent and reduce domestic violence through vigorous enforcement and to address domestic violence as a serious crime against society. The policy specifically addresses the commitment of this department to take enforcement action when appropriate, to provide assistance to victims and to guide officers in the investigation of domestic violence.

### 311.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Court order** - All forms of orders related to domestic violence, that have been issued by a court of this state or another, whether civil or criminal, regardless of whether service has been made.

**Domestic violence** - Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, sexual assault, or stalking of one intimate partner by another intimate partner; or physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, sexual assault, or stalking of one family or household member by another family or household member (RCW 10.99.020; RCW 26.50.010).

## 311.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department's response to incidents of domestic violence and violations of related court orders shall stress enforcement of the law to protect the victim and shall communicate the philosophy that domestic violence is criminal behavior. It is also the policy of this department to facilitate victims' and offenders' access to appropriate civil remedies and community resources whenever feasible.

## 311.3 OFFICER SAFETY

The investigation of domestic violence cases often places officers in emotionally charged and sometimes highly dangerous environments. No provision of this policy is intended to supersede the responsibility of all officers to exercise due caution and reasonable care in providing for the safety of any officers and parties involved.

## 311.4 INVESTIGATIONS

The following guidelines should be followed by officers when investigating domestic violence cases:

- (a) Calls of reported, threatened, imminent, or ongoing domestic violence and the violation of any court order are of extreme importance and should be considered among the highest response priorities. This includes incomplete 9-1-1 calls.
- (b) When practicable, officers should obtain and document statements from the victim, the suspect, and any witnesses, including children, in or around the household or location of occurrence.

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- (c) Officers should list the full name and date of birth (and school if available) of each child who was present in the household at the time of the offense. The names of other children who may not have been in the house at that particular time should also be obtained for follow-up.
- (d) When practicable and legally permitted, video or audio record all significant statements and observations.
- (e) All injuries should be photographed, regardless of severity, taking care to preserve the victim's personal privacy. Where practicable, photographs should be taken by a person of the same sex. Victims whose injuries are not visible at the time of the incident should be asked to contact the Investigation Unit in the event that the injuries later become visible.
- (f) Officers should request that the victim complete and sign an authorization for release of medical records related to the incident when applicable.
- (g) If the suspect is no longer at the scene, officers should make reasonable efforts to locate the suspect to further the investigation, provide the suspect with an opportunity to make a statement, and make an arrest or seek an arrest warrant if appropriate.
- (h) Seize any firearms or other dangerous weapons in the home, if appropriate and legally permitted, for safekeeping or as evidence.
  - 1. Officers who have probable cause that a crime has been committed shall lawfully seize all firearms and ammunition that they reasonably believe were used or threatened to be used in the commission of the offense. Officers shall also seize all firearms in plain sight or discovered in a lawful search. Officers shall request consent to take temporary custody of any other firearms and ammunition that the alleged suspect may have access to (RCW 10.99.030).
  - 2. Officers shall separate the victim and inquire whether there are any firearms or ammunition in the home, whether the suspect has access to any firearms either on the premises or stored elsewhere, whether the suspect has a concealed pistol license, and whether a firearm has ever been used by the suspect under other circumstances that could be threatening or coercive (RCW 10.99.030).
- (i) When completing an incident or arrest report for violation of a court order, officers should include specific information that establishes that the offender has been served, including the date the offender was served, the name of the agency that served the order, and the provision of the order that the subject is alleged to have violated. When reasonably available, the arresting officer should attach a copy of the order to the incident or arrest report.
- (j) Officers should take appropriate enforcement action when there is probable cause to believe an offense has occurred. Factors that should not be used as sole justification for declining to take enforcement action include:
  - 1. Whether the suspect lives on the premises with the victim.
  - 2. Claims by the suspect that the victim provoked or perpetuated the violence.
  - 3. The potential financial or child custody consequences of arrest.

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4. The physical or emotional state of either party.
  5. Use of drugs or alcohol by either party.
  6. Denial that the abuse occurred where evidence indicates otherwise.
  7. A request by the victim not to arrest the suspect.
  8. Location of the incident (public/private).
  9. Speculation that the complainant may not follow through with the prosecution.
  10. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or marital status of the victim or suspect.
  11. The social status, community status, or professional position of the victim or suspect.
- (k) Unless doing so would jeopardize the criminal investigation, the victim should be apprised of investigative plans such as when the suspect or witnesses are going to be interviewed and any plans for making an arrest.

### 311.4.1 HOSPITALIZED VICTIM

When responding to a medical facility regarding an injured person, officers should make a reasonable attempt to determine whether the injury was a result of domestic violence prior to contacting the victim or person who reported the incident.

If domestic violence is suspected, contact should be made with the medical facility representatives out of the view and hearing of the victim and any potential suspects when practical.

### 311.4.2 IF A SUSPECT IS ARRESTED

If a suspect is arrested, officers should:

- (a) Advise the victim that there is no guarantee the suspect will remain in custody.
- (b) Provide the victim's contact information to the jail staff to enable notification of the victim upon the suspect's release from jail.
- (c) Advise the victim whether any type of court order will be in effect when the suspect is released from jail.

### 311.4.3 IF NO ARREST IS MADE

If no arrest is made, the officer should:

- (a) Advise the parties of any options, including but not limited to:
  1. Voluntary separation of the parties.
  2. Appropriate resource referrals (e.g., counselors, friends, relatives, shelter homes, victim witness unit).
- (b) Document the resolution in a report.

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### **311.5 VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

Victims may be traumatized or confused. Officers should:

- (a) Recognize that a victim's behavior and actions may be affected.
- (b) Provide the victim with the department's domestic violence information handout, even if the incident may not rise to the level of a crime.
- (c) Alert the victim to any available victim advocates, shelters and community resources.
- (d) Stand by for a reasonable amount of time when an involved person requests law enforcement assistance while removing essential items of personal property.
- (e) Seek medical assistance as soon as practicable for the victim if he/she has sustained injury or complains of pain.
- (f) Ask the victim whether he/she has a safe place to stay. Assist in arranging to transport the victim to an alternate shelter if the victim expresses a concern for his/her safety or if the officer determines that a need exists.
- (g) Make reasonable efforts to ensure that children or dependent adults who are under the supervision of the suspect or victim are being properly cared for.
- (h) Seek or assist the victim in obtaining an emergency order if appropriate.

### **311.6 DISPATCH ASSISTANCE**

All calls of domestic violence, including incomplete 9-1-1 calls, should be dispatched as soon as practicable.

Dispatchers are not required to verify the validity of a court order before responding to a request for assistance. Officers should request that dispatchers check whether any of the involved persons are subject to the terms of a court order.

### **311.7 FOREIGN COURT ORDERS**

Various types of orders may be issued in domestic violence cases. Any foreign court order properly issued by a court of another state, Indian tribe or territory shall be enforced by officers as if it were the order of a court in this state. An order should be considered properly issued when it reasonably appears that the issuing court has jurisdiction over the parties and reasonable notice and opportunity to respond was given to the party against whom the order was issued (18 USC § 2265). An otherwise valid out-of-state court order shall be enforced, regardless of whether the order has been properly registered with this state.

#### **311.7.1 CANADIAN COURT ORDERS**

Any foreign court order properly issued in Canada shall be enforced by an officer as a foreign court order above. Any notice, if required, should be made in compliance with RCW 26.55.020.

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### **311.8 VERIFICATION OF COURT ORDERS**

Determining the validity of a court order, particularly an order from another jurisdiction, can be challenging. Therefore, in determining whether there is probable cause to make an arrest for a violation of any court order, officers should carefully review the actual order when available, and, where appropriate and practicable:

- (a) Ask the subject of the order about his/her notice or receipt of the order, his/her knowledge of its terms, and efforts to respond to the order.
- (b) Check available records or databases that may show the status or conditions of the order.
- (c) Contact the issuing court to verify the validity of the order.
- (d) Contact a law enforcement official from the jurisdiction where the order was issued to verify information.

Officers should document in an appropriate report their efforts to verify the validity of an order, regardless of whether an arrest is made. Officers should contact a supervisor for clarification when needed.

### **311.9 STANDARDS FOR ARRESTS**

Officers investigating a domestic violence report should consider the following:

- (a) The primary duty of officers when responding to a domestic violence situation is to enforce the laws allegedly violated and to protect the complaining party (RCW 10.99.030(1)).
- (b) When an officer responds to a domestic violence call and has probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed, he/she shall make an arrest pursuant to the criteria in RCW 10.31.100 and RCW 10.99.030(2)(a).
- (c) When an officer has confirmed that a valid court order exists and has probable cause to believe the defendant has violated that order, the officer shall make a physical arrest (RCW 10.99.055; RCW 10.31.100(2)). Whenever a member of this department serves or assists in serving a court order and that service is completed, a return of service form shall be completed and submitted to the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC).

### **311.10 REPORTS AND RECORDS**

- (a) Officers responding to a domestic violence call shall take a complete offense report, including the disposition of the case (RCW 10.99.030(2)(b)).
  - 1. The report shall include all information about firearms and concealed pistol licenses and be properly coded to alert any officials reviewing the report to the existence of the information concerning firearms (RCW 10.99.030).
- (b) All such reports should be documented under the appropriate crime classification and should use the distinction "Domestic Violence" in the Type of Crime box of the crime report form (RCW 10.99.035).



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- (c) Whenever there is probable cause to believe that a crime has been committed and unless the case is under active investigation, the Operations Supervisor shall ensure that all domestic violence crime reports are forwarded to the County Prosecutor's Office within 10 days of the date the incident was reported (RCW 10.99.035).
- (d) The Special Assignments Officer shall ensure that accurate records of domestic violence incidents are maintained and submitted to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, in accordance with state law (RCW 10.99.035).
- (e) The Special Assignments Officer should ensure that the original receipt issued for any firearm, dangerous weapon, or pistol license surrendered after service of a protection order is filed with the court within 24 hours of service of the order and retain a copy of the receipt electronically if available (RCW 9.41.801).

### **311.11 COURT ORDERS**

The Special Assignments Officer shall ensure that no-contact orders received from the court are entered into the WACIC or other applicable criminal intelligence information system for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order (RCW 10.99.040; RCW 10.99.050).

### **311.12 SERVICE OF COURT ORDERS**

The officer serving a protection order, no-contact order, or restraining order that includes an order to surrender all firearms, dangerous weapons, and a concealed pistol license under RCW 9.41.800 shall (RCW 9.41.801):

- (a) Advise the subject that the order is effective upon service.
- (b) Request that any firearms, dangerous weapons, and any concealed pistol license be immediately surrendered. Officers shall take possession of any firearms discovered in plain view, lawful search, or consent from the subject.
  - 1. If the subject indicates by word or action that he/she will not comply with a request to surrender firearms, dangerous weapons, or a concealed pistol license, consideration should be given to obtaining a search warrant for seizure.
- (c) Issue a receipt for any surrendered items.
  - 1. The officer should ensure the original receipt is forwarded to the Special Assignments Officer as soon as practicable for filing with the court.

All firearms and weapons collected shall be handled and booked in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

### **311.13 ORDERS TO SHOW CAUSE**

When the Department receives notice from the court of an order to show cause regarding the surrender of weapons, the Investigation Unit supervisor should consult with legal counsel, as appropriate, to address any requirements involving the Department, including the following (RCW 9.41.801):

- (a) Fulfilling any additional service requirements for the order to show cause.

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- (b) Providing the court a complete list of firearms and other dangerous weapons surrendered by the person pursuant to the court order that are in the possession of the Department.
- (c) Providing the court with verification that any concealed pistol license was surrendered by the person pursuant to the court order and that the agency with authority to revoke the license has been notified.
- (d) Filing an affidavit with the court where there is reasonable suspicion that the person who is subject to the court order is not in full compliance with the terms, including the basis for the belief.

# Search and Seizure

## 312.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Both the federal and state Constitutions provide every individual with the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures. This policy provides general guidelines for Aberdeen Police Department personnel to consider when dealing with search and seizure issues.

## 312.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to respect the fundamental privacy rights of individuals. Members of this department will conduct searches in strict observance of the constitutional rights of persons being searched. All seizures by this department will comply with relevant federal and state law governing the seizure of persons and property.

The Department will provide relevant and current training to officers as guidance for the application of current law, local community standards and prosecutorial considerations regarding specific search and seizure situations, as appropriate.

### 312.2.1 INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL PROCEDURES (SEARCHES)

- (a) As accidental needle sticks represent the most common potentially infectious exposure in law enforcement, officers should use the utmost caution in searching persons and property.
- (b) Assume that every subject to be searched may possess a hypodermic needle, razor blade, file, or similar small sharp object.
- (c) Officers should tell the subject to remove all items from pockets, to turn pockets inside out and, when appropriate, to remove bulky external clothing for closer inspection. Officers should inquire specifically about needles and sharp items before a search of a subject is conducted.
- (d) If a subject admits possession of a needle or sharp item, the officer should instruct the subject to remove the item. If the subject refuses, the subject should be physically restrained before the officer attempts to remove the item.
- (e) Officers should conduct a light pat-type search of areas where needles or sharp items may be located before employing a groping-type search of the area.
- (f) A visual inspection of property should be made before officers search the property. Purses, bags, eyeglass cases, or other containers should be emptied and the contents visibly examined before the property is handled.
- (g) Officers should not insert their hands between or under vehicle seats, or into any other area before visually examining the area.

## *Search and Seizure*

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- (h) Broken glassware, which may be contaminated, must be picked up only by using mechanical means such as tongs, brush/dust pan, or forceps, and never with bare or gloved hands.

### **312.3 SEARCHES**

The U.S. Constitution generally provides that a valid warrant is required in order for a search to be valid. There are, however, several exceptions that permit a warrantless search.

Examples of law enforcement activities that are exceptions to the general warrant requirement include, but are not limited to, searches pursuant to the following:

- Valid consent
- Incident to a lawful arrest
- Legitimate community caretaking interests
- Exigent circumstances

Certain other activities are recognized by federal and state courts and by certain statutes as legitimate law enforcement activities that also do not require a warrant. Such activities may include seizure and examination of abandoned property and observations of activities and property located on open public areas.

Because case law regarding search and seizure is constantly changing and subject to interpretation by the courts, each member of this department is expected to act in each situation according to current training and his/her familiarity with clearly established rights as determined by case law.

Whenever practicable, officers are encouraged to contact a supervisor to resolve questions regarding search and seizure issues prior to electing a course of action.

#### **312.3.1 RESTRICTIONS ON CELL SITE SIMULATOR USE**

A member may only install or use a pen register, trap and trace device or cell site simulator device with a supporting court order or when there is both coordination with a prosecuting attorney and joint determination of probable cause to believe an emergency situation exists that involves immediate danger of death or serious bodily injury to a person. A court order must be obtained within 48 hours after installation of the pen register, trap and trace device or cell site stimulator device when an emergency situation exists (RCW 9.73.260).

#### **312.3.2 JUVENILE CONSENT SEARCHES**

Juveniles (under age 18) shall have access to an attorney for consultation before an officer requests consent for authorization to search the juvenile's person, property, dwelling or vehicle (RCW 13.40.740)

### **312.4 SEARCH PROTOCOL**

Although conditions will vary and officer safety and other exigencies must be considered in every search situation, the following guidelines should be followed whenever circumstances permit:

## *Search and Seizure*

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- (a) Members of this department will strive to conduct searches with dignity and courtesy.
- (b) Officers should explain to the person being searched the reason for the search and how the search will be conducted.
- (c) Searches should be carried out with due regard and respect for private property interests and in a manner that minimizes damage. Property should be left in a condition as close as reasonably possible to its pre-search condition.
- (d) In order to minimize the need for forcible entry, an attempt should be made to obtain keys, combinations or access codes when a search of locked property is anticipated.
- (e) When the person to be searched is of the opposite sex as the searching officer, a reasonable effort should be made to summon an officer of the same sex as the subject to conduct the search. When it is not practicable to summon an officer of the same sex as the subject, the following guidelines should be followed:
  - 1. Another officer or a supervisor should witness the search.
  - 2. The officer should not search areas of the body covered by tight-fitting clothing, sheer clothing or clothing that could not reasonably conceal a weapon.

### **312.5 DOCUMENTATION**

Officers are responsible to document any search and to ensure that any required reports are sufficient including, at minimum, documentation of the following:

- Reason for the search
- Any efforts used to minimize the intrusiveness of any search (e.g., asking for consent or keys)
- What, if any, injuries or damage occurred
- All steps taken to secure property
- The results of the search, including a description of any property or contraband seized
- If the person searched is the opposite sex, any efforts to summon an officer of the same sex as the person being searched and the identification of any witness officer

Supervisors shall review reports to ensure the reports are accurate, that actions are properly documented and that current legal requirements and department policy have been met.

# Temporary Custody of Juveniles

## 313.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines consistent with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act for juveniles taken into temporary custody by members of the Aberdeen Police Department (34 USC § 11133).

### 313.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Juvenile non-offender** - An abused, neglected, dependent or alien juvenile who may be legally held for his/her own safety or welfare. This also includes any juvenile who may have initially been contacted for an offense that would not subject an adult to arrest (e.g., fine-only offense) but was taken into custody for his/her protection, or for purposes of reuniting the juvenile with a parent, guardian, or other responsible person.

**Juvenile offender** - A juvenile 17 years of age or younger who is alleged to have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest (a non-status offense) or a juvenile who has violated RCW 9.41.040(2)(a) by possessing a handgun (28 CFR 31.303).

**Non-secure custody** - When a juvenile is held in the presence of an officer or other custody employee at all times and is not placed in a locked room, cell or behind any locked doors. Juveniles in non-secure custody may be handcuffed but not to a stationary or secure object. Personal supervision, through direct visual monitoring and audio two-way communication is maintained. Monitoring through electronic devices, such as video, does not replace direct visual observation.

**Secure custody** - When a juvenile offender is held in a locked room, a set of rooms, or a cell. Secure custody also includes being physically secured to a stationary object.

Examples of secure custody include:

- (a) A juvenile left alone in an unlocked room within the secure perimeter of the adult temporary holding area.
- (b) A juvenile handcuffed to a rail.
- (c) A juvenile placed in a room that contains doors with delayed egress devices that have a delay of more than 30 seconds.
- (d) A juvenile being processed in a secure booking area when an unsecure booking area is available.
- (e) A juvenile left alone in a secure booking area after being photographed and fingerprinted.
- (f) A juvenile placed in a cell within the adult temporary holding area, whether or not the cell door is locked.
- (g) A juvenile placed in a room that is capable of being locked or contains a fixed object designed for cuffing or restricting movement.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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**Sight and sound separation** - Located or arranged to prevent physical, visual, or auditory contact.

**Status offender** - A juvenile suspected of committing a criminal violation of the law that would not be a criminal violation but for the age of the offender. Examples may include running away, underage possession of tobacco, curfew violation, or truancy. A juvenile in custody on a court order or warrant based upon a status offense is also a status offender.

### **313.2 POLICY**

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to releasing juveniles from temporary custody as soon as reasonably practicable and keeping juveniles safe while they are in temporary custody at the Aberdeen Police Department. Juveniles should be held in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for processing, transfer or release.

#### **313.2.1 CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS ADVISEMENT**

In any case where a juvenile is taken into temporary custody, the juvenile should be promptly advised of his/her constitutional rights to ensure the admissibility of any spontaneous statements, whether or not questioning is intended.

### **313.3 JUVENILES WHO SHOULD NOT BE HELD**

Juveniles who exhibit any of the following conditions should not be held at the Aberdeen Police Department:

- (a) Unconscious
- (b) Seriously injured
- (c) A known suicide risk or obviously severely emotionally disturbed
- (d) Significantly intoxicated
- (e) Extremely violent or continuously violent

Officers taking custody of a juvenile who exhibits any of the above conditions should take reasonable steps to provide medical attention or mental health assistance and notify a supervisor of the situation.

These juveniles should not be held at the Aberdeen Police Department unless they have been evaluated by a qualified medical and/or mental health professional.

If the officer taking custody of the juvenile believes the juvenile may be a suicide risk, the juvenile shall be under continuous direct supervision until evaluation, release or a transfer is completed.

#### **313.3.1 DETENTION REQUIREMENTS**

All juveniles held in temporary custody shall have the following made available to them:

- (a) Access to toilets and washing facilities
- (b) Access to drinking water

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (c) Food, if the juvenile has not eaten within the past four hours or is otherwise in need of nourishment. All food given to a juvenile in custody should be provided from the jail food supply, if such is available
- (d) As soon as practicable after being taken to a place of temporary confinement, and except where physically impossible, advise and provide the juvenile an opportunity to make a reasonable number of phone calls to a parent, guardian, responsible relative, employer, or attorney. A reasonable number of phone calls is generally three.
- (e) Privacy during visits with family, guardian, or lawyer
- (f) Blankets and clothing necessary to assure the comfort of the juvenile shall be provided if the juvenile's clothing is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody.

### **313.3.2 NON-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS**

There shall be no contact, including visual or audible, between juveniles held in temporary custody (either non-secure or secure detention) and adult prisoners who are detained in the jail or any other secure holding area.

Contact between juveniles in temporary custody, both secure and non-secure, and adult prisoners shall be restricted as follows:

- (a) There will be no communication between the juvenile and adult prisoners allowed.
- (b) If an adult prisoner, including an inmate worker, is present with the juvenile in the same room or area, an Aberdeen Police Department employee trained in the supervision of inmates shall maintain a constant side-by-side presence with either the juvenile or adult prisoner to ensure there is no communication between the juvenile and adult prisoner.
- (c) Situations in which a juvenile and adult prisoner may be in the same room or corridor shall be limited to:
  - 1. Booking.
  - 2. Medical screening.
  - 3. Inmate worker presence while performing work necessary for the operation of the Aberdeen Police Department such as meal service and janitorial service.
  - 4. Movement of persons in custody within the Aberdeen Police Department.

### **313.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES**

Officers should take custody of a juvenile and temporarily hold the juvenile at the Aberdeen Police Department when there is no other lawful and practicable alternative to temporary custody. Refer to the Child Abuse Policy for additional information regarding detaining a juvenile who is suspected of being a victim.



## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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No juvenile should be held in temporary custody at the Aberdeen Police Department without authorization of the arresting officer's supervisor or the Patrol Lieutenant. Juveniles taken into custody shall be held in non-secure custody unless otherwise authorized by this policy.

Any juvenile taken into custody shall be released to the care of the juvenile's parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult or transferred to a juvenile custody facility or to other authority as soon as practicable and in no event shall a juvenile be held beyond six hours from the time of his/her entry into the Department (34 USC § 11133; RCW 13.04.116(b)).

### 313.4.1 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE STATUS OFFENDERS

Status offenders should generally be released by citation or with a warning rather than taken into temporary custody. However, officers may take custody of a status offender if requested to do so by a parent or legal guardian in order to facilitate reunification (e.g., transported home or to the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders may not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133; RCW 43.185C.260).

### 313.4.2 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Juvenile offenders should be held in non-secure custody while at the Aberdeen Police Department unless another form of custody is authorized by this policy or is necessary due to exigent circumstances.

Generally, juvenile offenders may be taken into custody under the following circumstances (RCW 13.40.040(1)):

- (a) Pursuant to a court order.
- (b) Without a court order, by an officer if grounds exist for the arrest of an adult in identical circumstances.
- (c) When his/her parole has been suspended.

### 313.4.3 LIMITATIONS ON RELEASE OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Juveniles should be referred to the appropriate juvenile authority and not released to a parent or guardian when there is probable cause to believe the juvenile (RCW 13.40.040(2)):

- (a) Will likely fail to appear for further proceedings.
- (b) Needs protection from him/herself.
- (c) Is a threat to community safety.
- (d) Will intimidate witnesses or otherwise unlawfully interfere with the administration of justice.
- (e) Has committed a crime while another case was pending.
- (f) Is a fugitive from justice.
- (g) Has had his/her parole suspended or modified.
- (h) Is a material witness.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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### 313.4.4 MONITORING OF JUVENILES

The juvenile shall constantly be monitored by the audio/video system during the entire detention. An in-person visual inspection shall be done to ensure the welfare of the juvenile and shall be conducted at least once each half-hour, on an unscheduled basis, until the juvenile is released. This inspection shall not be replaced by video monitoring. This inspection shall be conducted by a designee of the Lieutenant or On-Duty Supervisor, and the visual inspection shall be logged on the Inspection Log in the juvenile detention room .

More frequent visual inspections should be made as circumstances dictate as in the case of an injured or ill juvenile being detained, or if specific circumstances exist such as a disciplinary problem or suicide risk. In such instances the Lieutenant or On-Duty Supervisor shall be fully informed about the special circumstances in order to evaluate continued detention of such a juvenile. Juvenile Security Report Logs and Confinements of Juvenile Logs shall be turned into the Section Commander or his/her designee at the end of each month.

### 313.4.5 FORMAL BOOKING

No juvenile shall be formally booked without the authorization of the arresting officer's supervisor, or in his/her or her absence, the Patrol Lieutenant.

All juveniles arrested for a felony offense or gross misdemeanor, or any juvenile whose acts amount to a sex crime, shall be booked, fingerprinted, and photographed.

For all other acts defined as crimes, juveniles may be booked, fingerprinted, or photographed upon the approval from the Patrol Lieutenant or Detective Supervisor, giving due consideration to the following:

- (a) The gravity of the offense.
- (b) The past record of the offender.
- (c) The age of the offender.

### 313.4.6 DISPOSITIONS

- (a) Any juvenile not transferred to a juvenile facility shall be released to one of the following:
  - 1. Parent or legal guardian.
  - 2. An adult member of his/her immediate family.
  - 3. An adult person specified by the parent/guardian.
  - 4. An adult person willing to accept responsibility, when the juvenile's parents are unavailable as approved by the Lieutenant, or on-duty patrol supervisor.
  - 5. Released pending later notification of the parent/guardian, as approved by the Lieutenant, or on-duty patrol supervisor.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (b) If the six hour time limit has expired, the juvenile should be transported to Grays Harbor Juvenile Detention.
- (c) After an officer has taken a juvenile into temporary custody for a violation of law, the following dispositions are authorized:
  - 1. The arresting officer may counsel or admonish the juvenile and recommend no further action be taken.
  - 2. If the arresting officer, the Lieutenant, or the on-duty Patrol Supervisor believes that further action is needed, the juvenile will be released to a responsible person as listed above, and such juvenile will be advised that follow-up action will be taken by a detective if arrested on a felony, or reporting officer if arrested for a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor. The detective or officer assigned to the case will then determine the best course of action, such as diversion or referral to court. The detective or officer will contact the parents and advise them of the course of action.
  - 3. The arresting officer should complete all required reports and forward them to the appropriate supervisor for processing to records.
  - 4. The juvenile may be transferred to Juvenile Detention with authorization of the appropriate supervisor or the Lieutenant.
- (d) If a juvenile is to be transported to Juvenile Detention, the following forms shall accompany the juvenile:
  - 1. Copies of all associated incident/crime reports.
  - 2. Any other forms as required by Juvenile Detention.
  - 3. Any personal property taken from the juvenile at the time of detention.

### **313.4.7 VICTIMS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

An officer may take a juvenile into custody to investigate possible sexual exploitation when the officer reasonably believes the juvenile is attempting to engage in sexual conduct for money or anything of value (RCW 43.185C.260).

In these cases, the officer should transport the juvenile to an authorized evaluation and treatment facility in coordination with a community service provider (RCW 43.185C.260) (see the Child Abuse Policy for any mandatory notification requirements).

### **313.5 ADVISEMENTS**

When a juvenile offender is taken into custody, the officer should, as soon as practicable, notify the juvenile's parent, guardian, or a responsible relative that the juvenile is in custody.

Juveniles taken into custody should be advised the reason for the custody (RCW 43.185C.265).

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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### **313.6 JUVENILE CUSTODY LOGS**

Any time a juvenile is held in custody at the Department, the custody shall be promptly and properly documented in the juvenile custody log, including:

- (a) Identifying information about the juvenile being held.
- (b) Date and time of arrival and release from the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (c) Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor notification and approval to temporarily hold the juvenile.
- (d) Any charges for which the juvenile is being held and classification of the juvenile as a juvenile offender, status offender or non-offender.
- (e) Any changes in status.
- (f) Time of all welfare checks.
- (g) Any medical and other screening requested and completed.
- (h) Circumstances that justify any secure custody.
- (i) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors or a local juvenile court authority.

The Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor shall initial the log to approve the custody, including any secure custody, and shall also initial the log when the juvenile is released.

#### **313.6.1 RELEASE OF INFORMATION BY SUPERIOR COURT ORDER**

A copy of the current policy of the Superior Court concerning authorized release of information and appropriate acknowledgment forms shall be kept with copies of this procedure in the Policy Manual.

#### **313.6.2 RELEASE OF INFORMATION TO OTHER AGENCIES**

It shall be the responsibility of the Special Assignments Officer and the appropriate Division and Section Supervisors to ensure that personnel of those divisions and sections act within legal guidelines.

### **313.7 NO-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS**

Sight and sound separation shall be maintained between all juveniles and adults while in custody at the Department (34 USC § 11133). There should also be sight and sound separation between non-offenders and juvenile and status offenders.

In situations where brief or accidental contact may occur (e.g., during the brief time a juvenile is being fingerprinted and/or photographed in booking), a member of the Aberdeen Police Department shall maintain a constant, immediate presence with the juvenile or the adult to minimize any contact. If inadvertent or accidental contact does occur, reasonable efforts shall be taken to end the contact.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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### 313.7.1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY

When emergency medical attention is required for a juvenile who is either in secure or non-secure custody, the paramedics will be called. The Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty patrol supervisor shall be notified of the need for medical attention for the juvenile.

In cases where injury or illness is life threatening and where lost minutes may be the deciding factor, the arresting officer or the discovering officer should administer first aid prior to the arrival of the paramedics. The juvenile will then be transported to a medical facility.

In the event of a serious illness, suicide attempt, injury or death of a juvenile, the following persons shall be notified as soon as possible:

- (a) The parent, guardian, or person standing in loco parentis, of the juvenile.
- (b) Chief of Police
- (c) Deputy Chief of Police
- (d) Operations Commander
- (e) Support Services Commander

### 313.7.2 SUICIDE PREVENTION OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY

The arresting officer should be alert to potential symptoms based upon exhibited behavior that may indicate the juvenile is a suicide risk. These symptoms may include depression, refusal to communicate, verbally threatening to kill himself/herself, or any unusual behavior which may indicate the juvenile may harm himself/herself while in custody in either secure or non-secure detention.

The detaining or transporting officer is responsible to notify the Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty supervisory if he/she believes the juvenile may be a suicide risk. The Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty supervisor will then arrange to contact a mental health team for evaluation, or to contact Juvenile Detention and arrange for the transfer of the juvenile, providing the juvenile meets the intake criteria. The juvenile shall be under constant personal supervision until the transfer is completed.

### 313.7.3 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES

Policy Manual § 306 refers to the only authorized leg restraint device. It is the policy of this department that leg restraints will not be used for inmates retained in custody. This policy also applies to juveniles held in temporary custody. The use of a restraint is an extreme measure and only for a temporary measure pending transportation to another facility or until other custodial arrangements can be made. The use of restraints shall only be used when the juvenile:

- (a) Displays bizarre behavior that results in the destruction of property or shows intent to cause physical harm to self or others.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (b) Is a serious and immediate danger to himself/herself or others.

Restraint devices include devices which immobilize a juvenile's extremities and/or prevent the juvenile from being ambulatory. Restraints shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty supervisor.

Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile's protection or the protection of others.

Direct visual observation shall be conducted at least twice every 30 minutes to ensure that the restraints are properly employed, and to ensure the safety and well-being of the juvenile.

A juvenile who as a result of a mental disorder presents a likelihood of serious harm or is gravely disabled shall be evaluated by a mental health professional as soon as practical.

Juveniles who have been placed in leg restraint devices shall be isolated to protect them from abuse. Restraints shall not be used as a punishment, or as a substitute for treatment.

### 313.7.4 DISCIPLINE OF JUVENILES

Police personnel are prohibited from administering discipline to any juvenile.

### **313.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS**

Members and supervisors assigned to monitor or process any juvenile at the Aberdeen Police Department shall ensure the following:

- (a) The Patrol Lieutenant should be notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at the Aberdeen Police Department more than four hours. This will enable the Patrol Lieutenant to ensure no juvenile is held at the Aberdeen Police Department more than six hours.
- (b) Welfare checks and significant incidents/activities are noted on the log.
- (c) Juveniles in custody are informed that they will be monitored at all times, except when using the toilet.
  - 1. There shall be no viewing devices, such as peep holes or mirrors, of which the juvenile is not aware.
  - 2. This does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.
- (d) A member of the same sex shall supervise personal hygiene activities and care, such as changing clothing or using the restroom, without direct observation to allow for privacy.
- (e) There is reasonable access to toilets and wash basins.
- (f) There is reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water.
- (g) Food should be provided if a juvenile has not eaten within the past four hours or is otherwise in need of nourishment, including any special diet required for the health of the juvenile.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (h) There are reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or restrained in any way.
- (i) There is privacy during family, guardian, and/or attorney visits.
- (j) Juveniles are generally permitted to remain in their personal clothing unless the clothing is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody.
- (k) Clean blankets are provided as reasonably necessary to ensure the comfort of an individual.
  - 1. The supervisor should ensure that there is an adequate supply of clean blankets.
- (l) Adequate shelter, heat, light, and ventilation should be provided without compromising security or enabling escape.
- (m) Adequate furnishings are available, including suitable chairs or benches.
- (n) Juveniles shall have the right to the same number of telephone calls as an adult in custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).
- (o) Discipline is not administered to any juvenile, nor will juveniles be subjected to corporal or unusual punishment, humiliation, or mental abuse.

### **313.9 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Juvenile offenders may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. A juvenile offender may be handcuffed at the Aberdeen Police Department when the juvenile presents a heightened risk. However, non-offenders and status offenders should not be handcuffed unless they are combative or threatening.

Other restraints shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Patrol Lieutenant. Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile's protection or the protection of others.

Juveniles in restraints shall be kept away from other unrestrained juveniles or monitored in such a way as to protect the juvenile from abuse.

#### **313.9.1 PREGNANT JUVENILES**

Juveniles who are known to be pregnant should be restrained in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

### **313.10 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The personal property of a juvenile shall be processed in the same manner as an adult in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

### **313.11 SECURE CUSTODY**

Only juvenile offenders 14 years and older may be placed in secure custody. Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor approval is required before placing a juvenile offender in secure custody.

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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Secure custody should only be used for juvenile offenders when there is a reasonable belief that the juvenile is a serious risk of harm to him/herself or others.

Members of this department should not use secure custody for convenience when non-secure custody is, or later becomes, a reasonable option.

When practicable, handcuffing one hand of a juvenile offender to a fixed object while otherwise maintaining the juvenile in non-secure custody should be considered as the method of secure custody, rather than the use of a locked enclosure. An employee must be present at all times to ensure the juvenile's safety while secured to a stationary object.

Generally, juveniles should not be secured to a stationary object for more than 60 minutes. Supervisor approval is required to secure a juvenile to a stationary object for longer than 60 minutes and every 30 minutes thereafter. Supervisor approval should be documented.

### **313.11.1 LOCKED ENCLOSURES**

A thorough inspection of the area shall be conducted before placing a juvenile into the enclosure. A second inspection shall be conducted after removing the juvenile. Any damage noted to the room should be photographed and documented in the crime report.

The following requirements shall apply to a juvenile offender who is held inside a locked enclosure:

- (a) The juvenile shall constantly be monitored by an audio/video system during the entire custody.
- (b) Juveniles shall have constant auditory access to department members.
- (c) Initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged.
- (d) Random personal visual checks of the juvenile by a staff member, no less than every 15 minutes, shall occur.
  - 1. All checks shall be logged.
  - 2. The check should involve questioning the juvenile as to his/her well-being (sleeping juveniles or apparently sleeping juveniles should be awakened).
  - 3. Requests or concerns of the juvenile should be logged.
- (e) Males and females shall not be placed in the same locked room.
- (f) Juvenile offenders should be separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).
- (g) Restrained juveniles shall not be mixed in a cell or room with unrestrained juveniles.

### **313.12 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY OF A JUVENILE**

The Operations Division Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address the suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any juvenile held at the Aberdeen Police Department. The procedures will address:

- (a) Immediate request for emergency medical assistance if appropriate.



## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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- (b) Immediate notification of the on-duty supervisor, Chief of Police and Investigation Unit supervisor.
- (c) Notification of the parent, guardian or person standing in loco parentis, of the juvenile.
- (d) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor.
- (e) Notification of the City Attorney.
- (f) Notification of the Coroner.
- (g) Notification of the juvenile court.
- (h) Evidence preservation.

### **313.13 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING JUVENILE SUSPECTS**

No interview or interrogation of a juvenile should occur unless the juvenile has the apparent capacity to consent, and does consent, to an interview or interrogation.

Prior to conducting a custodial interrogation, including the waiver of *Miranda* rights, an officer shall permit a juvenile 17 years of age or younger to consult with legal counsel in person, by telephone, or by video conference. The consultation may not be waived by the juvenile. The requirement to consult with legal counsel does not apply when (RCW 13.40.740):

- (a) There is a belief that the juvenile is a victim of trafficking as defined by RCW 9A.40.100.
- (b) Information is necessary to protect an individual's life from an imminent threat.
- (c) A delay to allow legal consultation would impede the protection of an individual's life from imminent threat.
- (d) The questions are limited to what is reasonably expected to obtain the information necessary to protect an individual's life from an imminent threat.

After a consultation, any assertion of constitutional rights by the juvenile through legal counsel must be treated as though it came from the juvenile. The waiver of any constitutional rights of the juvenile may only be made according to the requirements of RCW 13.40.140 (judicial rights) (RCW 13.40.740).

#### **313.13.1 RECORDING OF INTERVIEWS OR INTERROGATIONS**

Interrogations or interviews of juvenile suspects shall be recorded when conducted at a place of detention (RCW 10.122.020; RCW 10.122.030). See the Investigation and Prosecution Policy for specific recording requirements.

### **313.14 RESTRICTION ON FINGERPRINTING AND PHOTOGRAPHING**

A juvenile offender may be photographed and fingerprinted as provided by RCW 43.43.735.

### **313.15 RELEASE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING JUVENILES**

Court decisions and legislation have combined to carefully specify situations in which information may be given out or exchanged when a case involves a juvenile. Officers of this department shall

## *Temporary Custody of Juveniles*

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not divulge any information regarding juveniles in situations where they are uncertain of the legal authority to do so.

### **313.15.1 RELEASE OF INFORMATION PURSUANT TO WASHINGTON LAW**

Juvenile records are confidential and may be released only as provided in RCW 13.50.010 and RCW 13.50.050:

- (a) Information may be released to other participants in the juvenile justice or care system only when an investigation or case involving the juvenile is being pursued by the other participant, or when that other participant is assigned the responsibility for supervising the juvenile.
- (b) Information not in the juvenile court file that could not reasonably be expected to identify the juvenile or the juvenile's family may be released.
- (c) Following the decision to arrest, information about an investigation, diversion or prosecution of a juvenile, including an incident report, may be released to the school in which the juvenile is enrolled to assist in protecting other students, staff and school property.
- (d) Information about a juvenile offender, the offender's parent or guardian and the circumstances of the crime may be released to the victim or the victim's immediate family.
- (e) Information identifying child victims of sexual assault committed by juvenile offenders may be released only with the permission of the child victim or legal guardian.
- (f) A court may permit certain juvenile records to be released by rule or order.

It shall be the responsibility of the Special Assignments Officer and the appropriate Investigation Unit supervisors to ensure that personnel of those bureaus act within legal guidelines.

### **313.16 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION**

Juveniles have the right to the same religious accommodation as adults in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

## Adult Abuse

### 314.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investigation and reporting of suspected abuse of certain adults who may be more vulnerable than others. This policy also addresses mandatory notification for Aberdeen Police Department members as required by law.

#### 314.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Adult abuse** - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect of an adult victim when committed by a person responsible for the adult's care, or any other act that would mandate reporting or notification to a social service agency or law enforcement.

### 314.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will investigate all reported incidents of alleged adult abuse and ensure proper reporting and notification as required by law.

### 314.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Members of the Aberdeen Police Department shall notify the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) when there is reasonable cause to believe that abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect of a vulnerable adult has occurred. Members shall also notify DSHS when there is reason to suspect sexual assault or physical assault or reasonable cause to believe that an act has caused fear of imminent harm. The medical examiner or coroner shall also be notified when there is reason to suspect that the death of a vulnerable adult was caused by abuse, neglect, or abandonment by another person (RCW 74.34.035).

For purposes of notification, the following definitions apply (RCW 74.34.020):

- Abandonment is action or inaction by a person or entity with a duty of care for a vulnerable adult that leaves the person without the means or ability to obtain necessary food, clothing, shelter, or health care.
- Abuse is willful action or inaction that inflicts injury, unreasonable confinement or restraint, sexual abuse, physical abuse, financial exploitation, mental abuse, intimidation, or punishment.
- A vulnerable adult is a person who meets any of the following criteria:
  - (a) Is 60 years or older and who has the functional, mental, or physical inability to care for oneself.
  - (b) Is found by the superior court to be incapacitated under RCW 11.130.005 et seq.
  - (c) Has a developmental disability as defined under RCW 71A.10.020.
  - (d) Is admitted to any facility as defined in RCW 74.34.020 (e.g., assisted living facility, nursing home, or other facility licensed by DSHS).

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- (e) Is receiving services from an individual provider or licensed home health, hospice, or home care agency.
- (f) Self-directs self-care and receives services from a personal aide under RCW 74.39.001 et seq.

### **314.3.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE**

Notification should occur as follows (RCW 74.34.035):

- (a) All notification to DSHS shall be made immediately or as soon as practicable by telephone
- (b) Information provided shall include, if known:
  - 1. The name and address of the person making the report.
  - 2. The name and address of the vulnerable adult.
  - 3. The name and address of the facility or agency providing care for the vulnerable adult.
  - 4. The name and address of the legal guardian or alternate decision maker.
  - 5. The nature and extent of the abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, or self-neglect.
  - 6. Any history of previous abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, or self-neglect.
  - 7. The identity of the alleged perpetrator, if known.
  - 8. Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the extent of abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, neglect, or the cause of death of the deceased vulnerable adult.

### **314.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS**

Qualified investigators should be available to investigate cases of adult abuse. These investigators should:

- (a) Conduct interviews in appropriate interview facilities.
- (b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to adult abuse investigations.
- (c) Present all cases of alleged adult abuse to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and facility administrators as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians and support for the victim and family as appropriate.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable.

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### **314.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING**

All reported or suspected cases of adult abuse require investigation and a report, even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated. If the investigation reveals that a crime may have been committed, the City prosecutor shall be provided a written report of the incident (RCW 74.34.063(3)).

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of adult abuse should address, as applicable:

- (a) The overall basis for the contact. This should be done by the investigating officer in all circumstances where a suspected adult abuse victim is contacted.
- (b) Any relevant statements the victim may have made and to whom he/she made the statements.
- (c) If a person is taken into protective custody, the reasons, the name and title of the person making the decision, and why other alternatives were not appropriate.
- (d) Documentation of any visible injuries or any injuries identified by the victim. This should include photographs of such injuries, if practicable.
- (e) Whether the victim was transported for medical treatment or a medical examination.
- (f) Whether the victim identified a household member as the alleged perpetrator, and a list of the names of any other potential victims or witnesses who may reside in the residence.
- (g) Identification of any prior related reports or allegations of abuse, including other jurisdictions, as reasonably known.
- (h) Previous addresses of the victim and suspect.
- (i) Other potential witnesses who have not yet been interviewed, such as relatives or others close to the victim's environment.

Any unexplained death of an adult who was in the care of a guardian or caretaker should be considered as potential adult abuse and investigated similarly.

### **314.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Before taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody when facts indicate the adult may not be able to care for oneself, the officer should make reasonable attempts to contact DSHS. Generally, removal of an adult abuse victim from the abuse victim's family, guardian, or other responsible adult should be left to the welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this department should remove an adult abuse victim from the abuse victim's family or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the victim. Prior to taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody, the officer should take reasonable steps to deliver the adult to another qualified legal guardian, unless it reasonably appears that the

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release would endanger the victim or result in abduction. If this is not a reasonable option, the officer shall ensure that the adult is delivered to DSHS.

Whenever practicable, the officer should inform a supervisor of the circumstances prior to taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody. If prior notification is not practicable, officers should contact a supervisor promptly after taking the adult into protective custody.

When adult abuse victims are under state control, have a state-appointed guardian, or there are other legal holdings for guardianship, it may be necessary or reasonable to seek a court order on behalf of the adult victim to either remove the adult from a dangerous environment (protective custody) or restrain a person from contact with the adult.

### **314.7 INTERVIEWS**

#### **314.7.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS**

Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, officers should audio record the preliminary interview with a suspected adult abuse victim. Officers should avoid multiple interviews with the victim and should attempt to gather only the information necessary to begin an investigation. When practicable, investigating officers should defer interviews until a person who is specially trained in such interviews is available.

#### **314.7.2 DETAINING VICTIMS FOR INTERVIEWS**

An officer should not detain an adult involuntarily who is suspected of being a victim of abuse solely for the purpose of an interview or physical exam without his/her consent or the consent of a guardian unless one of the following applies:

- (a) Exigent circumstances exist, such as:
  - 1. A reasonable belief that medical issues of the adult need to be addressed immediately.
  - 2. A reasonable belief that the adult is or will be in danger of harm if the interview or physical exam is not immediately completed.
  - 3. The alleged offender is a family member or guardian and there is reason to believe the adult may be in continued danger.
- (b) A court order or warrant has been issued.

### **314.8 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

When an adult abuse investigation requires a medical examination, the investigating officer should obtain consent for such examination from the victim, guardian, agency, or entity having legal custody of the adult. The officer should also arrange for the adult's transportation to the appropriate medical facility.

In cases where the alleged offender is a family member, guardian, agency, or entity having legal custody and is refusing to give consent for the medical examination, officers should notify a supervisor before proceeding. If exigent circumstances do not exist, the supervisor should

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consider other government agencies or services that may obtain a court order for such an examination.

### **314.9 DRUG-ENDANGERED VICTIMS**

A coordinated response by law enforcement and social services agencies is appropriate to meet the immediate and longer-term medical and safety needs of an adult abuse victim who has been exposed to the manufacturing, trafficking or use of narcotics.

#### **314.9.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should:

- (a) Work with professionals from the appropriate agencies, including DSHS, other law enforcement agencies, medical service providers and local prosecutors, to develop community-specific procedures for responding to situations where there are adult abuse victims endangered by exposure to methamphetamine labs or the manufacture and trafficking of other drugs.
- (b) Activate any available interagency response when an officer notifies the Investigation Unit supervisor that he/she has responded to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an adult abuse victim is present or where evidence indicates that an adult abuse victim lives.
- (c) Develop a report format or checklist for use when officers respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help officers document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions that may affect the adult.

#### **314.9.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Officers responding to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an adult abuse victim is present or where there is evidence that an adult abuse victim lives should:

- (a) Document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions of the adult, using photography as appropriate and the checklist or form developed for this purpose.
- (b) Notify the Investigation Unit supervisor so an interagency response can begin.

### **314.10 STATE MANDATES AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS**

Washington requires or permits the following:

#### **314.10.1 ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT**

When an officer has confirmed that a valid court order for protection, including a temporary order, exists and has probable cause to believe that a person has violated that order, the officer has the authority to arrest the person without a warrant (RCW 10.31.100).

#### **314.10.2 RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Records is responsible for:

- (a) Providing a copy of the adult abuse report to DSHS as required by law.
- (b) Retaining the original adult abuse report with the initial case file.

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### **314.10.3 RELEASE OF REPORTS**

Information related to incidents of adult abuse or suspected adult abuse shall be confidential and may only be disclosed pursuant to state law and the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (RCW 74.34.035(9); RCW 74.34.095).

### **314.10.4 PROTECTIVE ORDERS**

In any situation which an officer reasonably believes that a vulnerable adult has been abused, abandoned, or subjected to financial exploitation or neglect, or threatened with such actions, the officer should obtain a protective order against the person alleged to have committed or threatened such abuse pursuant to RCW 74.34.110 or RCW 74.34.210.

### **314.11 TRAINING**

The Department should provide training on best practices in adult abuse investigations to members tasked with investigating these cases. The training should include:

- (a) Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate.
- (b) Conducting interviews.
- (c) Availability of therapy services for adults and families.
- (d) Availability of specialized forensic medical exams.
- (e) Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to adult abuse investigations.
- (f) Availability of victim advocates or other support.



# Discriminatory Harassment

## 315.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to prevent department members from being subjected to discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation. Nothing in this policy is intended to create a legal or employment right or duty that is not created by law.

## 315.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to creating and maintaining a work environment that is free of all forms of discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment and retaliation. The Department will not tolerate discrimination against employees in hiring, promotion, discharge, compensation, fringe benefits, and other privileges of employment. The Department will take preventive and corrective action to address any behavior that violates this policy or the rights it is designed to protect.

The nondiscrimination policies of the Department may be more comprehensive than state or federal law. Conduct that violates this policy may not violate state or federal law but still could subject a member to discipline.

## 315.3 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

### 315.3.1 DISCRIMINATION

The Department prohibits all forms of discrimination, including any employment-related action by a member that adversely affects an applicant or member and is based on actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law.

Discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, is verbal or physical conduct that demeans or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual based upon that individual's protected class. It has the effect of interfering with an individual's work performance or creating a hostile or abusive work environment.

Conduct that may, under certain circumstances, constitute discriminatory harassment can include making derogatory comments; making crude and offensive statements or remarks; making slurs or off-color jokes; stereotyping; engaging in threatening acts; making indecent gestures, pictures, cartoons, posters, or material; making inappropriate physical contact; or using written material or department equipment and/or systems to transmit or receive offensive material, statements, or pictures. Such conduct is contrary to department policy and to a work environment that is free of discrimination.

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### 315.3.2 SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Department prohibits all forms of discrimination and discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment. It is unlawful to harass an applicant or a member because of that person's sex.

Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- (a) Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment, position, or compensation.
- (b) Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting the member.
- (c) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with a member's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

### 315.3.3 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Discrimination and discriminatory harassment do not include actions that are in accordance with established rules, principles or standards, including:

- (a) Acts or omission of acts based solely upon bona fide occupational qualifications under the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and Washington State Human Rights Commission guidelines.
- (b) Bona fide requests or demands by a supervisor that the member improve the member's work quality or output, that the member report to the job site on time, that the member comply with City or department rules or regulations, or any other appropriate work-related communication between supervisor and member.

### 315.3.4 RETALIATION

Retaliation is treating a person differently or engaging in acts of reprisal or intimidation against the person because the person has engaged in protected activity, filed a charge of discrimination, participated in an investigation, or opposed a discriminatory practice. Retaliation will not be tolerated.

## **315.4 RESPONSIBILITIES**

This policy applies to all department members, who shall follow the intent of these guidelines in a manner that reflects department policy, professional standards, and the best interest of the Department and its mission.

Members are encouraged to promptly report any discriminatory, retaliatory, or harassing conduct or known violations of this policy to a supervisor. Any member who is not comfortable with reporting violations of this policy to the member's immediate supervisor may bypass the chain of command and make the report to a higher-ranking supervisor or manager. Complaints may also be filed with the Chief of Police, the Human Resources Director, or the Mayor.

Any member who believes, in good faith, that the member has been discriminated against, harassed, or subjected to retaliation, or who has observed harassment or discrimination, is

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encouraged to promptly report such conduct in accordance with the procedures set forth in this policy.

Supervisors and managers receiving information regarding alleged violations of this policy shall determine if there is any basis for the allegation and shall proceed with resolution as stated below.

### **315.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of supervisors and managers shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) Continually monitoring the work environment and striving to ensure that it is free from all types of unlawful discrimination, including harassment or retaliation.
- (b) Taking prompt, appropriate action within their work units to avoid and minimize the incidence of any form of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation.
- (c) Ensuring their subordinates understand their responsibilities under this policy.
- (d) Ensuring that members who make complaints or who oppose any unlawful employment practices are protected from retaliation and that such matters are kept confidential to the extent possible.
- (e) Making a timely determination regarding the substance of any allegation based upon all available facts.
- (f) Notifying the Chief of Police or the Human Resources Director in writing of the circumstances surrounding any reported allegations or observed acts of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation no later than the next business day.

### **315.4.2 SUPERVISOR'S ROLE**

Supervisors and managers shall be aware of the following:

- (a) Behavior of supervisors and managers should represent the values of the Department and professional standards.
- (b) False or mistaken accusations of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation have negative effects on the careers of innocent members.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent supervisors or managers from discharging supervisory or management responsibilities, such as determining duty assignments, evaluating or counseling members, or issuing discipline in a manner that is consistent with established procedures.

### **315.4.3 QUESTIONS OR CLARIFICATION**

Members with questions regarding what constitutes discrimination, sexual harassment, or retaliation are encouraged to contact a supervisor, a manager, the Chief of Police, the Human Resources Director, or the Mayor for further information, direction, or clarification.

## **315.5 INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS**

Various methods of resolution exist. During the pendency of any such investigation, the supervisor of the involved member should take prompt and reasonable steps to mitigate or eliminate any continuing abusive or hostile work environment. It is the policy of the Department that all

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complaints of discrimination, retaliation, or harassment shall be fully documented, and promptly and thoroughly investigated.

### **315.5.1 SUPERVISOR RESOLUTION**

Members who believe they are experiencing discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should be encouraged to inform the individual that the behavior is unwelcome, offensive, unprofessional, or inappropriate. However, if the member feels uncomfortable or threatened or has difficulty expressing the member's concern, or if this does not resolve the concern, assistance should be sought from a supervisor or manager who is a rank higher than the alleged transgressor.

### **315.5.2 FORMAL INVESTIGATION**

If the complaint cannot be satisfactorily resolved through the process described above, a formal investigation will be conducted.

The member assigned to investigate the complaint will have full authority to investigate all aspects of the complaint. Investigative authority includes access to records and the cooperation of any members involved. No influence will be used to suppress any complaint and no member will be subject to retaliation or reprisal for filing a complaint, encouraging others to file a complaint, or for offering testimony or evidence in an investigation.

Formal investigation of the complaint will be confidential to the extent possible and will include but is not limited to details of the specific incident, frequency and dates of occurrences, and names of any witnesses. Witnesses will be advised regarding the prohibition against retaliation, and that a disciplinary process, up to and including termination, may result if retaliation occurs.

Members who believe they have been discriminated against, harassed, or retaliated against because of their protected status are encouraged to follow the chain of command but may also file a complaint directly with the Chief of Police, the Human Resources Director, or the Mayor.

### **315.5.3 ALTERNATIVE COMPLAINT PROCESS**

No provision of this policy shall be construed to prevent any member from seeking legal redress outside the Department. Members who believe that they have been harassed, discriminated against, or retaliated against are entitled to bring complaints of employment discrimination to federal, state, and/or local agencies responsible for investigating such allegations. Specific time limitations apply to the filing of such charges. Members are advised that proceeding with complaints under the provisions of this policy does not in any way affect those filing requirements.

## **315.6 DOCUMENTATION OF COMPLAINTS**

All complaints or allegations shall be thoroughly documented on forms and in a manner designated by the Chief of Police. The outcome of all reports shall be:

- (a) Approved by the Chief of Police, the Mayor, or the Human Resources Director, depending on the ranks of the involved parties.
- (b) Maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

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### 315.6.1 NOTIFICATION OF DISPOSITION

The complainant and/or victim will be notified in writing of the disposition of the investigation and the action taken to remedy or address the circumstances giving rise to the complaint.

### **315.7 TRAINING**

All new members shall be provided with a copy of this policy as part of their orientation. The policy shall be reviewed with each new member. The member shall certify by signing the prescribed form that the member has been advised of this policy, is aware of and understands its contents, and agrees to abide by its provisions during the member's term with the Department.

All members shall receive annual training on the requirements of this policy and shall certify by signing the prescribed form that they have reviewed the policy, understand its contents, and agree that they will continue to abide by its provisions.

# Child Abuse

## 316.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investigation of suspected child abuse. This policy also addresses when Aberdeen Police Department members are required to notify the Department of Children, Youth, and Families, Child Protective Services (CPS) of suspected child abuse.

## 316.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will investigate all reported incidents of alleged criminal child abuse and ensure CPS is notified as required by law.

## 316.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Members of the Aberdeen Police Department shall notify CPS when a report of abuse or neglect of a child is received or when there is reasonable cause to believe that a child has suffered abuse or neglect (RCW 26.44.030).

For purposes of notification, abuse or neglect of a child includes sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, or injury inflicted by any person under circumstances that cause harm to the child's health, welfare or safety, excluding lawful discipline, or the negligent treatment or maltreatment by a person who is responsible for, or providing care to, a child (RCW 26.44.020).

Officers shall promptly notify CPS whenever a child under 16 years of age is in a vehicle being driven by the child's parent, guardian, legal custodian, sibling or half-sibling and that person is being arrested for a drug or alcohol-related driving offense (RCW 46.61.507).

If, during an investigation of drug manufacturing, an officer discovers that a child is present at the investigation site, the officer shall notify CPS immediately (RCW 26.44.200).

### 316.3.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Notification should occur as follows (RCW 26.44.030(5)):

- (a) In emergency cases, notification to CPS should be made immediately when the child's welfare is endangered but in all such cases within 24 hours.
- (b) In non-emergency cases, notification to CPS shall be made within 72 hours after a report is received.
- (c) Notification, when possible, should include (RCW 26.44.040):
  - 1. The name, address and age of the child.
  - 2. The name and address of the child's parents, stepparents, guardians or other persons having custody of the child.
  - 3. The nature and extent of the alleged injury or injuries.

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4. The nature and extent of the alleged neglect.
5. The nature and extent of the alleged sexual abuse.
6. Any evidence of previous injuries, including the nature and extent of the injury.
7. Any other information that may be helpful in establishing the cause of the child's death, injury or injuries, and the identity of the alleged perpetrator or perpetrators.

(d) The Department shall forward all case dispositions to CPS.

### 316.3.2 POLICE REPORTS

Employees responding to incidents of suspected child abuse where it cannot initially be shown that a crime occurred shall document the incident in a general report as "unfounded." Information related to unfounded referrals in files or reports of child abuse or neglect may not be maintained for longer than six years and at the end of six years from receipt of the unfounded report, the information shall be purged unless an additional report has been received in the intervening period (RCW 26.44.031).

### 316.3.3 CONTACTING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE VICTIMS

Officers should not involuntarily detain a juvenile suspected of being a victim of abuse solely for the purpose of an interview or physical exam without the consent of a parent or guardian unless any of the following apply:

- (a) Exigent circumstances exist. For example:
  1. A reasonable belief that medical issues need to be addressed immediately.
  2. It is reasonably believed that the child is or will be in danger of harm if the interview or physical exam is not immediately completed.
- (b) A court order or warrant has been issued.

In all circumstances in which a suspected child abuse victim is contacted, it will be incumbent upon the investigating officer to articulate in the related reports the overall basis for the contact and what, if any, exigent circumstances exist.

Any juvenile student at school who is a suspected victim of child abuse shall be afforded the option of being interviewed in private or selecting any qualified available adult member of school staff to be present. The purpose of the staff member's presence is to provide comfort and support and such staff member shall not participate in the interview. The selection of a staff member should be such that it does not burden the school with costs or hardship.

### 316.3.4 RELEASE OF REPORTS

Reports of child abuse or suspected child abuse shall be confidential and may only be disclosed pursuant to Policy § 810. No unfounded allegation of child abuse or neglect may be disclosed

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to a child-placing agency, private adoption agency, or any other provider licensed under RCW Chapter 74.15 (RCW 26.44.031(4)).

### **316.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS**

Qualified investigators should be available for child abuse investigations. These investigators should:

- (a) Conduct interviews in child appropriate interview facilities.
- (b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to child abuse investigations.
- (c) Present all cases of alleged child abuse to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and school administrators as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians and support for the child and family as appropriate.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable (RCW 26.44.180 et seq.).

#### **316.4.1 FORENSIC INTERVIEWING CHILD VICTIMS**

Only those personnel who have successfully completed WSCJTC sponsored training in interviewing child victims of sexual abuse shall participate in or conduct such interviews. Interviews of children that are suspected victims of sexual abuse will be conducted in compliance with the training standards (RCW 43.101.224). APD personnel will follow Grays Harbor Protocol.

#### **316.4.2 FELONY INVESTIGATIONS**

Any felony case in which a juvenile is either a victim or suspect will be forwarded to the investigations section supervisor for review and assignment to a detective for further investigation as required. Cases may be referred to the Patrol Section for investigation or follow-up as required.

#### **316.4.3 CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS**

All cases in which a juvenile is either a victim or suspect of sexual assault, or a victim of abuse or neglect, will be assigned to the child abuse investigator as appropriate.

### **316.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING**

In all reported or suspected cases of child abuse, a report will be written. Officers shall write a report even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of child abuse should address, as applicable:

- (a) The overall basis for the contact. This should be done by the investigating officer in all circumstances where a suspected child abuse victim was contacted.
- (b) The exigent circumstances that existed if officers interviewed the child victim without the presence of a parent or guardian.



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- (c) Any relevant statements the child may have made and to whom he/she made the statements.
- (d) If a child was taken into protective custody, the reasons, the name and title of the person making the decision, and why other alternatives were not appropriate.
- (e) Documentation of any visible injuries or any injuries identified by the child. This should include photographs of such injuries, if practicable.
- (f) Whether the child victim was transported for medical treatment or a medical examination.
- (g) Whether the victim identified a household member as the alleged perpetrator, and a list of the names of any other children who may reside in the residence.
- (h) Identification of any prior related reports or allegations of child abuse, including other jurisdictions, as reasonably known.
- (i) Previous addresses of the victim and suspect.
- (j) Other potential witnesses who have not yet been interviewed, such as relatives or others close to the victim's environment.
- (k) Applicable local protocol regarding child abuse investigations (RCW 26.44.180 et seq.).

All cases of the unexplained death of a child should be investigated as thoroughly as if it had been a case of suspected child abuse (e.g., a sudden or unexplained death of an infant).

### **316.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Before taking any child into protective custody, the officer should make reasonable attempts to contact CPS. Generally, removal of a child from his/her family, guardian or other responsible adult should be left to the child welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this department should remove a child from his/her parent or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the child. Prior to taking a child into protective custody, the officer should take reasonable steps to deliver the child to another qualified parent or legal guardian, unless it reasonably appears that the release would endanger the child or result in abduction. If this is not a reasonable option, the officer shall ensure that the child is delivered to CPS.

Whenever practicable, the officer should inform a supervisor of the circumstances prior to taking a child into protective custody. If prior notification is not practicable, officers should contact a supervisor promptly after taking a child into protective custody.

Children may only be removed from a parent or guardian in the following situations (RCW 26.44.050):

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- (a) A court order has been issued authorizing the removal of the child.
- (b) There is probable cause to believe that the child is abused or neglected and that the child would be injured or could not be taken into custody if it were necessary to first obtain a court order (e.g., the child could be taken and concealed).

### **316.7 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

If the child has been the victim of abuse that requires a medical examination, the investigating officer should obtain consent for such examination from the appropriate parent, guardian or agency having legal custody of the child. The officer should also arrange for the child's transportation to the appropriate medical facility.

In cases where the alleged offender is the custodial parent or guardian and is refusing consent for the medical examination, officers should notify a supervisor before proceeding. If exigent circumstances do not exist or if state law does not provide for officers to take the child for a medical examination, the notified supervisor should consider obtaining a court order for such an examination.

## Missing Persons

### 317.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for handling missing person investigations.

#### 317.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**At risk** - This includes persons who:

- (a) Are 13 years of age or younger.
- (b) Regardless of age, are believed or determined to be experiencing one or more of the following circumstances:
  - 1. Missing under unexplained, involuntary or suspicious circumstances and is believed to be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, in combination with environmental or weather conditions, or it is believed that the person is unable to return to safety without assistance.
  - 2. Out of the zone of safety for his/her chronological age and developmental stage.
  - 3. Mentally or behaviorally disabled.
  - 4. Drug dependent, including prescribed medication and/or illegal substances, and the dependency is potentially life-threatening.
  - 5. Absent from home for more than 24 hours before being reported to law enforcement as missing.
  - 6. In a life-threatening situation.
  - 7. In the company of others who could endanger his/her welfare.
  - 8. Absent in a way that is inconsistent with established patterns of behavior and cannot be readily explained. Most children have an established and reasonably predictable routine.
  - 9. Involved in a situation that would cause a reasonable person to conclude the person should be considered at risk.

**Missing person** - Any person who is reported missing to law enforcement when that person's location is unknown.

**Missing person networks** - Databases or computer networks that are available to law enforcement and are suitable for obtaining information related to missing person investigations. This includes the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC).

### 317.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department does not consider any report of a missing person to be routine and assumes that the missing person is in need of immediate assistance until an investigation reveals otherwise. The Aberdeen Police Department gives missing person cases priority over

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property-related cases and does not require a specific amount of time to have passed before beginning a missing person investigation.

### **317.3 REQUIRED FORMS AND BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION KITS**

The Investigation Unit supervisor shall ensure the following forms and kits are developed and available:

- Missing person report form
- Missing person investigation checklist that provides investigation guidelines and resources that could be helpful in the early hours of a missing person investigation (RCW 43.43.876)
- Medical records release form
- Biological sample collection kits

### **317.4 ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

Any member encountering a person who wishes to report a missing person or runaway shall render assistance without delay. This can be accomplished by accepting the report via telephone or in-person and initiating the investigation. Those members who do not take such reports or who are unable to give immediate assistance shall promptly dispatch or alert a member who can take the report.

A report shall be accepted in all cases and regardless of where the person was last seen, where the person resides or any question of jurisdiction.

### **317.5 INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

Officers or other members conducting the initial investigation of a missing person should take the following investigative actions, as applicable:

- (a) Respond to a dispatched call as soon as practicable.
- (b) Interview the reporting party and any witnesses to determine whether the person qualifies as a missing person and, if so, whether the person may be at risk.
- (c) Notify a supervisor immediately if there is evidence that a missing person is either at risk or may qualify for a public alert, or both (see the Public Alerts Policy).
- (d) Broadcast a "Be on the Look-Out" (BOLO) bulletin if the person is under 16 years of age or there is evidence that the missing person is at risk. The BOLO should be broadcast as soon as practicable but in no event more than one hour after determining the missing person is under 16 years of age or may be at risk.
- (e) Ensure that entries are made into the appropriate missing person networks, as follows:
  1. Immediately, when the missing person is at risk.
  2. In all other cases, as soon as practicable, but not later than two hours from the time of the initial report.

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- (f) Complete the appropriate report forms accurately and completely and initiate a search as applicable under the facts.
- (g) Collect and/or review:
  - 1. A photograph and fingerprint card of the missing person, if available.
  - 2. A voluntarily provided biological sample of the missing person, if available (e.g., toothbrush, hairbrush).
  - 3. Any documents that may assist in the investigation, such as court orders regarding custody.
  - 4. Any other evidence that may assist in the investigation, including personal electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, computers).
- (h) When circumstances permit and if appropriate, attempt to determine the missing person's location through his/her telecommunications carrier (RCW 80.36.570).
  - 1. Information may only be sought from a carrier in an emergency situation that involves the risk of death or serious physical harm.
  - 2. Members shall check NCIC and other available databases for a history of domestic violence or court order restricting contact and verify through the Washington State Patrol (WSP) that the missing person is not participating in the address confidentiality program under RCW 40.24.030 et seq. Information obtained from NCIC, other databases, or WSP shall not be released except by court order.
  - 3. Information received from a carrier is restricted and should only be released to first responders responding to the emergency situation.
- (i) Contact the appropriate agency if the report relates to a missing person report previously made to another agency and that agency is actively investigating the report. When this is not practicable, the information should be documented in an appropriate report for transmission to the appropriate agency. If the information relates to an at-risk missing person, the member should notify a supervisor and proceed with reasonable steps to locate the missing person.
- (j) Consider contacting the WSP Missing and Exploited Children's Task Force (MECTF) if additional resources are needed (RCW 13.60.110).

### 317.6 REPORT PROCEDURES AND ROUTING

Members should complete all missing person reports and forms promptly and advise the appropriate supervisor as soon as a missing person report is ready for review.

#### 317.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the supervisor shall include, but are not be limited to:

- (a) Reviewing and approving missing person reports upon receipt.
  - 1. The reports should be promptly sent to the Records.
- (b) Ensuring resources are deployed as appropriate.

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- (c) Initiating a command post as needed.
- (d) Ensuring applicable notifications and public alerts are made and documented.
- (e) Ensuring that records have been entered into the appropriate missing persons networks.
- (f) Taking reasonable steps to identify and address any jurisdictional issues to ensure cooperation among agencies.
  - 1. If the case falls within the jurisdiction of another agency, the supervisor should facilitate transfer of the case to the agency of jurisdiction.

### **317.6.2 RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the Records receiving member shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) As soon as reasonable under the circumstances, notifying and forwarding a copy of the report to the agency of jurisdiction for the missing person's residence in cases where the missing person is a resident of another jurisdiction.
- (b) Notifying and forwarding a copy of the report to the agency of jurisdiction where the missing person was last seen.
- (c) Notifying and forwarding a copy of the report to the agency of jurisdiction for the missing person's intended or possible destination, if known.
- (d) Forwarding a copy of the report to the Investigation Unit.
- (e) Coordinating with the NCIC Terminal Contractor for Washington to have the missing person record in the NCIC computer networks updated with additional information obtained from missing person investigations (34 USC § 41308).

### **317.7 INVESTIGATION UNIT FOLLOW-UP**

In addition to completing or continuing any actions listed above, the investigator assigned to a missing person investigation:

- (a) Should ensure that the missing person's school is notified within 10 days if the missing person is a juvenile.
  - 1. The notice shall be in writing and should also include a photograph.
  - 2. The investigator should meet with school officials as appropriate to stress the importance of including the notice in the child's student file, along with the investigator's contact information, if the school receives a call requesting the transfer of the missing child's files to another school.
- (b) Should recontact the reporting person and/or other witnesses within 30 days of the initial report and within 30 days thereafter to keep them informed, as appropriate, and to determine if any additional information has become available.
- (c) Should consider contacting other agencies involved in the case to determine if any additional information is available.

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- (d) Shall verify and update WACIC, NCIC, and any other applicable missing person networks within 30 days of the original entry into the networks and every 30 days thereafter until the missing person is located (34 USC § 41308).
- (e) Should continue to make reasonable efforts to locate the missing person and document these efforts at least every 30 days.
- (f) Shall maintain a close liaison with state and local child welfare systems and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) if the missing person is under the age of 21 and shall promptly notify NCMEC when the person is missing from a foster care family home or childcare institution (34 USC § 41308).
- (g) Should make appropriate inquiry with the Coroner.
- (h) Should obtain and forward medical and dental records, photos, X-rays, and biological samples, as applicable.
- (i) Shall attempt to obtain the most recent photograph for persons under 18 years of age if it has not been obtained previously and forward the photograph to the WSP Missing and Unidentified Persons Unit (MUPU) and enter the photograph into applicable missing person networks (34 USC § 41308).
- (j) Should consider making appropriate entries and searches in the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs).
- (k) In the case of an at-risk missing person or a person who has been missing for an extended time, should consult with a supervisor regarding seeking federal assistance from the FBI and the U.S. Marshals Service (28 USC § 566).

### 317.7.1 MISSING OVER 30 DAYS OR WHEN CRIMINAL ACTIVITY SUSPECTED

When a person reported missing has not been found within 30 days of the report or at any time when criminal activity is suspected, the handling detective shall contact the county coroner or medical examiner to determine if that office has any information concerning the missing person. If, after conferring with the coroner or medical examiner, the person is still determined to be missing, the handling officers shall:

- (a) File a missing person's report with MUPU.
- (b) Initiate the collection of biological samples from the known missing person and his/her family members for nuclear and mitochondrial DNA testing along with the necessary consent forms, if not previously obtained during the investigation.
- (c) Ask the missing person's family or next of kin to give written consent to request the person's dental records.
  - 1. Whenever possible, obtain diagnostic quality copies or original records of the missing person's dental records. As soon as possible, biological samples shall be submitted to the appropriate lab; dental records shall be submitted to MUPU (RCW 43.43.751; RCW 68.50.320).

In all missing person cases, the assigned detective should attempt contact with the reporting party no less than every 30 days in order to verify the status of the reported missing person. After 12

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months, contact with the reporting party should be attempted yearly. All verifications should be reported to WSP via A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS).

### **317.8 WHEN A MISSING PERSON IS FOUND**

When any person reported missing is found, the assigned investigator shall document the location of the missing person in the appropriate report, notify the relatives and/or reporting party, as appropriate, and other involved agencies, and refer the case for additional investigation if warranted.

The Special Assignments Officer should ensure that, upon receipt of information that a missing person has been located, the following occurs:

- (a) Notification is made to MUPU.
- (b) A missing child's school is notified.
- (c) Entries are made in the applicable missing person networks.
- (d) When a person is at risk, the fact that the person has been found should be reported within 24 hours to MUPU.
- (e) Notification shall be made to any other law enforcement agency that took the initial report or participated in the investigation.

#### **317.8.1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS**

Department members investigating a case of an unidentified person who is deceased or a living person who cannot assist in identifying him/herself should:

- (a) Obtain a complete description of the person.
- (b) Enter the unidentified person's description into the NCIC Unidentified Person File.
- (c) Use available resources, such as those related to missing persons, to identify the person.

### **317.9 CASE CLOSURE**

The Investigation Unit Supervisor may authorize the closure of a missing person case after considering the following:

- (a) Closure is appropriate when the missing person is confirmed returned or evidence matches an unidentified person or body.
- (b) If the missing person is a resident of Aberdeen or this department is the lead agency, the case should be kept under active investigation for as long as the person may still be alive. Exhaustion of leads in the investigation should not be a reason for closing a case.
- (c) If this department is not the lead agency, the case can be made inactive if all investigative leads have been exhausted, the lead agency has been notified and entries are made in the applicable missing person networks, as appropriate.



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- (d) A missing person case should not be closed or reclassified because the person would have reached a certain age or adulthood or because the person is now the subject of a criminal or civil warrant.

### **317.10 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Coordinator should ensure that members of this department whose duties include missing person investigations and reports receive training that includes:

- (a) The initial investigation:
  - 1. Assessments and interviews
  - 2. Use of current resources, such as Mobile Audio Video (MAV)
  - 3. Confirming missing status and custody status of minors
  - 4. Evaluating the need for a heightened response
  - 5. Identifying the zone of safety based on chronological age and developmental stage
- (b) Briefing of department members at the scene.
- (c) Identifying NCIC Missing Person File categories (e.g., disability, endangered, involuntary, juvenile and catastrophe).
- (d) Verifying the accuracy of all descriptive information.
- (e) Initiating a neighborhood investigation.
- (f) Investigating any relevant recent family dynamics.
- (g) Addressing conflicting information.
- (h) Key investigative and coordination steps.
- (i) Managing a missing person case.
- (j) Additional resources and specialized services.
- (k) Update procedures for case information and descriptions.
- (l) Preserving scenes.
- (m) Internet and technology issues (e.g., Internet use, cell phone use).
- (n) Media relations.

## Public Alerts

### 318.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for alerting the public to important information and soliciting public aid when appropriate.

### 318.2 POLICY

Public alerts may be employed using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), local radio, television and press organizations and other groups to notify the public of incidents, or enlist the aid of the public, when the exchange of information may enhance the safety of the community. Various types of alerts may be available based upon each situation and the alert system's individual criteria.

### 318.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 318.3.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members of the Aberdeen Police Department should notify their supervisor, Patrol Lieutenant or Investigation Unit Supervisor as soon as practicable upon learning of a situation where public notification, a warning or enlisting the help of the media and public could assist in locating a missing person, apprehending a dangerous person or gathering information.

#### 318.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor apprised of the need for a public alert is responsible to make the appropriate notifications based upon the circumstances of each situation. The supervisor shall promptly notify the Chief of Police, the appropriate Division Commander and the Public Information Officer when any public alert is generated.

The supervisor in charge of the investigation to which the alert relates is responsible for the following:

- (a) Updating alerts
- (b) Canceling alerts
- (c) Ensuring all appropriate reports are completed
- (d) Preparing an after-action evaluation of the investigation to be forwarded to the Division Commander

#### 318.3.3 PUBLIC ALERT REPORTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief of Police should designate a public alert reporting officer, who is responsible for:

- (a) Remaining familiar with the protocols for activating, maintaining and cancelling all applicable public alerts.
- (b) Being the point of contact with the Washington AMBER Alert Advisory Committee.
- (c) Ensuring the Department has members who have completed the appropriate training.

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### **318.4 WASHINGTON STATEWIDE AMBER ALERT™ PLAN**

The AMBER Alert™ Plan is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement, state government agencies, broadcasters and other participants to rapidly disseminate information to enhance the public's ability to assist in recovering abducted children (RCW 13.60.010).

The Aberdeen Police Department participates in this partnership and may initiate an AMBER Alert to disseminate information to the public when the criteria for an AMBER Alert are met.

#### **318.4.1 ALERT CRITERIA**

The following criteria must exist prior to requesting an AMBER Alert:

- (a) The child is under 18 years of age and is known to have been abducted. The child is not a runaway or a throw-away child.
- (b) The abducted child is believed to be in danger of death or serious bodily injury.
- (c) The AMBER Alert activation should occur within four hours of the qualifying event unless circumstances or the timeliness of the information warrant otherwise.
- (d) There must be enough descriptive information to believe that an AMBER Alert activation will assist in the recovery of the child, including:
  - 1. Where the abduction took place.
  - 2. A physical description of the child: height, weight, age, hair color and length, eye color, clothing worn when the child was last seen, and any distinguishing physical characteristics.
  - 3. A physical description of the abductor: height, weight, age, hair color and length, eye color, clothing worn when the suspect last seen, and any distinguishing physical characteristics.
  - 4. Place last seen.
  - 5. Description of the vehicle: color, make, model, license number, approximate year.
- (e) The incident must be reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

#### **318.4.2 PROCEDURE**

Should the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor determine that the incident meets the criteria of the Washington Statewide AMBER Alert Plan, the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor should:

- (a) Ensure that department protocol is followed regarding approval of the alert.
- (b) Ensure all appropriate documentation is completed.
- (c) Contact the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Communication Center for entry into the Law Enforcement Alerting Portal (LEAP).

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### 318.4.3 INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS

Upon initiation of an AMBER Alert, the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor shall:

- (a) Ensure prompt entry of information into the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC) databases.
- (b) Promptly notify the Chief of Police and the appropriate Division Commander of any AMBER Alert activation.
- (c) Ensure the preparation of an initial press release that includes all the information required by the Washington Statewide AMBER Alert Plan, and any other available information that might aid in locating the child, such as:
  - 1. A photograph.
  - 2. Detail regarding location of incident, direction of travel, potential destinations, etc., if known.
  - 3. Name and telephone number of the Public Information Officer or other authorized point of contact to handle media and law enforcement liaison.
  - 4. A telephone number and point of contact for the public to call with leads or information.

### 318.4.4 POST-INCIDENT REPORTING

The Chief of Police shall be responsible for submitting the AMBER Alert Report to the Washington State Police Chiefs (WASPC) in a timely fashion. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall be responsible for representing the Department during the AMBER Alert Review Committee's after-action review of the alert.

## **318.5 ENDANGERED MISSING PERSON ADVISORY**

The Endangered Missing Person Advisory is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement, other government agencies and local broadcasters to rapidly disseminate information to law enforcement agencies, the media and the public about a missing and endangered person in circumstances that do not qualify for an AMBER Alert (RCW 13.60.050).

The Aberdeen Police Department participates in this partnership and may initiate the required notifications whenever a person is reported missing from this jurisdiction and meets the criteria of an Endangered Missing Person. An endangered missing person advisory may be termed a "silver alert" when initiated to assist in the recovery of a missing endangered person age 60 or older.

### 318.5.1 ADVISORY CRITERIA

All of the following criteria must exist prior to initiating an Endangered Missing Person Advisory:

- (a) The person is missing under unexplained, involuntary or suspicious circumstances.
- (b) The person has a developmental disability, is a vulnerable adult or is believed to be in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, in combination with environmental or weather conditions, or is believed to be unable to return to safety

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without assistance. This also includes a person diagnosed as having Alzheimer's disease or other age-related dementia (RCW 13.60.010).

- (c) There is enough information that could assist the public in the safe recovery of the missing person (e.g., photo or description, clothing worn when last seen, vehicle, location last seen).
- (d) The incident has been reported to and investigated by a law enforcement agency.

### 318.5.2 PROCEDURE

Should the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor determine that the incident meets the criteria of an Endangered Missing Person Advisory, the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor should:

- (a) Ensure that department protocol is followed regarding approval of the alert.
- (b) Ensure all appropriate documentation is completed.
- (c) Contact the WSP Communication Center for entry into LEAP.
- (d) Direct Records personnel to enter the information into the WACIC and NCIC databases using the proper message key: Missing (MNP), Endangered (EME), or Involuntary (EMI).
- (e) Notify Grays Harbor Communications of the advisory and ensure that it is prepared to handle a high volume of telephone calls.
- (f) Ensure that the handling officer attempts to obtain a photograph of the missing person and/or suspect as soon as possible.
- (g) Direct the Records to enter the photograph into WACIC and NCIC, then send an email to the WSP Missing Persons Unit (MPU).
- (h) Appoint a Public Information Officer to handle the media.
  - 1. The Public Information Officer should notify the media through appropriate channels regarding the Endangered Person Advisory. Upon request, the WSP MPU can provide electronic posters with details of the missing person.
  - 2. If the Endangered Missing Person is 21 years of age or younger, NCMEC should be notified as soon as practicable.
- (i) The Records personnel should promptly cancel the advisory after an Endangered Missing Person is located by sending an administrative message through A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS), noting that the person has been found.

### 318.6 BLUE ALERTS

The Blue Alert system is a voluntary cooperation between law enforcement, state government agencies and local broadcasters to enhance the public's ability to assist in locating and

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apprehending persons suspected of killing or seriously injuring a law enforcement officer (RCW 10.108.030).

The Aberdeen Police Department participates in this partnership and may initiate a Blue Alert to disseminate information to the public when the criteria for a Blue Alert are met.

### 318.6.1 CRITERIA

All of the following criteria are required to exist prior to initiating a Blue Alert (RCW 10.108.030):

- (a) The suspect has not been apprehended.
- (b) The suspect poses a serious threat to the public.
- (c) Sufficient information is available to disseminate to the public to assist in locating and apprehending the suspect.
- (d) The release of the information will not compromise the investigation.
- (e) The release of the information will not improperly notify an officer's next of kin.

### 318.6.2 PROCEDURE

Should the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor determine that the incident meets the criteria of a Blue Alert, the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor should:

- (a) Direct Records personnel to prepare a Blue Alert administrative message through ACCESS. The words, "Blue Alert Advisory" should be included in the title of the message.
- (b) Contact WSP Communications to verify that the advisory was received and, if available, provide the suspect's vehicle information and request the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to activate variable message signs.
- (c) Ensure that descriptive information about the suspect, the suspect's whereabouts and the suspect's method of escape is disseminated.
- (d) Appoint a Public Information Officer to issue press releases and handle media inquiries.
  - 1. The Public Information Officer should be updated continually and be in constant contact with all media outlets to obtain maximum media exposure, provide updates and cancel the Blue Alert when appropriate.
- (e) Advise Grays Harbor Communications of the Blue Alert and ensure that it is prepared to handle a high volume of telephone calls.
- (f) Ensure that a press release is issued cancelling the Blue Alert.

### 318.7 OTHER RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

The Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor should consider the following resources, as appropriate:

- (a) Local allied law enforcement agency resources

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- (b) FBI local office
- (c) The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)
  - 1. Monitor the Cyber Tipline® link and post missing children alerts
- (d) The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - 1. Will relay AMBER Alerts over Weather Radio

# Victim Witness Assistance

## 319.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that crime victims and witnesses receive appropriate assistance, that they are provided with information from government and private resources, and that the agency meets all related legal mandates.

## 319.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to providing guidance and assistance to the victims and witnesses of crime. The employees of the Aberdeen Police Department will show compassion and understanding for victims and witnesses and will make reasonable efforts to provide the support and information identified in this policy.

## 319.3 CRIME VICTIM LIAISON

The Chief of Police may appoint a member of the Department to serve as the crime victim liaison. The crime victim liaison will be the point of contact for individuals requiring further assistance or information from the Aberdeen Police Department regarding benefits from crime victim resources. This person shall also be responsible for maintaining compliance with all legal mandates related to crime victims and/or witnesses.

### 319.3.1 SPECIFIC VICTIM LIAISON DUTIES

The crime victim liaison should:

- (a) Ensure that the Department affords victims and witnesses their appropriate rights (RCW 7.69.030; RCW 7.69B.020; RCW 70.125.110).
- (b) Ensure that child victims and witnesses are provided appropriate services and rights (RCW 7.69A.030).
- (c) Coordinate with the County Prosecutor's Office to ensure that all other required notifications are provided to victims and witnesses.

## 319.4 CRIME VICTIMS

Officers should provide all victims with the applicable victim information handouts.

Officers should never guarantee a victim's safety from future harm but may make practical safety suggestions to victims who express fear of future harm or retaliation. Officers should never guarantee that a person qualifies as a victim for the purpose of compensation or restitution but may direct him/her to the proper written department material or available victim resources.

### 319.4.1 RIGHT OF IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Victims have the right to immediate medical assistance and should not be detained for an unreasonable length of time before having such assistance administered. The officer may accompany the victim to a medical facility to question the victim about the criminal incident if the questioning does not hinder the administration of medical assistance (RCW 7.69.030).



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### **319.5 VICTIM INFORMATION**

The Support Services Division Commander shall ensure that victim information handouts are available and current. These should include as appropriate:

- (a) Shelters and other community resources for victims including domestic violence and sexual assault victims.
- (b) Assurance that sexual assault victims will not incur out-of-pocket expenses for forensic medical exams, and information about evidence collection, storage, and preservation in sexual assault cases (34 USC § 10449; 34 USC § 20109; RCW 70.125.110).
- (c) An advisement that a person who was arrested may be released on bond or some other form of release and that the victim should not rely upon an arrest as a guarantee of safety.
- (d) A clear explanation of relevant court orders and how they can be obtained.
- (e) Information regarding available compensation for qualifying victims of crime.
- (f) VINE® information (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), including the telephone number and whether this free service is available to allow victims to check on an offender's custody status and to register for automatic notification when a person is released from jail.
- (g) Notice regarding U-Visa and T-Visa application processes.
- (h) Resources available for victims of identity theft.
- (i) A place for the officer's name, badge number, and any applicable case or incident number.
- (j) A written statement enumerating the rights of victims (RCW 7.69.030; RCW 7.69A.030; RCW 7.69B.020).
- (k) The name, address, and telephone number of the local victim/witness program, or contact information for the Washington Coalition of Crime Victim Advocates.
- (l) An advisement notifying victims of domestic violence of their right to personally initiate a criminal proceeding when an officer does not exercise arrest powers or initiate criminal proceedings by citation (RCW 10.99.030).
- (m) Information about the address confidentiality program (RCW 40.24.030).

### **319.6 WITNESSES**

Officers should never guarantee a witness' safety from future harm or that his/her identity will always remain confidential. Officers may make practical safety suggestions to witnesses who express fear of future harm or retaliation.

Officers should investigate allegations of witness intimidation and take enforcement action when lawful and reasonable.

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### **319.7 WITNESS INFORMATION**

Any person who has been or expects to be summoned to testify for the prosecution in a criminal action, or who is subject to call or is likely to be called as a witness, has rights to specific information about the case (RCW 7.69.030).

The Support Services Division Commander shall ensure that witness information handouts are available and current. These should include information regarding witness rights (RCW 7.69.030).

# Hate Crimes

## 320.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This department recognizes and places a high priority on the rights of all individuals guaranteed under the Constitution and the laws of this state. When such rights are infringed upon by violence, threats or other harassment, this department will utilize all available resources to see that justice is served under the law. This policy has been developed to provide members of this department with guidelines for identifying and investigating incidents and crimes that may be motivated by hatred or other bias.

## 320.2 DEFINITIONS

Except where otherwise noted, the following definitions are provided per RCW 9A.04.110:

**Bodily injury, physical injury, or bodily harm** - Physical pain or injury, illness, or an impairment of physical condition.

**Gender expression or identity** - Having, or being perceived as having, a gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior, or expression, whether or not that gender identity, self-image, appearance, behavior, or expression is different from that traditionally associated with the sex assigned to that person at birth (RCW 9A.36.080).

**Malice and maliciously** - To import an evil intent, wish, or design to vex, annoy, or injure another person. Malice may be inferred from an act done in willful disregard of the rights of another, or an act wrongfully done without just cause or excuse, or an act or omission of duty betraying a willful disregard of social duty.

**Reasonable person** - A reasonable person who is a member of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, or sexual orientation, or who has the same gender expression or identity, or the same mental, physical, or sensory disability as the victim (RCW 9A.36.080).

**Sexual orientation** - Heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality (RCW 9A.36.080).

**Threat** - To communicate, directly or indirectly, the intent to cause bodily injury immediately or in the future to any other person or to cause physical damage immediately or in the future to the property of another person.

## 320.3 CRIMINAL STATUTES

### 320.3.1 HATE CRIME OFFENSES

A person is guilty of a hate crime offense if he/she maliciously and intentionally commits one of the following acts because of his/her perception of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or mental, physical, or sensory disability (RCW 9A.36.080):

- (a) Causes physical injury to the victim or another person.

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- (b) Causes physical damage to or destruction of the property of the victim or another person.
- (c) Threatens a specific person or group of persons and places that person, or members of the specific group of persons, in reasonable fear of harm to person or property. The fear must be a fear that a reasonable person would have under the circumstances.

Prima facie acts of hate are described in RCW 9A.36.080(2).

### **320.3.2 THREATS TO BOMB OR INJURE PROPERTY**

It is unlawful for any person to threaten to bomb or otherwise injure any public or private school building, any place of worship or public assembly, any governmental property, or any other building, common carrier, or structure, or any place used for human occupancy; or to communicate or repeat any information concerning such a threatened bombing or injury, knowing such information to be false and with intent to alarm the person or persons to whom the information is communicated or repeated (RCW 9.61.160).

### **320.3.3 FEDERAL JURISDICTION**

The federal government has the power to investigate and prosecute bias-motivated violence by giving the U.S. Department of Justice jurisdiction over crimes of violence where the perpetrator has selected the victim because of the person's actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability (18 USC § 245).

### **320.4 CIVIL STATUTES**

In addition to the criminal penalty provided in RCW 9A.36.080 for committing a hate crime offense, the victim may bring a civil cause of action for the hate crime offense against the person who committed the offense. A person may be liable to the victim of the hate crime offense for actual damages, punitive damages of up to one hundred thousand dollars, and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in bringing the action (RCW 9A.36.083).

### **320.5 PREVENTING AND PREPARING FOR LIKELY HATE CRIMES**

While it is recognized that not all crime can be prevented, this department is committed to taking a proactive approach to preventing and preparing for likely hate crimes by:

- (a) Making an affirmative effort to establish contact with persons and groups within the community who are likely targets of hate crimes to form and cooperate with prevention and response networks.
- (b) Providing victim assistance and follow-up as outlined below, including community follow-up.
- (c) Educating community and civic groups about hate crime laws.

### **320.6 PROCEDURE FOR INVESTIGATING HATE CRIMES**

Whenever any member of this department receives a report of a suspected hate crime or other activity that reasonably appears to involve a potential hate crime, the following should occur:

## *Hate Crimes*

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- (a) Officer(s) will be promptly assigned to contact the victim, witness, or reporting party to investigate the matter further as circumstances may dictate.
- (b) A supervisor should be notified of the circumstances as soon as practical.
- (c) Once “in progress” aspects of any such situation have been stabilized (e.g., treatment of victims, apprehension of present suspects, etc.), the assigned officer(s) will take all reasonable steps to preserve available evidence that may tend to establish that a hate crime was involved.
- (d) The assigned officer(s) will interview available witnesses, victims and others to determine what circumstances, if any, indicate that the situation may involve a hate crime.
- (e) Depending on the situation, the assigned officer(s) or supervisor may request additional assistance from detectives or other resources to further the investigation.
- (f) The assigned officer(s) will include all available evidence indicating the likelihood of a hate crime in the relevant report(s). All related reports will be clearly marked as “Hate Crimes” and, absent prior approval of a supervisor, will be completed and submitted by the assigned officer(s) before the end of the shift.
- (g) The assigned officer(s) will provide the victim(s) of any suspected hate crime with a brochure on hate crimes. Such brochures will also be available to members of the general public upon request. The assigned officer(s) should also make reasonable efforts to assist the victim(s) by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations.
- (h) The assigned officer(s) and supervisor should take reasonable steps to ensure that any such situation does not escalate further.

### **320.6.1 INVESTIGATION UNIT RESPONSIBILITY**

If a case is assigned to the Investigation Unit, the assigned detective will be responsible for following up on the reported hate crime as follows:

- (a) Coordinate further investigation with the County Prosecutor and other appropriate law enforcement agencies, as appropriate.
- (b) Maintain contact with the victim(s) and other involved individuals as needed.
- (c) Maintain statistical data on suspected hate crimes and tracking as indicated and report such data to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) (RCW 36.28A.030).

### **320.7 TRAINING**

All members of this department will receive CJTC approved training on hate crime recognition and investigation (RCW 43.101.290).

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# Standards of Conduct

## 321.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Aberdeen Police Department and are expected of all department members. The standards contained in this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of requirements and prohibitions but they do identify many of the important matters concerning conduct. In addition to the provisions of this policy, members are subject to all other provisions contained in this manual, as well as any additional guidance on conduct that may be disseminated by this department or a member's supervisors.

### 321.1.1 GENERAL STATEMENT OF INTENT

This policy is not intended to supersede collective bargaining agreements, ordinances, or civil service commission rules.

## 321.2 POLICY

The continued employment or appointment of every member of the Aberdeen Police Department shall be based on conduct that reasonably conforms to the guidelines set forth herein. Failure to meet the guidelines set forth in this policy, whether on- or off-duty, may be cause for disciplinary action.

## 321.3 DIRECTIVES AND ORDERS

Members shall comply with lawful directives and orders from any department supervisor or person in a position of authority, absent a reasonable and bona fide justification.

### 321.3.1 UNLAWFUL OR CONFLICTING ORDERS

Supervisors shall not knowingly issue orders or directives that, if carried out, would result in a violation of any law or department policy. Supervisors should not issue orders that conflict with any previous order without making reasonable clarification that the new order is intended to countermand the earlier order.

No member is required to obey any order that appears to be in direct conflict with any federal law, state law or local ordinance. Following a known unlawful order is not a defense and does not relieve the member from criminal or civil prosecution or administrative discipline. If the legality of an order is in doubt, the affected member shall ask the issuing supervisor to clarify the order or shall confer with a higher authority. The responsibility for refusal to obey rests with the member, who shall subsequently be required to justify the refusal.

Unless it would jeopardize the safety of any individual, members who are presented with a lawful order that is in conflict with a previous lawful order, department policy or other directive shall respectfully inform the issuing supervisor of the conflict. The issuing supervisor is responsible for either resolving the conflict or clarifying that the lawful order is intended to countermand the previous lawful order or directive, in which case the member is obliged to comply. Members who

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are compelled to follow a conflicting lawful order after having given the issuing supervisor the opportunity to correct the conflict, will not be held accountable for disobedience of the lawful order or directive that was initially issued.

The person countermanding the original order shall notify, in writing, the person issuing the original order, indicating the action taken and the reason.

### **321.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors and managers are required to follow all policies and procedures and may be subject to discipline for:

- (a) Failure to be reasonably aware of the performance of their subordinates or to provide appropriate guidance and control.
- (b) Failure to promptly and fully report any known misconduct of a member to his/her immediate supervisor or to document such misconduct appropriately or as required by policy.
- (c) Directing a subordinate to violate a policy or directive, acquiesce to such a violation, or are indifferent to any such violation by a subordinate.
- (d) The unequal or disparate exercise of authority on the part of a supervisor toward any member for malicious or other improper purpose.

### **321.4 GENERAL STANDARDS**

Members shall conduct themselves, whether on- or off-duty, in accordance with the United States and Washington constitutions and all applicable laws, ordinances, and rules enacted or established pursuant to legal authority.

Members shall familiarize themselves with policies and procedures and are responsible for compliance with each. Members should seek clarification and guidance from supervisors in the event of any perceived ambiguity or uncertainty.

Discipline may be initiated for any good cause. It is not mandatory that a specific policy or rule violation be cited to sustain discipline. This policy is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct.

### **321.5 CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINE**

The following are illustrative of causes for disciplinary action. This list is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct and does not preclude the recommendation of disciplinary action for violation of other rules, standards, ethics and specific action or inaction that is detrimental to efficient department service.

#### **321.5.1 LAWS, RULES AND ORDERS**

- (a) Violation of, or ordering or instructing a subordinate to violate any policy, procedure, rule, order, directive, requirement or failure to follow instructions contained in department or City manuals.

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- (b) Disobedience of any legal directive or order issued by any department member of a higher rank.
- (c) Violation of federal, state, local or administrative laws, rules or regulations.

### 321.5.2 ETHICS

- (a) Using or disclosing one's status as a member of the Aberdeen Police Department in any way that could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to gain influence or authority for non-department business or activity.
- (b) The wrongful or unlawful exercise of authority on the part of any member for malicious purpose, personal gain, willful deceit or any other improper purpose.
- (c) The receipt or acceptance of a reward, fee or gift from any person for service incident to the performance of the member's duties (lawful subpoena fees and authorized work permits excepted).
- (d) Acceptance of fees, gifts or money contrary to the rules of this department and/or laws of the state.
- (e) Offer or acceptance of a bribe or gratuity.
- (f) Misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel or services.
- (g) Any other failure to abide by the standards of ethical conduct.

### 321.5.3 DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION, OR FAVORITISM

Unless required by law or policy, discriminating against, oppressing, or providing favoritism to any person because of actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, economic status, cultural group, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected by law, or intentionally denying or impeding another in the exercise or enjoyment of any right, privilege, power, or immunity, knowing the conduct is unlawful.

### 321.5.4 RELATIONSHIPS

- (a) Unwelcome solicitation of a personal or sexual relationship while on-duty or through the use of one's official capacity.
- (b) Engaging in on-duty sexual activity including, but not limited to, sexual intercourse, excessive displays of public affection or other sexual contact.
- (c) Establishing or maintaining an inappropriate personal or financial relationship, as a result of an investigation, with a known victim, witness, suspect or defendant while a case is being investigated or prosecuted, or as a direct result of any official contact.
- (d) Associating with or joining a criminal gang, organized crime and/or criminal syndicate when the member knows or reasonably should know of the criminal nature of the organization. This includes any organization involved in a definable criminal activity or enterprise, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.
- (e) Associating on a personal, rather than official basis with persons who demonstrate recurring involvement in serious violations of state or federal laws after the member



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knows, or reasonably should know of such criminal activities, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.

### 321.5.5 ATTENDANCE

- (a) Leaving the job to which the member is assigned during duty hours without reasonable excuse and proper permission and approval.
- (b) Unexcused or unauthorized absence or tardiness.
- (c) Excessive absenteeism or abuse of leave privileges.
- (d) Failure to report to work or to the place of assignment at the time specified and fully prepared to perform duties without reasonable excuse.

### 321.5.6 UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS, DISCLOSURE, OR USE

- (a) Unauthorized and inappropriate intentional release of confidential or protected information, materials, data, forms, or reports obtained as a result of the member's position with this department.
- (b) Disclosing to any unauthorized person any active investigation information.
- (c) The use of any information, photograph, video, or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment or appointment to this department for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.
- (d) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away, or appropriating any department property for personal use, personal gain, or any other improper or unauthorized use or purpose.
- (e) Using department resources in association with any portion of an independent civil action. These resources include but are not limited to personnel, vehicles, equipment, and non-subpoenaed records.

### 321.5.7 EFFICIENCY

- (a) Neglect of duty.
- (b) Unsatisfactory work performance including but not limited to failure, incompetence, inefficiency, or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments, or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.
- (c) Concealing, attempting to conceal, removing, or destroying defective or incompetent work.
- (d) Unauthorized sleeping during on-duty time or assignments.
- (e) Failure to notify the Department within 24 hours of any change in residence address or contact numbers.
- (f) Failure to notify the Department of Human Resources of changes in relevant personal information (e.g., information associated with benefits determination) in a timely fashion.

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### 321.5.8 PERFORMANCE

- (a) Failure to disclose or misrepresenting material facts, or making any false or misleading statement on any application, examination form, or other official document, report or form, or during the course of any work-related investigation.
- (b) The falsification of any work-related records, making misleading entries or statements with the intent to deceive or the willful and unauthorized removal, alteration, destruction and/or mutilation of any department record, public record, book, paper or document.
- (c) Failure to participate in, or giving false or misleading statements, or misrepresenting or omitting material information to a supervisor or other person in a position of authority, in connection with any investigation or in the reporting of any department--related business.
- (d) Being untruthful or knowingly making false, misleading or malicious statements that are reasonably calculated to harm the reputation, authority or official standing of this department or its members.
- (e) Disparaging remarks or conduct concerning duly constituted authority to the extent that such conduct disrupts the efficiency of this department or subverts the good order, efficiency and discipline of this department or that would tend to discredit any of its members.
- (f) Unlawful gambling or unlawful betting at any time or any place. Legal gambling or betting under any of the following conditions:
  - 1. While on department premises.
  - 2. At any work site, while on--duty or while in uniform, or while using any department equipment or system.
  - 3. Gambling activity undertaken as part of an officer's official duties and with the express knowledge and permission of a direct supervisor is exempt from this prohibition.
- (g) Improper political activity including:
  - 1. Unauthorized attendance while on--duty at official legislative or political sessions.
  - 2. Solicitations, speeches or distribution of campaign literature for or against any political candidate or position while on-duty or on department property except as expressly authorized by City policy, the collective bargaining agreement, or the Chief of Police.
- (h) Engaging in political activities during assigned working hours except as expressly authorized by City policy, the collective bargaining agreement, or the Chief of Police.
- (i) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this department.

### 321.5.9 CONDUCT

- (a) Failure of any member to promptly and fully report activities on the member's part or the part of any other member where such activities resulted in contact with any other

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law enforcement agency or that may result in criminal prosecution or discipline under this policy (RCW 10.93.190).

- (b) Unreasonable and unwarranted force to a person encountered or a person under arrest.
- (c) Exceeding lawful peace officer powers by unreasonable, unlawful, or excessive conduct.
- (d) Unauthorized or unlawful fighting, threatening, or attempting to inflict unlawful bodily harm on another.
- (e) Engaging in horseplay that reasonably could result in injury or property damage.
- (f) Discourteous, disrespectful, or discriminatory treatment of any member of the public or any member of this department or the City.
- (g) Use of obscene, indecent, profane, or derogatory language while on-duty or in uniform.
- (h) Criminal, dishonest, or disgraceful conduct, whether on- or off-duty, that adversely affects the member's relationship with this department.
- (i) Unauthorized possession of, loss of, or damage to department property or the property of others, or endangering it through carelessness or maliciousness.
- (j) Attempted or actual theft of department property; misappropriation or misuse of public funds, property, personnel, or the services or property of others; unauthorized removal or possession of department property or the property of another person.
- (k) Activity that is incompatible with a member's conditions of employment or appointment as established by law or that violates a provision of any collective bargaining agreement to include fraud in securing the appointment or hire.
- (l) Initiating any civil action for recovery of any damages or injuries incurred in the course and scope of employment or appointment without first notifying the Chief of Police of such action.
- (m) Any other on- or off-duty conduct that any member knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of this department, is contrary to good order, efficiency, or morale, or tends to reflect unfavorably upon this department or its members.

### 321.5.10 SAFETY

- (a) Failure to observe or violating department safety standards or safe working practices.
- (b) Failure to maintain current licenses or certifications required for the assignment or position (e.g., driver license, first aid).
- (c) Failure to maintain good physical condition sufficient to adequately and safely perform law enforcement duties.
- (d) Unsafe firearm or other dangerous weapon handling to include loading or unloading firearms in an unsafe manner, either on- or off-duty.
- (e) Carrying, while on the premises of the work place, any firearm or other lethal weapon that is not authorized by the member's appointing authority.

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- (f) Unsafe or improper driving habits or actions in the course of employment or appointment.
- (g) Any personal action contributing to a preventable traffic collision.
- (h) Concealing or knowingly failing to report any on-the-job or work-related accident or injury as soon as practicable but within 24 hours.

### 321.5.11 INTOXICANTS

- (a) Reporting for work or being at work while intoxicated or when the member's ability to perform assigned duties is impaired due to the use of alcohol, medication or drugs, whether legal, prescribed or illegal.
- (b) Possession or use of alcohol at any work site or while on-duty, except as authorized in the performance of an official assignment. A member who is authorized to consume alcohol is not permitted to do so to such a degree that it may impair on-duty performance.
- (c) Unauthorized possession, use of, or attempting to bring a controlled substance, illegal drug or non-prescribed medication to any work site.

# Information Technology Use

## 322.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the proper use of department information technology resources, including computers, electronic devices, hardware, software and systems.

### 322.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Computer system** - All computers (on-site and portable), electronic devices, hardware, software, and resources owned, leased, rented or licensed by the Aberdeen Police Department that are provided for official use by its members. This includes all access to, and use of, Internet Service Providers (ISP) or other service providers provided by or through the Department or department funding.

**Hardware** - Includes, but is not limited to, computers, computer terminals, network equipment, electronic devices, telephones, including cellular and satellite, pagers, modems or any other tangible computer device generally understood to comprise hardware.

**Software** - Includes, but is not limited to, all computer programs, systems and applications, including shareware. This does not include files created by the individual user.

**Temporary file, permanent file or file** - Any electronic document, information or data residing or located, in whole or in part, on the system including, but not limited to, spreadsheets, calendar entries, appointments, tasks, notes, letters, reports, messages, photographs or videos.

## 322.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that members shall use information technology resources, including computers, software and systems, that are issued or maintained by the Department in a professional manner and in accordance with this policy.

## 322.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to emails, texts or anything published, shared, transmitted or maintained through file-sharing software or any Internet site that is accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department computer system.

The Department reserves the right to access, audit and disclose, for whatever reason, any message, including attachments, and any information accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed over any technology that is issued or maintained by the Department, including the department email system, computer network and/or any information placed into storage on any department system or device. This includes records of all keystrokes or Web-browsing history made at any department computer or over any department network. The fact that access to a database, service or website requires a username or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through department computers, electronic devices or networks.

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Employees may not be asked or required to disclose logon information for their personal social networking accounts or to provide access to their personal social networking accounts unless otherwise allowed under RCW 49.44.200 (RCW 49.44.200).

### **322.4 RESTRICTED USE**

Members shall not access computers, devices, software or systems for which they have not received prior authorization or the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of computers, devices, software or systems by another member to their supervisors or Patrol Lieutenants.

Members shall not use another person's access passwords, logon information and other individual security data, protocols and procedures unless directed to do so by a supervisor.

#### **322.4.1 COMPUTER ACCESS**

Any unauthorized entry into files or computer programs by employees are grounds for immediate disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Only authorized personnel shall use the computer terminals located in the records section. Any messages received or transmitted on those terminals are classified as the official business of the department and are not to be divulged outside the criminal justice system. The various computer files and message systems which are available from these terminals are not to be used for any other purpose other than official law enforcement business.

#### **322.4.2 SOFTWARE**

Members shall not copy or duplicate any copyrighted or licensed software except for a single copy for backup purposes in accordance with the software company's copyright and license agreement.

To reduce the risk of a computer virus or malicious software, members shall not install any unlicensed or unauthorized software on any department computer. Members shall not install personal copies of any software onto any department computer.

When related to criminal investigations, software program files may be downloaded only with the approval of the information systems technology (IT) staff and with the authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

No member shall knowingly make, acquire or use unauthorized copies of computer software that is not licensed to the Department while on department premises, computer systems or electronic devices. Such unauthorized use of software exposes the Department and involved members to severe civil and criminal penalties.

Introduction of software by members should only occur as part of the automated maintenance or update process of department- or City-approved or installed programs by the original manufacturer, producer or developer of the software.

Any other introduction of software requires prior authorization from IT staff and a full scan for malicious attachments.

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### 322.4.3 HARDWARE

Access to technology resources provided by or through the Department shall be strictly limited to department-related activities. Data stored on or available through department computer systems shall only be accessed by authorized members who are engaged in an active investigation or assisting in an active investigation or who otherwise have a legitimate law enforcement or department-related purpose to access such data. Any exceptions to this policy must be approved by a supervisor.

### 322.4.4 INTERNET USE

Internet access provided by or through the Department shall be strictly limited to department-related activities. Internet sites containing information that is not appropriate or applicable to department use and which shall not be intentionally accessed include, but are not limited to, adult forums, pornography, gambling, chat rooms and similar or related Internet sites. Certain exceptions may be permitted with the express approval of a supervisor as a function of a member's assignment.

Downloaded information shall be limited to messages, mail and data files.

### 322.4.5 OFF-DUTY USE

Members shall only use technology resources provided by the Department while on-duty or in conjunction with specific on-call assignments unless specifically authorized by a supervisor. This includes the use of telephones, cell phones, texting, email or any other "off the clock" work-related activities. This also applies to personally owned devices that are used to access department resources.

Refer to the Personal Communication Devices Policy for guidelines regarding off-duty use of personally owned technology.

## **322.5 PROTECTION OF AGENCY SYSTEMS AND FILES**

All members have a duty to protect the computer system and related systems and devices from physical and environmental damage and are responsible for the correct use, operation, care and maintenance of the computer system.

Members shall ensure department computers and access terminals are not viewable by persons who are not authorized users. Computers and terminals should be secured, users logged off and password protections enabled whenever the user is not present. Access passwords, logon information and other individual security data, protocols and procedures are confidential information and are not to be shared. Password length, format, structure and content shall meet the prescribed standards required by the computer system or as directed by a supervisor and shall be changed at intervals as directed by IT staff or a supervisor.

It is prohibited for a member to allow an unauthorized user to access the computer system at any time or for any reason. Members shall promptly report any unauthorized access to the computer system or suspected intrusion from outside sources (including the Internet) to a supervisor.

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### **322.6 INSPECTION OR REVIEW**

A supervisor or the authorized designee has the express authority to inspect or review the computer system, all temporary or permanent files, related electronic systems or devices, and any contents thereof, whether such inspection or review is in the ordinary course of his/her supervisory duties or based on cause.

Reasons for inspection or review may include, but are not limited to, computer system malfunctions, problems or general computer system failure, a lawsuit against the Department involving one of its members or a member's duties, an alleged or suspected violation of any department policy, a request for disclosure of data, or a need to perform or provide a service.

The IT staff may extract, download or otherwise obtain any and all temporary or permanent files residing or located in or on the department computer system when requested by a supervisor or during the course of regular duties that require such information.

### **322.7 ACCESS SYSTEM**

The ACCESS system is the property of the Washington State Patrol. The system allows inquiries against numerous state and federal computerized data bases. Additionally, the system provides a means of transmitting point-to-point teletype messages to other law enforcement agencies both in and out of the state. Operation of the system is to be conducted under the rules of the ACCESS and WACIC procedures manuals. These manuals are maintained in the records section. It is the responsibility of ACCESS certified personnel to maintain familiarity with the contents of these manuals.



# Report Preparation

## 323.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Report preparation is a major part of each officer's job. The purpose of reports is to document sufficient information to refresh the officer's memory and to provide sufficient information for follow-up investigation and successful prosecution. Report writing is the subject of substantial formalized training and on-the-job training.

### 323.1.1 REPORT PREPARATION

Employees should ensure that reports are sufficiently detailed for their purpose and free from errors prior to submission. It is the responsibility of the assigned employee to complete and submit all reports taken during the shift before going off-duty unless permission to hold the report has been approved by a supervisor. Generally, reports requiring prompt follow-up action on active leads, or arrest reports where the suspect remains in custody should not be held.

Handwritten reports must be prepared legibly. If the report is not legible, the submitting employee will be required by the reviewing supervisor to promptly make corrections and resubmit the report. Employees who dictate reports shall use appropriate grammar, as content is not the responsibility of the typist. Employees who generate reports on computers are subject to all requirements of this policy.

All reports shall accurately reflect the identity of the persons involved, all pertinent information seen, heard or assimilated by any other sense, and any actions taken. Employees shall not suppress, conceal or distort the facts of any reported incident, nor shall any employee make a false report orally or in writing. Generally, the reporting employee's opinions should not be included in reports unless specifically identified as such.

## 323.2 REQUIRED REPORTING

Written reports are required in all of the following situations on the appropriate department-approved form unless otherwise approved by a supervisor.

### 323.2.1 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

When a member responds to a call for service, or as a result of self-initiated activity becomes aware of any activity where a crime has occurred, the member shall document the incident regardless of whether a victim desires prosecution.

Activity to be documented in a written report includes:

- (a) All arrests
- (b) All felony crimes
- (c) Non-felony incidents involving threats or stalking behavior
- (d) Situations covered by separate policy. These include:
  - 1. Use of Force Policy

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2. Domestic Violence Policy
3. Child Abuse Policy
4. Adult Abuse Policy
5. Hate Crimes Policy
6. Suspicious Activity Reports Policy

- (e) All misdemeanor crimes where the victim desires a report

Misdemeanor crimes where the victim does not desire a report shall be documented using the department-approved alternative reporting method (e.g., dispatch log).

### 323.2.2 NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Incidents that require documentation on the appropriate approved report include:

- (a) Any time an officer points a firearm at any person.
- (b) Any use of force against any person by a member of this department (see the Use of Force Policy).
- (c) Any firearm discharge (see the Firearms Policy).
- (d) Any time a person is reported missing, regardless of jurisdiction (see the Missing Persons Reporting Policy).
- (e) Any found property or found evidence.
- (f) Any traffic collisions above the minimum reporting level (see Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).
- (g) Suspicious incidents that may indicate a potential for crimes against children or that a child's safety is in jeopardy.
- (h) All protective custody detentions.
- (i) Suspicious incidents that may place the public or others at risk.
- (j) Whenever the employee believes the circumstances should be documented or at the direction of a supervisor.

### 323.2.3 DEATH CASES

Death investigations require specific investigation methods depending on circumstances and should be handled in accordance with the Death Investigation Policy. An officer handling a death investigation should notify and apprise a supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the incident and a determination will be made on how to proceed. The following cases shall be appropriately investigated and documented using the approved report:

- (a) Sudden or accidental deaths.
- (b) Suicides

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- (c) Homicide or suspected homicide.
- (d) Unattended deaths (No physician in attendance within 36 hours preceding death).
- (e) Found dead bodies or body parts.

### 323.2.4 INJURY OR DAMAGE BY CITY PERSONNEL

Reports shall be taken if an injury occurs that is a result of an act of a City employee. Additionally, reports shall be taken involving damage to City property or City equipment.

### 323.2.5 MISCELLANEOUS INJURIES

Any injury that is reported to this department shall require a report when:

- (a) The injury is a result of drug overdose.
- (b) Attempted suicide.
- (c) The injury is major/serious, whereas death could result.
- (d) The circumstances surrounding the incident are suspicious in nature and it is desirable to record the event.

The above reporting requirements are not intended to be all-inclusive. A supervisor may direct an employee to document any incident he/she deems necessary.

### 323.2.6 ALTERNATE REPORTING FOR VICTIMS

Reports that may be submitted by the public via online or other self-completed reporting processes include:

- (a) Lost property.
- (b) Misdemeanor thefts of property, other than firearms or materials that threaten public safety, when there is no suspect information, serial number or ability to trace the item.
  - 1. Misdemeanor thefts of cellular telephones may be reported even though they have a serial number.
- (c) Misdemeanor vandalism with no suspect information and no hate crime implications.
- (d) Vehicle burglaries with no suspect information or evidence.
- (e) Stolen vehicle attempts with no suspect information or evidence.
- (f) Annoying telephone calls with no suspect information.
- (g) Identity theft without an identifiable suspect.
- (h) Online or email fraud solicitations without an identifiable suspect and if the financial loss classifies the crime as a misdemeanor.
- (i) Hit-and-run vehicle collisions with no suspect or suspect vehicle.
- (j) Supplemental property lists.

Members at the scene of one of the above incidents should not refer the reporting party to an alternate means of reporting without authorization from a supervisor. Members may refer victims

## *Report Preparation*

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to online victim assistance programs (e.g., Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website for identity theft, Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) website for computer crimes).

### **323.3 GENERAL POLICY OF EXPEDITIOUS REPORTING**

In general, all officers and supervisors shall act with promptness and efficiency in the preparation and processing of all reports. An incomplete report, unorganized reports or reports delayed without supervisory approval are not acceptable. Reports shall be processed according to established priorities or according to special priority necessary under exceptional circumstances.

#### **323.3.1 GENERAL POLICY OF HANDWRITTEN REPORTS**

Some incidents and report forms lend themselves to block print rather than typing. In general, the narrative portion of those reports where an arrest is made or when there is a long narrative should be typed or dictated.

Supervisors may require, with the foregoing general policy in mind, block printing or typing of reports of any nature for department consistency.

#### **323.3.2 GENERAL USE OF OTHER HANDWRITTEN FORMS**

County, state and federal agency forms may be block printed as appropriate. In general, the form itself may make the requirement for typing apparent.

### **323.4 REPORT CORRECTIONS**

Supervisors shall review reports for content and accuracy. If a correction is necessary, the reviewing supervisor should complete the Report Correction form stating the reasons for rejection. The original report and the correction form should be returned to the reporting employee for correction as soon as practical. It shall be the responsibility of the originating officer to ensure that any report returned for correction is processed in a timely manner.

### **323.5 REPORT CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS**

Reports that have been approved by a supervisor and submitted to the Records for filing and distribution shall not be modified or altered except by way of a supplemental report. Reviewed reports that have not yet been submitted to the Records may be corrected or modified by the authoring officer only with the knowledge and authorization of the reviewing supervisor.

### **323.6 RECORDS INTEGRITY**

No employee shall destroy or remove from the building any official record of this department without prior authorization from the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief or Special Assignments Officer.

### **323.7 REPORT FORM REVIEW**

The Special Assignment Officer will periodically evaluate the need for forms and determine if a requested form is necessary for the efficient operation of the department.

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## Media Relations

### 324.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for media releases and media access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities.

#### 324.1.1 POLICY

It shall be the policy of this Department to maintain an open, cooperative relationship with all facets of the news media. All inquiries by the media shall be handled in a courteous, professional manner.

### 324.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The ultimate authority and responsibility for the release of information to the media shall remain with the Chief of Police, however, in situations not warranting immediate notice to the Chief of Police and in situations where the Chief of Police has given prior approval, Division Commanders, Patrol Lieutenants and designated Public Information Officer(s) may prepare and release information to the media in accordance with this policy and the applicable law.

#### 324.2.1 MEDIA REQUEST

Any media request for information or access to a law enforcement situation shall be referred to the designated department media representative, or if unavailable, to the first available supervisor. Prior to releasing any information to the media, employees shall consider the following:

- (a) At no time shall any employee of this department make any comment or release any official information to the media without prior approval from a supervisor or the designated department media representative.
- (b) In situations involving multiple law enforcement agencies, every reasonable effort should be made to coordinate media releases with the authorized representative of each involved agency prior to the release of any information by this department.
- (c) Under no circumstance should any member of this department make any comment(s) to the media regarding any law enforcement incident not involving this department without prior approval of the Chief of Police.

### 324.3 MEDIA ACCESS

Authorized members of the media shall be provided access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The media representative shall produce valid press credentials that shall be prominently displayed at all times while in areas otherwise closed to the public.
- (b) Media representatives may be prevented from interfering with emergency operations and criminal investigations.

## Media Relations

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1. Reasonable effort should be made to provide a safe staging area for the media that is near the incident and that will not interfere with emergency or criminal investigation operations. All information released to the media should be coordinated through the department Public Information Officer or other designated spokesperson.
  2. Whenever the presence of media or other aircraft pose a threat to public or officer safety or significantly hampers incident operations, the field supervisor should consider requesting a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR). All requests for a TFR should be routed through the Patrol Lieutenant. The TFR request should include specific information regarding the perimeter and altitude necessary for the incident and should be requested through the appropriate control tower. If the control tower is not known, the Federal Aviation Administration should be contacted (14 CFR 91.137).
- (c) No member of this department who is under investigation shall be subjected to media visits or interviews without the consent of the involved employee.
- (d) Media interviews with individuals who are in custody shall not be permitted without the approval of the Chief of Police and the express consent of the person in custody.

A tactical operation should be handled in the same manner as a crime scene, except the news media should be permitted within the outer perimeter of the scene, subject to any restrictions as determined by the supervisor in charge. Department members shall not jeopardize a tactical operation in order to accommodate the news media. All comments to the media shall be coordinated through a supervisor or the Public Information Officer.

### 324.3.1 PROVIDING ADVANCE INFORMATION

To protect the safety and rights of officers and other persons, advance information about planned actions by law enforcement personnel, such as movement of persons in custody or the execution of an arrest or search warrant, should not be disclosed to the news media, nor should media representatives be invited to be present at such actions except with the prior approval of the Chief of Police.

Any exceptions to the above should only be considered for the furtherance of legitimate law enforcement purposes. Prior to approving any exception the Chief of Police will consider, at minimum, whether the release of information or presence of the media would unreasonably endanger any individual, prejudice the rights of any person or is otherwise prohibited by law.

### 324.4 SCOPE OF INFORMATION SUBJECT TO RELEASE

The Department will maintain a daily information log of significant law enforcement activities that shall be made available, upon request, to media representatives through the Records Section. When requested, additional information may be made available (RCW 42.56.070(1)). This log will generally contain the following information:

## *Media Relations*

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- (a) The date, time, location, case number, type of crime, extent of injury or loss and names of individuals (except confidential informants) involved in crimes occurring within this jurisdiction unless the release of such information would endanger the safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation.
- (b) The date, time, location, case number, name, birth date and charges for each person arrested by this department unless the release of such information would endanger the safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation.
- (c) The time and location of other significant law enforcement activities or requests for service with a brief summary of the incident subject to the restrictions of this policy and applicable law.

Identifying information concerning deceased individuals shall not be released to the media until notification of next of kin or otherwise cleared through the Coroner's Office.

Any requests for copies of related reports or additional information not contained in this log shall be referred to the Public Records Officer. Such requests will generally be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Records Act (RCW Chapter 42.56.001 et seq.).

### 324.4.1 RESTRICTED INFORMATION

It shall be the responsibility of the authorized employee dealing with media requests to ensure that restricted information is not inappropriately released to the media by this department (see the Records Maintenance and Release and Personnel Files policies). When in doubt, authorized and available legal counsel should be obtained.

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## Subpoenas and Court Appearances

### 325.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for department members who must appear in court. It will allow the Aberdeen Police Department to cover any related work absences and keep the Department informed about relevant legal matters.

### 325.2 POLICY

Aberdeen Police Department members will respond appropriately to all subpoenas and any other court-ordered appearances.

### 325.3 SUBPOENAS

Only department members authorized to receive a subpoena on behalf of this department or any of its members may do so.

A subpoena may be served upon a member by personal service or by leaving such copy at the place of his/her residence (Civil Rules, CR 45; Civil Rules, CrLJ 45; Criminal Rules, CrRLJ 4.8; Criminal Rules, CrR 4.8).

Criminal subpoenas may also be served upon a member by first-class mail in a limited criminal matter. A criminal subpoena in Superior Court may be served by first-class mail together with a waiver of personal service and instructions for returning such waiver to complete service (Criminal Rules, CrRLJ 4.8; Criminal Rules, CrR 4.8).

#### 325.3.1 PROCEDURE

To ensure that the officer is able to appear when required, that the officer is compensated for such appearance, and to protect the Department's right to reimbursement, officers shall follow the established procedures for the receipt of a civil subpoena.

#### 325.3.2 CIVIL SUBPOENA ACCEPTANCE

Subpoenas shall not be accepted in a civil action in which the officer or Department is not a party without properly posted fees. See RCW 2.40.020-030.

#### 325.3.3 PARTY MUST DEPOSIT FUNDS

The party in the civil action who seeks to subpoena an officer must deposit the statutory fee for each appearance before such subpoena will be accepted. Parties seeking to have the officer make multiple appearances must make an additional deposit in advance. See RCW 2.40.020.

#### 325.3.4 SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any member who is subpoenaed to testify, agrees to testify or provides information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than the City Attorney or the prosecutor shall notify his/her immediate supervisor without delay regarding:



## *Subpoenas and Court Appearances*

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- (a) Any civil case where the City or one of its members, as a result of his/her official capacity, is a party.
- (b) Any civil case where any other city, county, state or federal unit of government or a member of any such unit of government, as a result of his/her official capacity, is a party.
- (c) Any criminal proceeding where the member is called to testify or provide information on behalf of the defense.
- (d) Any civil action stemming from the member's on-duty activity or because of his/her association with the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (e) Any personnel or disciplinary matter when called to testify or to provide information by a government entity other than the Aberdeen Police Department.

The supervisor will then notify the Chief of Police and the appropriate prosecuting attorney as may be indicated by the case. The Chief of Police should determine if additional legal support is necessary.

No member shall be retaliated against for testifying in any matter.

### **325.3.5 CIVIL SUBPOENA**

The Department will compensate members who appear in their official capacities on civil matters arising out of their official duties, as directed by the current memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement.

The Department should seek reimbursement for the member's compensation through the civil attorney of record who subpoenaed the member.

### **325.3.6 OFF-DUTY RELATED SUBPOENAS**

Members receiving valid subpoenas for off-duty actions not related to their employment or appointment will not be compensated for their appearance. Arrangements for time off shall be coordinated through their immediate supervisors.

### **325.4 FAILURE TO APPEAR**

Any member who fails to comply with the terms of any properly served subpoena or court-ordered appearance may be subject to discipline. This includes properly served orders to appear that were issued by a state administrative agency.

### **325.5 STANDBY**

To facilitate standby agreements, members are required to provide and maintain current information on their addresses and contact telephone numbers with the Department.

If a member on standby changes his/her location during the day, the member shall notify the designated department member of how he/she can be reached. Members are required to remain on standby until released by the court or the party that issued the subpoena.

## *Subpoenas and Court Appearances*

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### **325.6 COURTROOM PROTOCOL**

When appearing in court, members shall:

- (a) Be punctual when appearing in court and prepared to proceed immediately with the case for which they are scheduled to appear.
- (b) Dress in the department uniform or business attire.
- (c) Observe all rules of the court in which they are appearing and remain alert to changes in the assigned courtroom where their matter is to be heard.

#### **325.6.1 TESTIMONY**

Before the date of testifying, the subpoenaed member shall request a copy of relevant reports and become familiar with the content in order to be prepared for court.

### **325.7 OVERTIME APPEARANCES**

When a member appears in court on his/her off-duty time, he/she will be compensated in accordance with the current memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement.

### **325.8 CONTACT OR INTERVIEW BY THE DEFENSE**

- (a) Interviews with defense attorneys or private investigators hired by the defense in cases arising out of the member's employment shall be handled as follows:
- (b) Interviews will be by appointment and only after the Department member has thoroughly reviewed the case and his involvement.
- (c) Appointments for interviews will be set between the hours of 0900 and 1600, Monday through Friday. If applicable, and prior to the interview, the Department member shall notify the appropriate Detective, City Attorney or Deputy Prosecuting Attorney involved with the case.

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## Outside Agency Assistance

### 326.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members when requesting or responding to a request for mutual aid or when assisting another law enforcement agency.

### 326.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to promptly respond to requests for assistance by other law enforcement agencies, subject to available resources and consistent with the applicable laws and policies of this department.

### 326.3 ASSISTING OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, requests for any type of assistance from another agency should be routed to the supervisor for approval. In some instances, a mutual aid agreement or other established protocol may exist that eliminates the need for approval of individual requests.

When another law enforcement agency requests assistance from this department, the supervisor may authorize, if available, an appropriate number of personnel to assist. Members are reminded that their actions when rendering assistance must conform with applicable laws and be consistent with the policies of this department.

Officers may respond to a request for emergency assistance, however, they shall notify a supervisor of their activity as soon as practicable.

Any non-urgent request for assistance outside of Grays Harbor County requires administrative approval.

Arrestees may be temporarily detained by this department until arrangements for transportation are made by the outside agency. Probation violators who are temporarily detained by this department will not ordinarily be booked at this department. Only in exceptional circumstances, and subject to supervisor approval, will this department provide transportation of arrestees to other facilities on behalf of another agency.

When transportation assistance is rendered, a report shall be prepared and submitted by the handling member unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

#### 326.3.1 INITIATED ACTIVITY

Any on-duty officer who engages in law enforcement activities of any type that are not part of a mutual aid request and take place outside the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department shall notify his/her supervisor or the Patrol Lieutenant and Grays Harbor Communications as soon as practicable. This requirement does not apply to special enforcement details or multi-agency units that regularly work in multiple jurisdictions.

## *Outside Agency Assistance*

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### **326.4 REQUESTING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE**

If assistance is needed from another agency, the member requesting assistance should, if practicable, first notify a supervisor. The handling member or supervisor should direct assisting personnel to where they are needed and to whom they should report when they arrive.

The requesting member should arrange for appropriate radio communication capabilities, if necessary and available, so that communication can be coordinated between assisting personnel.

### **326.5 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

Incidents of outside assistance or law enforcement activities that are not documented in a crime report shall be documented in a general case report or as directed by the Patrol Lieutenant.

# Registered Offender Information

## 327.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines by which the Aberdeen Police Department will address issues associated with certain offenders who are residing in the jurisdiction and how the Department will disseminate information and respond to public inquiries for information about registered offenders.

## 327.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to identify and monitor registered offenders living within this jurisdiction and to take reasonable steps to address the risks those persons may pose.

## 327.3 REGISTRATION

The Investigation Unit supervisor shall establish a process to reasonably accommodate registration of certain offenders. The process should rebut any allegation on the part of the offender that the registration process was too confusing, burdensome or difficult for compliance. If it is reasonable to do so, an investigator assigned to related investigations should conduct the registration in order to best evaluate any threat the person may pose to the community. Those assigned to register offenders should receive appropriate training regarding the registration process.

Upon conclusion of the registration process, the investigator shall ensure that the registration information is provided to the Washington State Patrol (WSP) within five working days in accordance with RCW 43.43.540. The Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) shall be provided any requested information for the administration of the Sex Offender Information website (RCW 4.24.550).

A criminal investigation for failure to register will be initiated if a registrant refuses to provide any of the required information or complete the process.

### 327.3.1 CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION FOR SEX OR KIDNAPPING OFFENDERS

Sex or kidnapping offenders who are required to register must appear in person and provide the following (RCW 9A.44.130):

- Name
- Complete residential address or where he/she plans to stay
- Date and place of birth
- Place of employment
- Crime for which the person has been convicted
- Date and place of conviction
- Aliases
- Social Security number

## *Registered Offender Information*

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- Biological sample if one has not already been submitted to the WSP (see the Biological Samples Policy for collection protocol) (RCW 43.43.754)

Offenders lacking a fixed residence must report weekly, in person, to the sheriff's office where he/she is registered. Forms used to record where the offender stayed during the week should include an express request for offenders to provide an accurate accounting of where they stayed to the county sheriff.

The registering member shall take photographs and fingerprints, which may include palmprints, of all sex/kidnapping offenders.

### **327.3.2 JUVENILE INFORMATION DISSEMINATION**

If the Level I offender is a juvenile, information shall be shared with the principal of the public or private school he or she will be attending. See RCW 4.24.550 (5a)ii)

### **327.3.3 CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION FOR FELONY FIREARM OFFENDERS**

Felony firearm offenders who are required to register must appear in person and provide the following (RCW 9A.41.330; RCW 9A.41.333):

- Name and any aliases
- Complete residential address or where he/she plans to stay
- Identifying information, including a physical description
- Crime for which the person has been convicted
- Date and place of conviction
- Names of any other county where the firearm offender may have registered

The registering member may take photographs and fingerprints of the felony firearm offender.

### **327.4 MONITORING OF REGISTERED OFFENDERS**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should establish a system to periodically, and at least once annually, verify that a registrant remains in compliance with his/her registration requirements after the initial registration. This verification should include, as applicable:

- (a) Efforts to confirm residence using an unobtrusive method, such as an Internet search, drive-by of the declared residence or address verification under RCW 9A.44.135.
  1. When notice is received that a sex offender is moving outside the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department, the Investigation Unit supervisor is responsible for address verification until the registrant completes registration with a new residential address (RCW 9A.44.130(5)).
- (b) Review of information on the WASPC Sex Offender Information website.
- (c) Contact with a registrant's community correction officer.
- (d) Review any available Washington State database of felony firearm offenders.

## *Registered Offender Information*

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Any discrepancies with sex/kidnapping offenders should be reported to ACCESS (A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System), which is administered by WSP, and, in the case of sex offenders only, to WASPC.

The Investigation Unit supervisor should also establish a procedure to routinely disseminate information regarding registered offenders to Aberdeen Police Department personnel, including timely updates regarding new or relocated registrants.

### **327.4.1 OFFENDERS TRAVELING OUT OF THE COUNTRY**

When written notice is received from a registrant who intends to travel outside of the United States, the Sheriff shall notify the United States Marshals Service as soon as practicable after receipt of notification and also of any further notice of changes or cancellation of travel plans (RCW 9A.44.130(3)).

### **327.5 DISSEMINATION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Members will not unilaterally make a public notification advising the community of a particular sex/kidnapping registrant's presence in the community. Members who identify a significant risk or other public safety issue associated with a sex/kidnapping registrant should promptly advise their supervisor. The supervisor should evaluate the request and forward the information to the Chief of Police if warranted. A determination will be made by the Chief of Police, with the assistance of legal counsel as necessary, whether such a public alert should be made.

Members of the public requesting information on sex/kidnapping registrants should be provided the WASPC Sex Offender Information website or the Aberdeen Police Department's website.

The Special Assignments Officer shall release local sex/kidnapping registered offender information to residents in accordance with RCW 4.24.550 and in compliance with a request under the Public Records Act (RCW 42.56.001 et seq.).

Information pertaining to felony firearm offenders should not be disseminated to the public. All inquiries should be referred to WSP.

### **327.5.1 RELEASE NOTIFICATIONS FOR SEX OR KIDNAPPING OFFENDERS**

Registrant information that is released should include notification that:

- (a) The offender registry includes only those persons who have been required by law to register and who are in compliance with the offender registration laws.
- (b) The information is provided as a public service and may not be current or accurate.
- (c) Persons should not rely solely on the offender registry as a safeguard against offenses in their communities.
- (d) The crime for which a person is convicted may not accurately reflect the level of risk.
- (e) Anyone who uses information contained in the registry to harass registrants or commit any crime may be subject to criminal prosecution.

## *Registered Offender Information*

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- (f) The Aberdeen Police Department has no authority to direct where an offender may live.

### 327.5.2 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

The Operations Division Commander shall ensure that:

- (a) A public notification is made for sex offenders who are classified as Risk Level III and who register in the County. The notice shall conform to the guidelines established in RCW 4.24.5501.
- (b) All information on sex/kidnapping offenders registered in the County is regularly updated and posted on the WASPC Sex Offender Information website (RCW 4.24.550(5)).

### 327.5.3 DISCRETIONARY DISSEMINATION FOR SEX OFFENDERS

Dissemination should be predicated upon the levels detailed below (RCW 4.24.550(3)):

- (a) Offenders classified as Risk Level I: The Department may disclose, upon request, relevant, necessary and accurate information to any victim or witness to the offense and to any individual community member who lives near the residence where the sex offender resides, expects to reside or is regularly found, and to any individual who requests information regarding a specific offender.
- (b) Offenders classified as Risk Level II: In addition to the dissemination for Level I, the Department may also disclose relevant, necessary and accurate information to public and private schools, child day care centers, family day care providers, public libraries, businesses and organizations that serve primarily children, women or vulnerable adults, and neighbors and community groups near the residence where the sex offender resides, expects to reside or is regularly found.
- (c) Offenders classified as Risk Level III: In addition to the dissemination of Level I and Level II, the Department may also disclose relevant, necessary and accurate information to the public at large.
- (d) Homeless and transient sex offenders may present unique risks to the community due to the impracticality of localized notification. The Department may also disclose relevant, necessary and accurate information to the public at large for sex offenders registered as homeless or transient.

### 327.5.4 SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS

The Sheriff has the responsibility of notifying the appropriate person at a school or other educational institution as set forth in RCW 9A.44.138 of any sex/kidnapping offender who attends or is employed there, and for providing the following information about the offender:

- Name
- Complete residential address



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- Date and place of birth
- Place of employment
- Crime for which the person has been convicted
- Date and place of conviction
- Aliases
- Photograph
- Risk level classification

# Major Incident Notification

## 328.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of this department in determining when, how and to whom notification of major incidents should be made.

## 328.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes that certain incidents should be brought to the attention of supervisors or other specified personnel of this department to facilitate the coordination of activities and ensure that inquiries from the media and the public may be properly addressed.

### 328.2.1 NOTIFICATION OF PERSONNEL WHEN CERTAIN INCIDENTS OCCUR

In the event of the following incidents, the person(s) indicated are to be notified as soon as practicable. The number(s) listed after each incident pertain to:

1. Chief of Police
  2. Deputy Chief of Police
  3. Operations Commander
  4. Investigation Unit Supervisor
  5. Range Master
  6. Collision Investigation Team (Team Leader)
- 
- (a) Homicide or suspected homicide - 1, 2, 3, & 4
  - (b) Rape - 3 & 4
  - (c) Armed Robbery - 3 & 4
  - (d) Assault, First Degree - 3 & 4
  - (e) Kidnap - 1, 2, 3 & 4
  - (f) Hostage or barricaded person(s) - 1, 2, 3, 4
  - (g) Arson, First Degree - 1, 2, 3 & 4
  - (h) All traffic related deaths - 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6
  - (i) Any shooting incident involving a member of this department - 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5
  - (j) Any serious injury or death as a result of a traffic accident involving a police vehicle - 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6
  - (k) Any serious injury or death of an Aberdeen Police employee - 1, 2, 3, & 4
  - (l) Any serious injury accident that may result in a traffic death - 3, 4 & 6
  - (m) The arrest of a police officer or public official from another jurisdiction, in our city - 1 & 2

## *Major Incident Notification*

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- (n) The arrest of an Aberdeen Police employee in any jurisdiction - 1 & 2
- (o) Application of force where serious injury or death results - 1, 2, 3, 4
- (p) Any incident that may have a emotional impact on the community, or that will create an additional or rapid amount of public or news media interest - 1, 2, 3, 4
- (q) Any department employee that is injured and taken to the hospital or doctor - 1

### **328.3 MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR NOTIFICATION**

Most situations where the media show a strong interest are also of interest to the Chief of Police and the affected Division Commander. The following list of incident types is provided as a guide for notification and is not intended to be all-inclusive:

- Homicides.
- Traffic accidents with fatalities.
- Officer-involved shooting on- or off-duty (See the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy for special notifications).
- Significant injury or death to employee on- or off-duty.
- Death of a prominent Aberdeen official.
- Arrest of Department employee or prominent Aberdeen official.
- Aircraft crash with major damage and/or injury or death.
- In-custody deaths.

### **328.4 PATROL LIEUTENANT RESPONSIBILITY**

The Patrol Lieutenant, or if not available the on-duty supervisor, is responsible for making the appropriate notifications. The Patrol Lieutenant shall make reasonable attempts to obtain as much information on the incident as possible before notification. The Patrol Lieutenant shall attempt to make the notifications as soon as practical. Notification should be made by calling the home phone number first and then any additional contact numbers supplied.

#### **328.4.1 DETECTIVE NOTIFICATION**

If the incident requires that a detective respond from home, the immediate supervisor of the appropriate detail shall be contacted who will then contact the Investigation Unit Supervisor.

#### **328.4.2 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)**

The Public Information Officer shall be called after members of staff have been notified that it appears the media may have a significant interest in the incident.

# Death Investigation

## 329.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The investigations of cases involving death include those ranging from natural cause to homicide. Some causes of death may not be readily apparent and some cases differ substantially from what they appeared to be initially. The thoroughness of death investigations cannot be emphasized enough.

## 329.2 INVESTIGATION CONSIDERATIONS

Death investigation cases require certain actions be taken. Paramedics shall be called in all suspected death cases unless the death is obvious (decapitated, decomposed, etc.). Officers are not authorized to pronounce death. A supervisor shall be notified in all death investigations.

### 329.2.1 CORONER JURISDICTION OVER REMAINS

The coroner has jurisdiction of bodies of all deceased persons who come to their death suddenly in any of the following cases (RCW 68.50.010):

- (a) When in apparent good health without medical attendance within the thirty-six hours preceding death.
- (b) Where the circumstances of death indicate death was caused by unnatural or unlawful means.
- (c) Where death occurs under suspicious circumstances.
- (d) Where a coroner's autopsy or post mortem or coroner's inquest is to be held.
- (e) Where death results from unknown or obscure causes.
- (f) Where death occurs within one year following an accident.
- (g) Where the death is caused by any violence whatsoever.
- (h) Where death results from a known or suspected abortion; whether self-induced or otherwise.
- (i) Where death apparently results from drowning, hanging, burns, electrocution, gunshot wounds, stabs or cuts, lightning, starvation, radiation, exposure, alcoholism, narcotics or other addictions, tetanus, strangulations, suffocation or smothering.
- (j) Where death is due to premature birth or still birth.
- (k) Where death is due to a violent contagious disease or suspected contagious disease which may be a public health hazard.
- (l) Where death results from alleged rape, carnal knowledge or sodomy.
- (m) Where death occurs in a jail or prison.
- (n) Where a body is found dead or is not claimed by relatives or friends.

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The body or human remains shall not be disturbed or moved from the position or place of death without permission of the coroner (RCW 68.50.050).

### 329.2.2 DEATH NOTIFICATION

When practical, and if not handled by the Coroner's Office, notification to the next-of-kin of the deceased person shall be made, in person, by the officer assigned to the incident. If the next-of-kin lives in another jurisdiction, a law enforcement official from that jurisdiction shall be requested to make the personal notification. If the relatives live outside this county, the Coroner may be requested to make the notification. The Coroner needs to know if notification has been made. Assigned detectives may need to talk to the next-of-kin.

### 329.2.3 UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODIES

If the identity of a dead body cannot be established after the Coroner arrives, the Coroner's office will issue a "John Doe" or "Jane Doe" number for the report.

### 329.2.4 DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORTING

All incidents involving a death shall be documented on the appropriate form. The on-call detective shall be called on any deaths of a child investigations.

### 329.2.5 SUSPECTED HOMICIDE

If the initially assigned officer suspects that the death involves a homicide or other suspicious circumstances, the Investigations Division shall be notified to determine the possible need for a detective to respond to the scene for further immediate investigation.

### 329.2.6 SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

Detectives should receive basic training to include a module that specifically addresses the investigation of the sudden unexplained deaths of children under the age of two.

The on-call detective shall be called when a sudden and unexplained death of a child two or under is reported. The reporting officer shall ensure that the Sudden Unexplained Infant Death Investigation (SUIDI) form is properly completed.

The initial investigation of the death, including a scene examination, should begin as soon as possible after the death has been reported to the department. This includes deaths where the body of the deceased child has been transported to another location usually for resuscitation. The investigation should include interviews with the caretaker(s) of the child and all other individuals present during the period of the time the child was thought to have died or residing in the place of the discovery of the child. The scene shall be documented utilizing written reports and photography.

# Identity Theft

## 330.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Identity theft is a growing trend that frequently involves related crimes in multiple jurisdictions. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for the reporting and investigation of such crimes.

## 330.2 REPORTING

This department will initiate an incident report whenever a person reasonably suspects that his/her financial information or means of identification has been unlawfully obtained, used, or transferred to another person or entity in all cases where the victim resides or works within this jurisdiction, or where any part of the crime occurred within this jurisdiction. The employee receiving the report will ensure that the complainant is directed to the records section to receive a copy of the incident report (RCW 9.35.050). The records section, upon the receipt of such report, will provide a copy to the complainant either in person, by certified mail, or by electronic means.

In cases where the reporting party does not reside or work within this jurisdiction and there is no known or suspected criminal activity occurring within this jurisdiction the reporting party may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction. If it is not reasonably practical for the reporting party to file a timely report with his/her home jurisdiction the receiving employee should take a courtesy incident report to be forwarded to the agency having jurisdiction.

The reporting party should be advised of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Identify Theft Affidavit document that may be of assistance to the reporting party. The FTC document may be obtained on the Internet at: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/resources/forms/affidavit.pdf> or by calling 1.877.ID.THEFT

Reports should include all known incidents of fraudulent activity (e.g., credit card number applied for in victim's name when the victim has never made such an application).

The employee preparing the report should also cross-reference all other known reports made by the victim (e.g., US Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus, US Postal Service and DOL) with all known report numbers.

Following supervisory review and departmental processing, the initial report should be forwarded to the appropriate detective for follow up investigation, coordination with other agencies and prosecution as circumstances dictate.

## Limited English Proficiency Services

### 331.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) (42 USC § 2000d).

#### 331.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Authorized interpreter** - A person who has been screened and authorized by the Department to act as an interpreter and/or translator for others.

**Interpret or interpretation** - The act of listening to a communication in one language (source language) and orally converting it to another language (target language) while retaining the same meaning.

**Limited English proficient (LEP)** - Any individual whose primary language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English. These individuals may be competent in certain types of communication (e.g., speaking or understanding) but still be LEP for other purposes (e.g., reading or writing). Similarly, LEP designations are context-specific; an individual may possess sufficient English language skills to function in one setting but these skills may be insufficient in other situations.

**Qualified bilingual member** - A member of the Aberdeen Police Department, designated by the Department, who has the ability to communicate fluently, directly and accurately in both English and another language. Bilingual members may be fluent enough to communicate in a non-English language but may not be sufficiently fluent to interpret or translate from one language into another.

**Translate or translation** - The replacement of written text from one language (source language) into an equivalent written text (target language).

### 331.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to reasonably ensure that LEP individuals have meaningful access to law enforcement services, programs and activities, while not imposing undue burdens on its members.

The Department will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights or programs based upon national origin or any other protected interest or right.

#### 331.2.1 IDENTIFICATION OF LEP INDIVIDUAL'S LANGUAGE

The Department will utilize all reasonably available tools, such as language identification cards, when attempting to determine an LEP individual's primary language in an effort to avoid misidentifying that language.

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### **331.3 LEP COORDINATOR**

The Chief of Police shall delegate certain responsibilities to an LEP Coordinator. The LEP Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible to, the Operations Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the LEP Coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Coordinating and implementing all aspects of the Aberdeen Police Department's LEP services to LEP individuals.
- (b) Developing procedures that will enable members to access LEP services, including telephonic interpreters, and ensuring the procedures are available to all members.
- (c) Ensuring that a list of all qualified bilingual members and authorized interpreters is maintained and available to each Patrol Lieutenant and Dispatch Supervisor. The list should include information regarding the following:
  - 1. Languages spoken
  - 2. Contact information
  - 3. Availability
- (d) Ensuring signage stating that interpreters are available free of charge to LEP individuals is posted in appropriate areas and in the most commonly spoken languages.
- (e) Reviewing existing and newly developed documents to determine which are vital documents and should be translated, and into which languages the documents should be translated.
- (f) Annually assessing demographic data and other resources, including contracted language services utilization data and community-based organizations, to determine if there are additional documents or languages that are appropriate for translation.
- (g) Identifying standards and assessments to be used by the Department to qualify individuals as qualified bilingual members or authorized interpreters.
- (h) Periodically reviewing efforts of the Department in providing meaningful access to LEP individuals, and, as appropriate, developing reports, new procedures, or recommending modifications to this policy.
- (i) Receiving and responding to complaints regarding department LEP services.
- (j) Ensuring appropriate processes are in place to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to department services, programs and activities.



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### 331.3.1 BILINGUAL PERSONNEL

Personnel utilized for LEP services need not be certified as interpreters but must have demonstrated, through established department procedures, a level of competence to ascertain whether his/her language skills are best suited to monolingual communications, interpretation, translation, or all or none of these functions.

All personnel used for communication with LEP individuals must demonstrate knowledge of the functions of an interpreter and the ethical issues involved when functioning as a language conduit. In addition, employees who serve as interpreters and/or translators must have demonstrated competence in both English and the non-English language. When bilingual personnel from this department are not available, personnel from other city departments who have the requisite training may be requested.

### 331.3.2 WRITTEN FORMS AND GUIDELINES

This department will determine the most frequently used and critical forms and guidelines and translate these documents into the languages most likely to be requested. The Department will arrange to make these translated forms available to department personnel and other appropriate individuals.

### 331.3.3 AUDIO RECORDINGS

The Department may develop audio recordings of information that is either important to or frequently requested by LEP individuals for broadcast in a language most likely to be understood by involved LEP individuals.

### 331.3.4 TELEPHONE INTERPRETER SERVICES

The Patrol Lieutenant and Records Supervisor will maintain a list of qualified interpreter services which, upon approval of a supervisor can be contacted to assist LEP individuals. Such services shall be available to, among others, department personnel who utilize official cellular telephones.

### 331.3.5 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SOURCES OF INTERPRETATION

Where competent bilingual departmental personnel or other department-certified staff are unavailable to assist, responsible members of the community who have demonstrated competence in either monolingual (direct) communication and/or in interpretation and translation (as noted above) may be called upon to assist in communication efforts. Sources for these individuals may include neighboring police departments, university languages and linguistics departments, local businesses, banks, churches, neighborhood leaders and school officials. Department personnel should ensure that community members are able to provide unbiased assistance. The nature of the contact and relationship between the LEP individual and the individual offering services must be carefully considered (e.g., victim/suspect).

Except for exigent or very informal and non-confrontational circumstances, the use of an LEP individual's bilingual friends or family members, particularly children, are generally not recommended and department personnel shall make case-by-case determinations on the

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appropriateness of using such individuals (for further guidance see section V(3) of the U.S. DOJ Final Guidance available at the U.S. DOJ [website](#)).

### **331.4 FOUR-FACTOR ANALYSIS**

Since there are many different languages that members could encounter, the Department will utilize the four-factor analysis outlined in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients, available at the DOJ website, to determine which measures will provide meaningful access to its services and programs. It is recognized that law enforcement contacts and circumstances will vary considerably. This analysis, therefore, must remain flexible and will require an ongoing balance of four factors, which are:

- (a) The number or proportion of LEP individuals eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by department members, or who may benefit from programs or services within the jurisdiction of the Department or a particular geographic area.
- (b) The frequency with which LEP individuals are likely to come in contact with department members, programs or services.
- (c) The nature and importance of the contact, program, information or service provided.
- (d) The cost of providing LEP assistance and the resources available.

#### **331.4.1 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

In order to provide LEP individuals with meaningful access to police services when they are victims of, or witnesses to, alleged criminal activity or other emergencies, this department has designated its 9-1-1 lines as its top priority for language services. Department personnel will make every reasonable effort to promptly accommodate such LEP individuals utilizing 9-1-1 lines through any or all of the above resources.

While 9-1-1 calls shall receive top priority, reasonable efforts should also be made to accommodate LEP individuals seeking routine access to services and information by utilizing the resources listed in this policy.

#### **331.4.2 EMERGENCY CALLS TO 9-1-1**

When a 9-1-1 call-taker determines that the caller is an LEP individual, the call-taker should quickly determine whether sufficient information can be obtained to initiate an appropriate emergency response. If language assistance is still needed, the language is known and a language-appropriate authorized interpreter is available in Grays Harbor Communications, the call-taker should immediately connect the LEP caller to the interpreter.

If an appropriate authorized interpreter is not available, the call-taker will promptly connect the LEP caller to the contracted telephonic interpretation service directly for assistance in completing the call. Dispatchers will make every effort to dispatch a bilingual officer to the assignment, if available.

The Aberdeen Police Department will take reasonable steps and will work with the Department of Human Resources to hire and develop in-house language capacity in Grays Harbor Communications by hiring qualified personnel with specific language skills.

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### 331.4.3 FIELD ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATIONS

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts which may involve LEP individuals. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary. Department personnel must assess each situation to determine the need and availability for translation services to all involved LEP individuals and utilize the methods outlined in this policy to provide appropriate language assistance.

Although not every situation can be addressed within this policy, it is important that department personnel are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action taken with an LEP individual. It would, for example, be meaningless to request consent to search if the person requesting is unable to effectively communicate with an LEP individual.

### 331.4.4 INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEWS

In any situation where the translation of an interview may contain information that might be used in a criminal trial, it is important to take certain steps to improve the chances of admissibility. This includes interviews conducted during an investigation with victims, witnesses, and suspects. In such situations, audio recordings of the interviews should be made when reasonably possible. Identification and contact information for the interpreter (e.g., name, address) should be documented so that the person can be subpoenaed for trial if necessary.

Any person selected as an interpreter and/or translator must have demonstrated competence in both English and the non-English language involved and knowledge of the functions of an interpreter that allows for correct and effective translation, and should not be a person with an interest in the case. The person providing interpretation or translation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation or translation to the court.

### 331.4.5 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS AND BOOKINGS

In an effort to ensure the rights of LEP individuals are protected during arrest and custodial interrogation, this department places a high priority on providing competent interpretation during such situations. It is further recognized that miscommunication during custodial interrogations may have a substantial impact on the evidence presented in any related criminal prosecution. As such, department personnel providing interpretation services or translated forms in these situations will have demonstrated competence in interpretation/translation and make every reasonable effort to accurately interpret/translate all communications with LEP individuals.

In order to ensure that translations during criminal investigations are documented accurately and are admissible as evidence, audio recordings of interrogations, victim interviews and witness interviews should be used whenever reasonably possible.

Employees providing translation services shall also be aware of the inherent communication impediments to gathering information from the LEP individual throughout the booking process or any other situation in which an LEP individual is within the control of department personnel. Medical screening questions are commonly used to elicit information on an individual's

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medical needs, suicidal inclinations, presence of contagious diseases, potential illness, resulting symptoms upon withdrawal from certain medications, or the need to segregate the arrestee from other prisoners. Therefore it is important for members of this department to make every reasonable effort to provide effective language services in these situations.

### **331.4.6 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure access to LEP persons who wish to file a complaint regarding the discharge of department duties. The Department may do so by providing interpretation assistance or translated forms to such individuals. If the Department responds to complaints filed by LEP individuals, the Department shall attempt to communicate its response in an accessible manner.

### **331.4.7 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department have become increasingly recognized as important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. As such, this department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services to LEP individuals and groups.

### **331.5 TYPES OF LEP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Aberdeen Police Department members should never refuse service to an LEP individual who is requesting assistance, nor should they require an LEP individual to furnish an interpreter as a condition for receiving assistance. The Department will make every reasonable effort to provide meaningful and timely assistance to LEP individuals through a variety of services.

The Department will utilize all reasonably available tools, such as language identification cards, when attempting to determine an LEP individual's primary language.

LEP individuals may choose to accept department-provided LEP services at no cost or they may choose to provide their own.

Department-provided LEP services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

### **331.6 WRITTEN FORMS AND GUIDELINES**

Vital documents or those that are frequently used should be translated into languages most likely to be encountered. The LEP Coordinator will arrange to make these translated documents available to members and other appropriate individuals, as necessary.

### **331.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS**

The Department may develop audio recordings of important or frequently requested information in a language most likely to be understood by those LEP individuals who are representative of the community being served.

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### **331.8 QUALIFIED BILINGUAL MEMBERS**

Bilingual members may be qualified to provide LEP services when they have demonstrated through established department procedures a sufficient level of skill and competence to fluently communicate in both English and a non-English language. Members utilized for LEP services must demonstrate knowledge of the functions of an interpreter/translator and the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit. Additionally, bilingual members must be able to communicate technical and law enforcement terminology, and be sufficiently proficient in the non-English language to perform complicated tasks, such as conducting interrogations, taking statements, collecting evidence or conveying rights or responsibilities.

When a qualified bilingual member from this department is not available, personnel from other City departments, who have been identified by the Department as having the requisite skills and competence, may be requested.

#### **331.8.1 LEP COORDINATOR**

The Chief of Police will appoint an LEP Coordinator who is responsible for coordinating and implementing all aspects of the Aberdeen Police Department services to LEP individuals.

The LEP Coordinator shall assess demographic data, review contracted language access services utilization data, and consult with community-based organizations annually in order to determine if there are additional languages into which vital documents should be translated.

The LEP Coordinator will also be responsible for annually reviewing all new documents issued by the Aberdeen Police Department to assess whether they should be considered vital documents and be translated.

### **331.9 AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

Any person designated by the Department to act as an authorized interpreter and/or translator must have demonstrated competence in both English and the involved non-English language, must have an understanding of the functions of an interpreter that allows for correct and effective translation, and should not be a person with an interest in the department case or investigation involving the LEP individual. A person providing interpretation or translation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation or translation in a court proceeding.

Authorized interpreters must pass a screening process established by the LEP Coordinator which demonstrates that their skills and abilities include:

- (a) The competence and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language.
- (b) Knowledge, in both languages, of any specialized terms or concepts peculiar to this department and of any particularized vocabulary or phraseology used by the LEP individual.

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- (c) The ability to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (d) Knowledge of the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit.

### **331.9.1 SOURCES OF AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

The Department may contract with authorized interpreters who are available over the telephone. Members may use these services with the approval of a supervisor and in compliance with established procedures.

Other sources may include:

- Qualified bilingual members of this department or personnel from other City departments.
- Individuals employed exclusively to perform interpretation services.
- Contracted in-person interpreters, such as state or federal court interpreters, among others.
- Interpreters from other agencies who have been qualified as interpreters by this department, and with whom the Department has a resource-sharing or other arrangement that they will interpret according to department guidelines.

### **331.9.2 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SOURCES OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE**

Language assistance may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in either monolingual (direct) communication and/or in interpretation or translation (as noted in above), and have been approved by the Department to communicate with LEP individuals.

Where qualified bilingual members or other authorized interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the LEP individual and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

While family or friends of an LEP individual may offer to assist with communication or interpretation, members should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. For example, children should not be relied upon except in exigent or very informal and non-confrontational situations.

### **331.10 CONTACT AND REPORTING**

While all law enforcement contacts, services and individual rights are important, this department will utilize the four-factor analysis to prioritize service to LEP individuals so that such services may be targeted where they are most needed, according to the nature and importance of the particular law enforcement activity involved.

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Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation and interpretation services are provided to any involved LEP individual, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of interpretation services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source.

### **331.11 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

The Aberdeen Police Department will take reasonable steps and will work with the Department of Human Resources to develop in-house language capacity by hiring or appointing qualified members proficient in languages representative of the community being served.

#### **331.11.1 EMERGENCY CALLS TO 9-1-1**

Department members will make every reasonable effort to promptly accommodate LEP individuals utilizing 9-1-1 lines. When a 9-1-1 call-taker receives a call and determines that the caller is an LEP individual, the call-taker shall quickly determine whether sufficient information can be obtained to initiate an appropriate emergency response. If language assistance is still needed, the language is known and a qualified bilingual member is available in Grays Harbor Communications, the call shall immediately be handled by the qualified bilingual member.

If a qualified bilingual member is not available or the call-taker is unable to identify the caller's language, the call-taker will contact the contracted telephone interpretation service and establish a three-way call between the call-taker, the LEP individual and the interpreter.

Dispatchers will make every reasonable effort to dispatch a qualified bilingual member to the assignment, if available and appropriate.

While 9-1-1 calls shall receive top priority, reasonable efforts should also be made to accommodate LEP individuals seeking routine access to services and information by utilizing the resources listed in this policy.

### **331.12 FIELD ENFORCEMENT**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve LEP individuals. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation to determine the need and availability of language assistance to all involved LEP individuals and utilize the methods outlined in this policy to provide such assistance.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to request consent to search if the officer is unable to effectively communicate with an LEP individual.

If available, officers should obtain the assistance of a qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter before placing an LEP individual under arrest.

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### **331.13 INVESTIGATIVE FIELD INTERVIEWS**

In any situation where an interview may reveal information that could be used as the basis for arrest or prosecution of an LEP individual and a qualified bilingual member is unavailable or lacks the skills to directly communicate with the LEP individual, an authorized interpreter should be used. This includes interviews conducted during an investigation with victims, witnesses and suspects. In such situations, audio recordings of the interviews should be made when reasonably possible. Identification and contact information for the interpreter (e.g., name, address) should be documented so that the person can be subpoenaed for trial if necessary.

If an authorized interpreter is needed, officers should consider calling for an authorized interpreter in the following order:

- An authorized department member or allied agency interpreter
- An authorized telephone interpreter
- Any other authorized interpreter

Any *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects in their primary language by an authorized interpreter or, if the suspect is literate, by providing a translated *Miranda* warning card.

The use of an LEP individual's bilingual friends, family members, children, neighbors or bystanders may be used only when a qualified bilingual member or authorized interpreter is unavailable and there is an immediate need to interview an LEP individual.

### **331.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**

Miscommunication during custodial interrogations may have a substantial impact on the evidence presented in a criminal prosecution. Only qualified bilingual members or, if none is available or appropriate, authorized interpreters shall be used during custodial interrogations. *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects in their primary language by the qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter.

In order to ensure that translations during custodial interrogations are accurately documented and are admissible as evidence, interrogations should be recorded whenever reasonably possible. See guidance on recording custodial interrogations in the Investigation and Prosecution Policy.

### **331.15 BOOKINGS**

When gathering information during the booking process, members should remain alert to the impediments that language barriers can create. In the interest of the arrestee's health and welfare, the safety and security of the facility, and to protect individual rights, it is important that accurate medical screening and booking information be obtained. Members should seek the assistance of a qualified bilingual member whenever there is concern that accurate information cannot be obtained or that booking instructions may not be properly understood by an LEP individual.



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### **331.16 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure that LEP individuals who wish to file a complaint regarding members of this department are able to do so. The Department may provide an authorized interpreter or translated forms, as appropriate. Complaints will be referred to the LEP Coordinator.

Investigations into such complaints shall be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy. Authorized interpreters used for any interview with an LEP individual during an investigation should not be members of this department.

Any notice required to be sent to an LEP individual as a complaining party pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy should be translated or otherwise communicated in a language-accessible manner.

### **331.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

### **331.18 TRAINING**

To ensure that all members who may have contact with LEP individuals are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training on this policy and related procedures, including how to access department-authorized telephonic and in-person interpreters and other available resources.

The Training Coordinator shall be responsible for ensuring new members receive LEP training. Those who may have contact with LEP individuals should receive refresher training at least once every two years thereafter. The Training Coordinator shall maintain records of all LEP training provided, and will retain a copy in each member's training file in accordance with established records retention schedules.

#### **331.18.1 TRAINING FOR AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

All members on the authorized interpreter list must successfully complete prescribed interpreter training. To complete interpreter training successfully, an interpreter must demonstrate proficiency in and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language, demonstrate knowledge in both languages of any specialized terms or phraseology, and understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.

Members on the authorized interpreter list must receive refresher training annually or they will be removed from the authorized interpreter list. This annual training should include language skills competency (including specialized terminology) and ethical considerations.

The Training Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating the annual refresher training and will maintain a record of all training the interpreters have received.

# Communications with Persons with Disabilities

## 332.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with disabilities, including those who are deaf or hard of hearing, have impaired speech or vision, or are blind.

### 332.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Auxiliary aids** - Tools used to communicate with people who have a disability or impairment. They include but are not limited to, the use of gestures or visual aids to supplement oral communication; a notepad and pen or pencil to exchange written notes; a computer or typewriter; an assistive listening system or device to amplify sound; a teletypewriter (TTY) or videophones (video relay service or VRS); taped text; qualified readers; or a qualified interpreter.

**Disability or impairment** - A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, including hearing or seeing, regardless of whether the disabled person uses assistive or adaptive devices or auxiliary aids. Individuals who wear ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses are not considered to have a disability (42 USC § 12102).

**Qualified interpreter** - A person who is able to interpret effectively, accurately and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary. Qualified interpreters include oral interpreters, transliterators, sign language interpreters and intermediary interpreters. Qualified interpreters should be certified pursuant to RCW 2.42.110.

## 332.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to reasonably ensure that people with disabilities, including victims, witnesses, suspects and arrestees have equal access to law enforcement services, programs and activities. Members must make efforts to communicate effectively with individuals with disabilities.

The Department will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights or programs based upon disabilities.

### 332.2.1 INITIAL AND IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS

Recognizing that various law enforcement encounters may be potentially volatile and/or emotionally charged, department employees should remain alert to the possibility of communication problems and exercise special care in the use of all gestures, and verbal and written communication in an effort to minimize initial confusion and misunderstanding when dealing with any individual(s) with known or suspected disabilities or communication impairments.

## 332.3 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police shall delegate certain responsibilities to an ADA Coordinator (28 CFR 35.107). The ADA Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible, to the Operations Division Commander or the authorized designee.

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The responsibilities of the ADA Coordinator shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) Working with the City ADA coordinator regarding the Aberdeen Police Department's efforts to ensure equal access to services, programs and activities.
- (b) Developing reports, new procedures, or recommending modifications to this policy.
- (c) Acting as a liaison with local disability advocacy groups or other disability groups regarding access to department services, programs and activities.
- (d) Ensuring that a list of qualified interpreter services is maintained and available to each Patrol Lieutenant and Dispatch Supervisor. The list should include information regarding the following:
  - 1. Contact information
  - 2. Availability
- (e) Developing procedures that will enable members to access auxiliary aids or services, including qualified interpreters, and ensure the procedures are available to all members.
- (f) Ensuring signage is posted in appropriate areas, indicating that auxiliary aids are available free of charge to people with disabilities.
- (g) Ensuring appropriate processes are in place to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to department services, programs and activities.

### 332.3.1 FIELD RESOURCES

Individual officers and employees are encouraged to utilize resources immediately available to them in any contact with a known or suspected disabled or impaired person. Examples of this would include such simple methods as:

- (a) Hand gestures or written communications exchanged between the employee and a deaf or hearing impaired individual.
- (b) Facing an individual utilizing lip reading and speaking slowly and clearly.
- (c) Slowly and clearly speaking or reading simple terms to any visually or mentally impaired individual.

### 332.3.2 AUDIO RECORDINGS AND ENLARGED PRINT

From time to time, the Department may develop audio recordings of important information needed by blind or visually impaired individuals. In the absence of such audio recordings, employees may elect to read aloud a Department form or document such as a citizen complaint form to a visually impaired individual or utilize a photocopier to enlarge printed forms for a visually impaired individual.

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### **332.3.3 TELEPHONE INTERPRETER SERVICES**

The Special Assignments Supervisor and Harbor Communications Center will maintain a list of qualified interpreter services to be contacted at department expense to assist deaf or hearing impaired individuals upon approval of a supervisor. When utilized, notification to such interpreters shall be made at the earliest reasonable opportunity and the interpreter should be available to respond within a reasonable time (generally not to exceed three hours).

### **332.3.4 TTY AND RELAY SERVICES**

Individuals who are deaf or hearing impaired must be given the opportunity to use available text telephones (TTY or TDD). All calls placed by such individuals through such services shall be accepted by this department.

### **332.3.5 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Depending on the circumstances, location and availability, responsible members of the community may be available to provide qualified interpreter services, such as those who are proficient in American Sign Language (ASL). Sources for these individuals may include local businesses, banks, churches, neighborhood leaders and school officials. In addition to such sources developed by individual officers, the Department will attempt to maintain and update a list of qualified community volunteers who may be available to respond within a reasonable time.

### **332.3.6 FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF DISABLED OR IMPAIRED INDIVIDUAL**

While family and friends of a disabled or impaired individual may frequently offer to assist with interpretation, employees should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. For example, children should not be relied upon except in emergency or critical situations. Further, the nature of the contact and relationship between the disabled individual and the individual offering services must be carefully considered (e.g., victim/suspect).

## **332.4 FACTORS TO CONSIDER**

Because the nature of any law enforcement contact may vary substantially from one situation to the next, members of this department should consider all information reasonably available to them when determining how to communicate with an individual with a disability. Members should carefully balance all known factors in an effort to reasonably ensure people who are disabled have equal access to services, programs and activities. These factors may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Members should not always assume that effective communication is being achieved. The fact that an individual appears to be nodding in agreement does not always mean he/she completely understands the message. When there is any doubt, members should ask the individual to communicate back or otherwise demonstrate their understanding.
- (b) The nature of the disability (e.g., deafness or blindness vs. hard of hearing or low vision).
- (c) The nature of the law enforcement contact (e.g., emergency vs. non-emergency, custodial vs. consensual contact).

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- (d) The availability of auxiliary aids. The fact that a particular aid is not available does not eliminate the obligation to reasonably ensure access. However, in an emergency, availability may factor into the type of aid used.

### 332.4.1 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

In order to provide disabled and impaired individuals with meaningful access to law enforcement services when they are victims of, or witnesses to, alleged criminal activity or other emergencies, this department has designated its 9-1-1 lines as its top priority for assistance with such services. Department personnel will make every reasonable effort to promptly accommodate such disabled and impaired individuals utilizing 9-1-1 lines through any or all of the above resources.

While 9-1-1 calls shall receive top priority, it is also important that reasonable efforts be made to accommodate disabled and impaired individuals seeking more routine access to services and information from this department.

### 332.4.2 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS AND BOOKINGS

In an effort to ensure the rights of all disabled and impaired individuals are protected during arrest and custodial interrogation, this department places a high priority on providing reasonable communication assistance during such situations. It is further recognized that miscommunication during custodial interrogations may have a substantial impact on the evidence presented in any related criminal prosecution. As such, department personnel providing communication assistance in these situations will make every reasonable effort to accurately and effectively communicate with disabled or impaired individuals.

Employees providing such assistance shall also be aware of the inherent communication impediments to gathering information from disabled or impaired individuals throughout the booking process or any other situation in which a disabled or impaired individual is within the control of department personnel. Medical screening questions are commonly used to elicit information on individual's medical needs, suicidal inclinations, presence of contagious diseases, potential illness, resulting symptoms upon withdrawal from certain medications, or the need to segregate the arrestee from other prisoners, therefore it is important for this department to make every reasonable effort to provide effective communication assistance in these situations.

- (a) Individuals who require communication aids (e.g., hearing aids) should be permitted to retain such devices while in custody.
- (b) While it may present officer safety or other logistical problems to allow a physically disabled individual to retain devices such as a wheel chair or crutches during a custodial situation, the removal of such items will require that other reasonable accommodations be made to assist such individuals with access to all necessary services.
- (c) Whenever a deaf or hearing impaired individual is detained or arrested and placed in handcuffs, officers should consider, safety permitting, placing the handcuffs in front of the body in order to allow the individual to sign or write notes.

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### **332.4.3 FIELD ENFORCEMENT AND INVESTIGATIONS**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts which may involve disabled or impaired individuals. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary, therefore the Department recognizes that it would be virtually impossible to provide immediate access to complete communication services to every officer in the field. Each officer and/or supervisor must, however, assess each such situation to determine the need and availability for communication assistance to any and all involved disabled or impaired individuals.

Although not every situation can be addressed within this policy, it is important that employees are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action taken with a disabled or impaired individual. For example, it would be meaningless to verbally request consent to search if the officer is unable to effectively communicate with a deaf individual.

### **332.4.4 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department have become increasingly recognized as important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. As such, this department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services to disabled individuals and groups.

### **332.5 INITIAL AND IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS**

Recognizing that various law enforcement encounters may be potentially volatile and/or emotionally charged, members should remain alert to the possibility of communication problems.

Members should exercise special care in the use of all gestures, and verbal and written communication to minimize initial confusion and misunderstanding when dealing with any individual with known or suspected disabilities.

In a non-emergency situation, when a member knows or suspects an individual requires assistance to effectively communicate, the member shall identify the individual's choice of auxiliary aid or service.

The individual's preferred communication method must be honored unless another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances (28 CFR 35.160).

Factors to consider when determining whether an alternative method is effective include:

- (a) The methods of communication usually used by the individual.
- (b) The nature, length and complexity of the communication involved.
- (c) The context of the communication.

In emergency situations involving an imminent threat to the safety or welfare of any person, members may use whatever auxiliary aids and services that reasonably appear effective under the circumstances. This may include, for example, exchanging written notes or using the services

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of a person who knows sign language but is not a qualified interpreter, even if the person who is deaf or hard of hearing would prefer a qualified sign language interpreter or another appropriate auxiliary aid or service. Once the emergency has ended, the continued method of communication should be reconsidered. The member should inquire as to the individual's preference and give primary consideration to that preference.

If an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing or has impaired speech must be handcuffed while in the custody of the Aberdeen Police Department, consideration should be given, safety permitting, to placing the handcuffs in the front of the body to facilitate communication using sign language or writing.

### **332.6 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Aberdeen Police Department members shall never refuse to assist an individual with disabilities who is requesting assistance. The Department will not charge anyone to receive auxiliary aids, nor shall they require anyone to furnish their own auxiliary aid or service as a condition for receiving assistance. The Department will make every reasonable effort to provide equal access and timely assistance to individuals who are disabled through a variety of services.

A person who is disabled may choose to accept department-provided auxiliary aids or services or they may choose to provide their own.

Department-provided auxiliary aids or services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

### **332.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS AND ENLARGED PRINT**

The Department may develop audio recordings to assist people who are blind or have a visual impairment with accessing important information. If such a recording is not available, members may read aloud from the appropriate form, for example a personnel complaint form, or provide forms with enlarged print.

### **332.8 QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS**

A qualified interpreter may be needed in lengthy or complex transactions (e.g., interviewing a victim, witness, suspect or arrestee), if the individual to be interviewed normally relies on sign language or speechreading (lip-reading) to understand what others are saying. The qualified interpreter should not be a person with an interest in the case or the investigation. A person providing interpretation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation in a court proceeding.

Qualified interpreters should be:

- (a) Available within a reasonable amount of time but in no event longer than one hour if requested.
- (b) Experienced in providing interpretation services related to law enforcement matters.

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- (c) Familiar with the use of VRS and/or video remote interpreting services.
- (d) Certified in either American Sign Language (ASL) or Signed English (SE).
- (e) Able to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (f) Knowledgeable of the ethical issues involved when providing interpreter services.

Members should use department-approved procedures to request a qualified interpreter at the earliest reasonable opportunity, and generally not more than 15 minutes after a request for an interpreter has been made or it is reasonably apparent that an interpreter is needed. No individual who is disabled shall be required to provide his/her own interpreter (28 CFR 35.160).

### **332.9 TTY AND RELAY SERVICES**

In situations where an individual without a disability would have access to a telephone (e.g., booking or attorney contacts), members must also provide those who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech the opportunity to place calls using an available TTY (also known as a telecommunications device for deaf people, or TDD). Members shall provide additional time, as needed, for effective communication due to the slower nature of TTY and TDD communications.

The Department will accept all TTY or TDD calls placed by those who are deaf or hard of hearing and received via a telecommunications relay service (28 CFR 35.162).

Note that relay services translate verbatim, so the conversation must be conducted as if speaking directly to the caller.

### **332.10 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Interpreter services may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in communication services, such as ASL or SE, and have been approved by the Department to provide interpreter services.

Where qualified interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the individual with the disability and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

### **332.11 FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

While family or friends may offer to assist with interpretation, members should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. The nature of the contact and relationship between the individual with the disability and the person offering services must be carefully considered (e.g., victim/suspect).

Children shall not be relied upon except in emergency or critical situations when there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.



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Adults may be relied upon when (28 CFR 35.160):

- (a) There is an emergency or critical situation and there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.
- (b) The person with the disability requests that the adult interpret or facilitate communication and the adult agrees to provide such assistance, and reliance on that adult for such assistance is reasonable under the circumstances.

### **332.12 REPORTING**

Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation, and communication assistance has been provided, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of communication services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source. If the individual's express preference is not honored, the member must document why another method of communication was used.

All written communications exchanged in a criminal case shall be attached to the report or placed into evidence.

### **332.13 FIELD ENFORCEMENT**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve individuals with disabilities. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary.

The Department recognizes that it would be virtually impossible to provide immediate access to complete communication services to every member of this department. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation and consider the length, complexity and importance of the communication, as well as the individual's preferred method of communication, when determining the type of resources to use and whether a qualified interpreter is needed.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to verbally request consent to search if the officer is unable to effectively communicate with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing and requires communications assistance.

If available, officers should obtain the assistance of a qualified interpreter before placing an individual with a disability under arrest. Individuals who are arrested and are assisted by service animals should be permitted to make arrangements for the care of such animals prior to transport.

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### **332.13.1 FIELD RESOURCES**

Examples of methods that may be sufficient for transactions, such as checking a license or giving directions to a location or for urgent situations such as responding to a violent crime in progress, may, depending on the circumstances, include such simple things as:

- (a) Hand gestures or visual aids with an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing or has impaired speech.
- (b) Exchange of written notes or communications.
- (c) Verbal communication with an individual who can speechread by facing the individual and speaking slowly and clearly.
- (d) Use of computer, word processing, personal communication device or similar device to exchange texts or notes.
- (e) Slowly and clearly speaking or reading simple terms to individuals who have a visual or mental impairment.

Members should be aware that these techniques may not provide effective communication as required by law and this policy depending on the circumstances.

### **332.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**

In an effort to ensure that the rights of individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech impairment are protected during a custodial interrogation, this department will provide interpreter services before beginning an interrogation, unless exigent circumstances exist. The use of a video remote interpreting service should be considered, where appropriate, if a live interpreter is not available. *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects who are deaf or hard of hearing by a qualified interpreter.

In order to ensure that communications during custodial investigations are accurately documented and are admissible as evidence, interrogations should be recorded whenever reasonably possible. See guidance on recording custodial interrogations in the Investigation and Prosecution Policy.

### **332.15 ARRESTS AND BOOKINGS**

If an individual with speech or hearing disabilities is arrested, the arresting officer shall use department-approved procedures to provide a qualified interpreter at the place of arrest or booking as soon as reasonably practicable, unless the individual indicates that he/she prefers a different auxiliary aid or service or the officer reasonably determines another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances.

When gathering information during the booking process, members should remain alert to the impediments that often exist when communicating with those who are deaf, hard of hearing, who have impaired speech or vision, are blind, or have other disabilities. In the interest of the arrestee's health and welfare, the safety and security of the facility and to protect individual rights, it is important that accurate medical screening and booking information be obtained. If necessary, members should seek the assistance of a qualified interpreter whenever there is

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concern that accurate information cannot be obtained or that booking instructions may not be properly understood by the individual.

Individuals who require and possess personally owned communication aids (e.g., hearing aids, cochlear processors) should be permitted to retain them while in custody.

### **332.16 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure that individuals with disabilities who wish to file a complaint regarding members of this department are able to do so. The Department may provide a qualified interpreter or forms in enlarged print, as appropriate. Complaints will be referred to the department ADA Coordinator.

Investigations into such complaints shall be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy. Qualified interpreters used during the investigation of a complaint should not be members of this department.

### **332.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

### **332.18 TRAINING**

To ensure that all members who may have contact with individuals who are disabled are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training that should include:

- (a) Awareness and understanding of this policy and related procedures, related forms and available resources.
- (b) Procedures for accessing qualified interpreters and other available resources.
- (c) Working with in-person and telephone interpreters and related equipment.

The Training Coordinator shall be responsible for ensuring new members receive training related to interacting with individuals who have disabilities, including individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, who have impaired speech or vision, or are blind. Those who may have contact with such individuals should receive refresher training at least once every two years thereafter. The Training Coordinator shall maintain records of all training provided, and will retain a copy in each member's training file in accordance with established records retention schedules.

#### **332.18.1 CALL-TAKER TRAINING**

Emergency call-takers shall be trained in the use of TTY equipment protocols for communicating with individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or who have speech impairments. Such training and information should include:

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- (a) The requirements of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act for telephone emergency service providers.
- (b) ASL syntax and accepted abbreviations.
- (c) Practical instruction on identifying and processing TTY or TDD calls, including the importance of recognizing silent TTY or TDD calls, using proper syntax, abbreviations and protocol when responding to TTY or TDD calls.
- (d) Hands-on experience in TTY and TDD communications, including identification of TTY or TDD tones.

Training should be mandatory for all Grays Harbor Communications members who may have contact with individuals from the public who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech. Refresher training should occur every six months.

# Chaplains

## 333.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for Aberdeen Police Department chaplains to provide counseling or emotional support to members of the Department, their families and members of the public (RCW 41.22.030; RCW 41.22.040).

## 333.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department shall ensure that department chaplains are properly appointed, trained and supervised to carry out their responsibilities without financial compensation.

## 333.3 ELIGIBILITY

Requirements for participation as a chaplain for the Department may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Being above reproach, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, be free from addiction to alcohol or other drugs, and excessive debt.
- (b) Managing their households, families and personal affairs well.
- (c) Having a good reputation in the community.
- (d) Successful completion of an appropriate-level background investigation.
- (e) A minimum of five years of successful counseling experience.
- (f) Possession of a valid driver license.

The Chief of Police may apply exceptions for eligibility based on organizational needs and the qualifications of the individual.

## 333.4 RECRUITMENT, SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

The Aberdeen Police Department shall endeavor to recruit and appoint only those applicants who meet the high ethical, moral and professional standards set forth by this department.

All applicants shall be required to meet and pass the same pre-employment procedures as department personnel before appointment.

### 333.4.1 RECRUITMENT

Chaplains should be recruited on a continuous and ongoing basis consistent with department policy on equal opportunity and nondiscriminatory employment. A primary qualification for participation in the application process should be an interest in and an ability to assist the Department in serving the public. Chaplain candidates are encouraged to participate in ride-alongs with department members before and during the selection process.

### 333.4.2 SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

Chaplain candidates shall successfully complete the following process prior to appointment as a chaplain:

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- (a) Submit the appropriate written application.
- (b) Include a recommendation from employers or volunteer programs.
- (c) Interview with the Chief of Police and the chaplain coordinator.
- (d) Successfully complete an appropriate-level background investigation.
- (e) Complete an appropriate probationary period as designated by the Chief of Police.

Chaplains are volunteers and serve at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Chaplains shall have no property interest in continued appointment. However, if a chaplain is removed for alleged misconduct, the chaplain will be afforded an opportunity solely to clear his/her name through a liberty interest hearing, which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

### **333.5 IDENTIFICATION AND UNIFORMS**

As representatives of the Department, chaplains are responsible for presenting a professional image to the community. Chaplains shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties. Uniforms and necessary safety equipment will be provided for each chaplain. Identification symbols worn by chaplains shall be different and distinct from those worn by officers through the inclusion of "Chaplain" on the uniform and not reflect any religious affiliation.

Chaplains will be issued Aberdeen Police Department identification cards, which must be carried at all times while on-duty. The identification cards will be the standard Aberdeen Police Department identification cards, with the exception that "Chaplain" will be indicated on the cards. Chaplains shall be required to return any issued uniforms or department property at the termination of service.

Chaplains shall conform to all uniform regulations and appearance standards of this department.

### **333.6 CHAPLAIN COORDINATOR**

The Chief of Police shall delegate certain responsibilities to a chaplain coordinator. The coordinator shall be appointed by and directly responsible to the Support Services Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The chaplain coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the chaplains and the Chief of Police. The function of the coordinator is to provide a central coordinating point for effective chaplain management within the Department, and to direct and assist efforts to jointly provide more productive chaplain services. Under the general direction of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, chaplains shall report to the chaplain coordinator and/or Patrol Lieutenant.

The chaplain coordinator may appoint a senior chaplain or other designee to assist in the coordination of chaplains and their activities.

The responsibilities of the coordinator or the authorized designee include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Recruiting, selecting and training qualified chaplains.
- (b) Conducting chaplain meetings.

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- (c) Establishing and maintaining a chaplain callout roster.
- (d) Maintaining records for each chaplain.
- (e) Tracking and evaluating the contribution of chaplains.
- (f) Maintaining a record of chaplain schedules and work hours.
- (g) Completing and disseminating, as appropriate, all necessary paperwork and information.
- (h) Planning periodic recognition events.
- (i) Maintaining liaison with other agency chaplain coordinators.

An evaluation of the overall use of chaplains will be conducted on an annual basis by the coordinator.

### **333.7 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Chaplains assist the Department, its members and the community, as needed. Assignments of chaplains will usually be to augment the Operations Division. Chaplains may be assigned to other areas within the Department as needed. Chaplains should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.

All chaplains will be assigned to duties by the chaplain coordinator or the authorized designee.

Chaplains may not proselytize or attempt to recruit members of the Department or the public into a religious affiliation while representing themselves as chaplains with this department. If there is any question as to the receiving person's intent, chaplains should verify that the person is desirous of spiritual counseling or guidance before engaging in such discussion.

Chaplains may not accept gratuities for any service or any subsequent actions or follow-up contacts that were provided while functioning as a chaplain for the Aberdeen Police Department.

#### **333.7.1 COMPLIANCE**

Chaplains are volunteer members of this department, and except as otherwise specified within this policy, are required to comply with the Volunteer Program Policy and other applicable policies.

#### **333.7.2 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

- (a) It is recommended that each chaplain serve with Aberdeen Police Department personnel a minimum of eight hours per month.
- (b) Chaplains shall be permitted to ride with officers during any shift and observe Aberdeen Police Department operations, provided the Patrol Lieutenant has been notified and has approved the activity.
- (c) Chaplains shall not be evaluators of members of the Department.
- (d) In responding to incidents, a chaplain shall never function as an officer.

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- (e) When responding to in-progress calls for service, chaplains may be required to stand-by in a secure area until the situation has been deemed safe.
- (f) Chaplains shall serve only within the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.
- (g) Each chaplain shall have access to current department member rosters, addresses, telephone numbers, duty assignments and other information that may assist in his/her duties. Such information will be considered confidential and each chaplain will exercise appropriate security measures to prevent distribution of the data.

### 333.7.3 ASSISTING DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

The responsibilities of a chaplain related to department members include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting in making notification to families of members who have been seriously injured or killed and, after notification, responding to the hospital or home of the member.
- (b) Visiting sick or injured members in the hospital or at home.
- (c) Attending and participating, when requested, in funerals of active or retired members.
- (d) Serving as a resource for members when dealing with the public in incidents, such as accidental deaths, suicides, suicidal subjects, serious accidents, drug and alcohol abuse and other such situations that may arise.
- (e) Providing counseling and support for members and their families.
- (f) Being alert to the needs of members and their families.

### 333.7.4 ASSISTING THE DEPARTMENT

The responsibilities of a chaplain related to this department include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting members in the diffusion of a conflict or incident, when requested.
- (b) Responding to natural and accidental deaths, suicides and attempted suicides, family disturbances and any other incident that in the judgment of the Patrol Lieutenant or supervisor aids in accomplishing the mission of the Department.
- (c) Responding to all major disasters, such as natural disasters, bombings and similar critical incidents.
- (d) Being on-call and, if possible, on-duty during major demonstrations or any public function that requires the presence of a large number of department members.
- (e) Attending department and academy graduations, ceremonies and social events and offering invocations and benedictions, as requested.
- (f) Participating in in-service training classes.
- (g) Willingness to train others to enhance the effectiveness of the Department.

### 333.7.5 ASSISTING THE COMMUNITY

The duties of a chaplain related to the community include, but are not limited to:



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- (a) Fostering familiarity with the role of law enforcement in the community.
- (b) Providing an additional link between the community, other chaplain coordinators and the Department.
- (c) Providing liaison with various civic, business and religious organizations.
- (d) Promptly facilitating requests for representatives or leaders of various denominations.
- (e) Assisting the community in any other function as needed or requested.
- (f) Making referrals in cases where specialized attention is needed or in cases that are beyond the chaplain's ability to assist.

### **333.7.6 CHAPLAIN MEETINGS**

All chaplains are required to attend scheduled meetings. Any absences must be satisfactorily explained to the chaplain coordinator.

### **333.8 PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS**

No person who provides chaplain services to members of the Department may work or volunteer for the Aberdeen Police Department in any capacity other than that of chaplain.

Department chaplains shall be familiar with state evidentiary laws and rules pertaining to the limits of the clergy-penitent, psychotherapist-patient and other potentially applicable privileges and shall inform members when it appears reasonably likely that the member is discussing matters that are not subject to privileged communications. In such cases, the chaplain should consider referring the member to a non-department counseling resource.

No chaplain shall provide counsel to or receive confidential communications from any Aberdeen Police Department member concerning an incident personally witnessed by the chaplain or concerning an incident involving the chaplain.

### **333.9 TRAINING**

The Department will establish a minimum number of training hours and standards for department chaplains. The training, as approved by the Training Coordinator, may include:

- Stress management
- Death notifications
- Symptoms of post-traumatic stress
- Burnout for members of law enforcement and chaplains
- Legal liability and confidentiality
- Ethics
- Responding to crisis situations
- The law enforcement family
- Substance abuse

# Aberdeen Police Department

Aberdeen PD WA Policy Manual

## *Chaplains*

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- Suicide
- Officer injury or death
- Sensitivity and diversity

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# Administrative Reporting System

## 334.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to properly analyze the need for specific enforcement and prevention activities, as well as to provide proper manpower allocation, the department has an Administrative Reporting Program.

### 334.1.1 ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- (a) The Special Assignments Officer will ensure that section commanders, division commanders, and the Chief receive:
  - 1. Daily reports of calls for service.
  - 2. Monthly copies of the UCR.
  - 3. Annual reports of the department's activity.
  - 4. Any statistical summaries based upon such reports.
  - 5. Annual review and analysis of high risk events to include vehicle pursuits, use of force incidents, internal affairs investigations, and bias based profiling incidents shall be conducted. The review and analysis reports shall be approved by the Chief of Police.

### 334.1.2 REGULAR AND SPECIAL BRIEFINGS

- (a) Division and Section Commanders are responsible for reporting crime trends or patterns to the Chief of Police and Deputy Chief in regularly scheduled staff meetings. Such data may be revealed or determined through daily review of crime reports, the Department's computerized records system and the crime analysis function.
- (b) Shift supervisors are responsible for disseminating current crime data through the daily shift briefing log, which is reviewed by all command staff members.
- (c) Special briefings will be conducted to inform the Chief of Police whenever new, unusual, or dangerous trends are revealed.

### 334.1.3 CRIME ANALYSIS FUNCTION

All members of the department participate in the collection of crime data when completing the department's offense report.

- (a) Information collection during the investigation of a crime, such as type of offense, method of operation, physical descriptors, and trends, is entered into the department's computerized records system for later dissemination as necessary.

## *Administrative Reporting System*

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- (b) Officers and detectives involved in activities such as crime reduction, crime investigations, and crime prevention should utilize this information to assist in their efforts.
- (c) In addition to the department's computerized records system, crime analysis information is collated by the Operations Division during review of felony and misdemeanor reports. Patrol Supervisors are responsible for disseminating this information through a briefing log as needed.
- (d) Crime analysis information should be used by the department in developing tactics, strategies, the scheduling of personnel, and long-range plans.

### 334.1.4 PLANNING AND RESEARCH FUNCTIONS

Planning and research is an ongoing responsibility of all command staff members.

- (a) Commanders should be responsible for researching and developing information relevant to programs and projects as they relate to their individual division or section and the overall goals of the Aberdeen Police Department. They should make recommendations for change, implementation and improvement of operational effectiveness to the Chief of Police.
- (b) In addition, the Special Assignments Officer should conduct an annual analysis of operational activities by: 1. Type of activity and number of offenses. 2. Location by Baker area. 3. Time of day. 4. Day of week. 5. Jail population data.
- (c) Analytical reports that result from such review should be disseminated to all command staff members and any other affected personnel and/or organizational components.

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# Public Safety Video Surveillance System

## 335.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for the placement and monitoring of department public safety video surveillance, as well as the storage and release of the captured images.

This policy only applies to overt, marked public safety video surveillance systems operated by the Department. It does not apply to mobile audio/video systems, covert audio/video systems or any other image-capturing devices used by the Department.

## 335.2 POLICY

Cameras may be strategically placed throughout the City at the direction or with the approval of the Chief of Police for the purpose of assisting the Aberdeen Police Department to detect and deter crime, to safeguard against potential threats to Homeland Security, to manage emergency response situations to natural and man-made disasters and to assist other City officials to aid in the enhancement of services provided to the community.

Public safety cameras are a crime prevention tool and can assist with scene reconstruction and evidence gathering. Public safety cameras are also a key resource to assist in securing vulnerable sites by providing real time monitoring and early detection of unusual or criminal activity allowing for a more efficient and timely response by law enforcement and emergency response personnel.

The cameras only record images and do not record sound. Recordings may be used for a variety of purposes including criminal investigations, monitoring of activity. In addition, the public safety camera system helps to provide the following benefits:

- (a) Assist in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders.
- (b) Assist in gathering evidence for criminal and civil court actions.
- (c) Assist emergency services personnel maintain good public order.
- (d) Assist in monitoring pedestrian and vehicle traffic activity.
- (e) Help improve the general environment on the public streets.
- (f) Assist in providing effective public services.

## 335.3 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

Only department-approved video surveillance equipment shall be utilized. Members authorized to monitor video surveillance equipment should only monitor public areas and public activities where no reasonable expectation of privacy exists. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall approve all proposed locations for the use of video surveillance technology and should consult with and be guided by legal counsel as necessary in making such determinations.

## *Public Safety Video Surveillance System*

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### 335.3.1 PLACEMENT AND MONITORING

Camera placement will be guided by the underlying purpose or strategy associated with the overall video surveillance plan. As appropriate, the Chief of Police should confer with other affected City divisions and designated community groups when evaluating camera placement. Environmental factors, including lighting, location of buildings, presence of vegetation or other obstructions, should also be evaluated when determining placement.

Cameras shall only record video images and not sound. Recorded images may be used for a variety of purposes, including criminal investigations and monitoring of activity around high-value or high-threat areas. The public safety video surveillance system may be useful for the following purposes:

- (a) To prevent, deter and identify criminal activity.
- (b) To target identified areas of gang and narcotics complaints or activity.
- (c) To respond to critical incidents.
- (d) To assist in identifying, apprehending and prosecuting offenders.
- (e) To document officer and offender conduct during interactions to safeguard the rights of the public and officers.
- (f) To augment resources in a cost-effective manner.
- (g) To monitor pedestrian and vehicle traffic activity.

Images from each camera should be recorded in a manner consistent with the underlying purpose of the particular camera. Images should be transmitted to monitors installed in the Patrol Lieutenant's office and Grays Harbor Communications. When activity warranting further investigation is reported or detected at any camera location, the available information should be provided to responding officers in a timely manner. The Patrol Lieutenant or trained Grays Harbor Communications personnel are authorized to adjust the cameras to more effectively view a particular area for any legitimate public safety purpose.

The Chief of Police may authorize video feeds from the public safety video surveillance system to be forwarded to a specified location for monitoring by other than police personnel, such as allied government agencies, road or traffic crews, or fire or emergency operations personnel.

Unauthorized recording, viewing, reproduction, dissemination or retention is prohibited.

### 335.3.2 CAMERA MARKINGS

All public areas monitored by public safety surveillance equipment shall be marked in a conspicuous manner with appropriate signs to inform the public that the area is under police surveillance. Signs should be well lit, placed appropriately and without obstruction to ensure visibility.

### 335.3.3 INTEGRATION WITH OTHER TECHNOLOGY

The Department may elect to integrate its public safety video surveillance system with other technology to enhance available information. Systems such as gunshot detection, incident

## *Public Safety Video Surveillance System*

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mapping, crime analysis, license plate recognition, facial recognition and other video-based analytical systems may be considered based upon availability and the nature of department strategy.

The Department should evaluate the availability and propriety of networking or otherwise collaborating with appropriate private sector entities and should evaluate whether the use of certain camera systems, such as pan-tilt-zoom systems and video enhancement or other analytical technology, requires additional safeguards.

### **335.4 VIDEO SUPERVISION**

Supervisors should monitor video surveillance access and usage to ensure members are within department policy and applicable laws. Supervisors should ensure such use and access is appropriately documented.

#### **335.4.1 VIDEO LOG**

A log should be maintained at all locations where video surveillance monitors are located. The log should be used to document all persons not assigned to the monitoring locations who have been given access to view or monitor images provided by the video surveillance cameras. The logs should, at a minimum, record the:

- (a) Date and time access was given.
- (b) Name and agency of the person being given access to the images.
- (c) Name of person authorizing access.
- (d) Identifiable portion of images viewed.

#### **335.4.2 PROHIBITED ACTIVITY**

Public safety video surveillance systems will not intentionally be used to invade the privacy of individuals or observe areas where a reasonable expectation of privacy exists.

Public safety video surveillance equipment shall not be used in an unequal or discriminatory manner and shall not target individuals or groups based solely on actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability.

Video surveillance equipment shall not be used to harass, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual or group.

### **335.5 STORAGE AND RETENTION OF MEDIA**

All downloaded media shall be stored in a secure area with access restricted to authorized persons. A recording needed as evidence shall be copied to a suitable medium and booked into evidence in accordance with established evidence procedures. All actions taken with respect to retention of media shall be appropriately documented.

## *Public Safety Video Surveillance System*

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The type of video surveillance technology employed and the manner in which recordings are used and stored will affect retention periods. The recordings should be stored and retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

### **335.5.1 EVIDENTIARY INTEGRITY**

All downloaded and retained media shall be treated in the same manner as other evidence. Media shall be accessed, maintained, stored and retrieved in a manner that ensures its integrity as evidence, including strict adherence to chain of custody requirements. Electronic trails, including encryption, digital masking of innocent or uninvolved individuals to preserve anonymity, authenticity certificates and date and time stamping, shall be used as appropriate to preserve individual rights and to ensure the authenticity and maintenance of a secure evidentiary chain of custody.

### **335.6 RELEASE OF VIDEO IMAGES**

All recorded video images gathered by the public safety video surveillance equipment are for the official use of the Aberdeen Police Department.

Requests for recorded video images from the public or the media shall be processed in the same manner as requests for department public records.

Requests for recorded images from other law enforcement agencies shall be referred to the Patrol Lieutenant for release in accordance with a specific and legitimate law enforcement purpose.

Recorded video images that are the subject of a court order or subpoena shall be processed in accordance with the established department subpoena process.

### **335.7 VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AUDIT**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee will conduct an annual review of the public safety video surveillance system. The review should include an analysis of the cost, benefit and effectiveness of the system, including any public safety issues that were effectively addressed or any significant prosecutions that resulted, and any systemic operational or administrative issues that were identified, including those related to training, discipline or policy.

The results of each review shall be appropriately documented and maintained by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee and other applicable advisory bodies. Any recommendations for training or policy should be promptly addressed.

### **335.8 TRAINING**

All department members authorized to operate or access public video surveillance systems shall receive appropriate training. Training should include guidance on the use of cameras, interaction with dispatch and patrol operations and a review regarding relevant policies and procedures, including this policy. Training should also address state and federal law related to the use of video surveillance equipment and privacy.



## Child and Dependent Adult Safety

### 336.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that children and dependent adults are not left without appropriate care in the event their caregiver or guardian is arrested or otherwise prevented from providing care due to actions taken by members of this department.

This policy does not address the actions to be taken during the course of a child abuse or dependent adult investigation. These are covered in the Child Abuse and Adult Abuse policies.

#### 336.1.1 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to mitigate, to the extent reasonably possible, the stressful experience children may have when their parent or caregiver is arrested. The Aberdeen Police Department will endeavor to create a strong cooperative relationship with local, state and community-based child social services to ensure an effective, collaborative response that addresses the needs of affected children.

### 336.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to mitigate, to the extent reasonably possible, the stressful experience individuals may have when their parent or caregiver is arrested. The Aberdeen Police Department will endeavor to create a strong cooperative relationship with local, state and community-based social services to ensure an effective, collaborative response that addresses the needs of those affected, including call-out availability and follow-up responsibilities.

#### 336.2.1 AFTER AN ARREST

Whenever an arrest is made, the officer should take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the arrestee's disclosed or discovered, dependent minor children.

Officers should allow the arrestee reasonable time to arrange for care of minor children. Temporary placement of the child with family or friends may be appropriate. However, any decision should give priority to a child-care solution that is in the best interest of the child. In such cases the following guidelines should be followed:

- (a) Allow the person reasonable time to arrange for the care of minor children with a responsible party, as appropriate.
  1. Unless there is evidence to the contrary (e.g., signs of abuse, drug use, unsafe environment), officers should respect the parent's judgment regarding arrangements for child care. It is generally best if the child remains with relatives or family friends the child knows and trusts. Consideration regarding the child's familiarity with the surroundings, comfort, emotional state and safety should be paramount.
  2. Except when a court order exists limiting contact, the officer should attempt to locate and place dependent children with the non-arrested parent or guardian.

## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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- (b) Provide for the immediate supervision of minor children until an appropriate caregiver arrives.
- (c) Notify the Department of Social and Health Services.
- (d) Notify the field supervisor or Patrol Lieutenant of the disposition of minor children.

If children are at school or at a known location outside the household at the time of arrest, the arresting officer should attempt to contact the school or other known location and inform the principal or appropriate responsible adult of the parent's arrest and of the arrangements being made for the care of the arrestee's children, and then record the result of such actions in the associated report.

Officers shall promptly notify Child Protective Services (CPS) whenever a child under age 13 is present in a vehicle and his/her parent, guardian or legal custodian is arrested for a drug or alcohol driving offense in accordance with the department Child Abuse Reporting Policy.

### **336.2.2 DURING THE BOOKING PROCESS**

During the booking process the arrestee shall be allowed to make additional free local phone calls to relatives or other responsible individuals as is reasonably necessary to arrange for the care of any minor dependent child. These phone calls shall be given immediately upon request or as soon as practicable and are in addition to any other phone calls allowed by law.

### **336.2.3 REPORTING**

For all arrests where children are present or living in the household, the reporting employee will include information about the children, including names, gender, age and how they were placed.

## **336.3 PROCEDURES DURING AN ARREST**

When encountering an arrest or prolonged detention situation, officers should make reasonable attempts to determine if the arrestee is responsible for children or dependent adults. In some cases this may be obvious, such as when children or dependent adults are present. However, officers should inquire if the arrestee has caregiver responsibilities for any children or dependent adults who are without appropriate supervision. The following steps should be taken:

- (a) Inquire about and confirm the location of any children or dependent adults.
- (b) Look for evidence of children and dependent adults. Officers should be mindful that some arrestees may conceal the fact that they have a dependent for fear the individual may be taken from them.
- (c) Consider inquiring of witnesses, neighbors, friends and relatives of the arrestee as to whether the person is responsible for a child or dependent adult.

Whenever reasonably possible, officers should take reasonable steps to accomplish the arrest of a parent, guardian or caregiver out of the presence of his/her child or dependent adult. Removing children or dependent adults from the scene in advance of the arrest will generally ensure the best outcome for the individual.

## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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Whenever it is safe to do so, officers should allow the parent or caregiver to assure children or dependent adults that they will be provided care. If this is not safe or if the demeanor of the parent or caregiver suggests this conversation would be non-productive, the officer at the scene should explain the reason for the arrest in age-appropriate language and offer reassurance to the child or dependent adult that he/she will receive appropriate care.

### 336.3.1 AFTER AN ARREST

Whenever an arrest is made, the officer should take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the arrestee's disclosed or discovered, children or dependent adults.

Officers should allow the arrestee reasonable time to arrange for care of children and dependent adults. Temporary placement with family or friends may be appropriate. However, any decision should give priority to a care solution that is in the best interest of the child or dependent adult. In such cases the following guidelines should be followed:

- (a) Allow the person reasonable time to arrange for the care of children and dependent adults with a responsible party, as appropriate.
  - 1. Officers should consider allowing the person to use his/her cell phone to facilitate arrangements through access to contact phone numbers, and to lessen the likelihood of call screening by the recipients due to calls from unknown sources.
- (b) Unless there is evidence to the contrary (e.g., signs of abuse, drug use, unsafe environment), officers should respect the parent or caregiver's judgment regarding arrangements for care. It is generally best if the child or dependent adult remains with relatives or family friends that he/she knows and trusts because familiarity with surroundings and consideration for comfort, emotional state and safety are important.
  - 1. Except when a court order exists limiting contact, the officer should attempt to locate and place children or dependent adults with the non-arrested parent, guardian or caregiver.
- (c) Provide for the immediate supervision of children or dependent adults until an appropriate caregiver arrives.
- (d) Notify the Department of Social and Health Services, if appropriate.
- (e) Notify the field supervisor or Patrol Lieutenant of the disposition of children and dependent adults.

If children or dependent adults are at school or another known location outside the household at the time of arrest, the arresting officer should attempt to contact the school or other known location and inform the principal or appropriate responsible adult of the caregiver's arrest and of the arrangements being made for the care of the arrestee's dependent. The result of such actions should be documented in the associated report.

## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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Officers shall promptly notify Child Protective Services (CPS) whenever a child under 13 years of age is present in a vehicle and his/her parent, guardian or legal custodian is arrested for a drug or alcohol driving offense in accordance with the department Child Abuse Policy (RCW 26.44.250).

### 336.3.2 DURING THE BOOKING PROCESS

During the booking process, the arrestee shall be allowed to make additional telephone calls to relatives or other responsible individuals as is reasonably necessary to arrange for the care of any child or dependent adult. These telephone calls should be given as soon as practicable and are in addition to any other telephone calls allowed by law.

If an arrestee is unable to resolve the care of any child or dependent adult through this process, a supervisor should be contacted to determine the appropriate steps to arrange for care. These steps may include additional telephone calls or contacting a local, county or state services agency.

### 336.3.3 REPORTING

- (a) For all arrests where children are present or living in the household, the reporting member will document the following information:
  - 1. Name
  - 2. Sex
  - 3. Age
  - 4. Special needs (e.g., medical, mental health)
  - 5. How, where and with whom or which agency the child was placed
  - 6. Identities and contact information for other potential caregivers
  - 7. Notifications made to other adults (e.g., schools, relatives)
- (b) For all arrests where dependent adults are present or living in the household, the reporting member will document the following information:
  - 1. Name
  - 2. Sex
  - 3. Age
  - 4. Whether he/she reasonably appears able to care for him/herself
  - 5. Disposition or placement information if he/she is unable to care for him/herself

### 336.3.4 SUPPORT AND COUNSELING REFERRAL

If, in the judgment of the handling officers, the child or dependent adult would benefit from additional assistance, such as counseling services, contact with a victim advocate or a crisis telephone number, the appropriate referral information may be provided.

## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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### **336.4 DEPENDENT WELFARE SERVICES**

Whenever an arrestee is unwilling or incapable of arranging for the appropriate care of any child or dependent adult, the handling officer should contact the appropriate welfare service or other department-approved social service to determine whether protective custody is appropriate.

Only when other reasonable options are exhausted should a child or dependent adult be transported to the police facility, transported in a marked law enforcement vehicle or taken into formal protective custody.

Under no circumstances should a child or dependent adult be left unattended or without appropriate care.

### **336.5 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator is responsible to ensure that all members of this department who may be involved in arrests affecting children or dependent adults receive approved training on effective safety measures when a parent, guardian or caregiver is arrested.

## Service Animal Policy

### 337.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Service animals play an important role in helping to overcome the limitations often faced by people with disabilities. The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes this need and is committed to making reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, and procedures in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) to permit the use of service animals that are individually trained to assist a person with a disability.

### 337.2 SERVICE ANIMALS

The ADA defines a service animal as any dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the owner's disability (28 CFR 35.104).

#### 337.2.1 USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS

Some service animals may be readily identifiable. However, many do not have a distinctive symbol, harness or collar. Service animals are not pets and may be trained by an individual or organization to assist people with disabilities.

Examples of how service animals may be used to provide assistance include:

- Guiding people who are blind or have low vision.
- Alerting people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Retrieving or picking up items, opening doors, or flipping switches for people who have limited use of their hands, arms or legs.
- Pulling wheelchairs.
- Providing physical support and assisting with stability and balance.
- Doing work or performing tasks for persons with traumatic brain injury, intellectual disabilities, or psychiatric disabilities, such as reminding a person with depression to take medication.
- Alerting a person with anxiety to the onset of panic attacks, providing tactile stimulation to calm a person with post-traumatic stress disorder, assisting people with schizophrenia to distinguish between hallucinations and reality, and helping people with traumatic brain injury to locate misplaced items or follow daily routines.

### 337.3 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Service animals that are assisting individuals with disabilities are permitted in all public facilities and areas where the general public is allowed. Department members are expected to treat individuals with service animals with the same courtesy and respect that the Aberdeen Police Department affords to all members of the public.

## *Service Animal Policy*

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If an animal exhibits vicious behavior, poses a direct threat to the health of others or unreasonably disrupts or interferes with normal business operations, an officer may direct the owner to remove the animal from the premises. Barking alone is not a threat nor does a direct threat exist if the person takes prompt, effective action to control the animal. Each incident must be considered individually and past incidents alone are not cause for excluding a service animal. Removal of a service animal may not be used as a reason to refuse service to an individual with disabilities. Members of this department are expected to provide all services as are reasonably available to an individual with a disability.

If it is apparent or if the officer is aware the animal is a service animal, the owner should not be asked any questions as to the status of the animal. If it is unclear whether an animal meets the definition of a service animal, the officer should ask the individual only the following questions:

- Is the animal required because of a disability?
- What task or service has the service animal been trained to perform?

If the individual explains that the animal is required because of a disability and has been trained to work or perform at least one task, the animal meets the definition of a service animal and no further questions as to the animal's status should be asked. The person should not be questioned about his/her disabilities nor should the person be asked to provide any license, certification or identification card for the service animal.

Service animals are not pets. Department members should not interfere with the important work performed by a service animal by talking to, petting or otherwise initiating contact with a service animal.

When handling calls of a complaint regarding a service animal, members of this department should remain neutral and should be prepared to explain the ADA requirements concerning service animals to the concerned parties. Businesses are required to allow service animals to accompany their owner into all areas that other customers or members of the public are allowed.

Absent a violation of law independent of the ADA, officers should take no enforcement action beyond keeping the peace. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against as a result of a disability should be referred to the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

# Volunteer Program

## 338.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department to use qualified volunteers for specified tasks and duties in order to create efficiencies for the Department and improve services to the community. Volunteers are intended to supplement and support, rather than supplant, sworn officers and civilian personnel. Volunteers can be an important part of any organization and have proven to be a valuable asset to law enforcement agencies. Volunteers help to increase departmental responsiveness, delivery of services and information input, and provide new program opportunities. In addition, volunteers bring new skills and expertise to the Department and prompt new enthusiasm.

### 338.1.1 DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEER

An individual who performs a service for the Department without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for services rendered. This may include unpaid chaplains, unpaid reserve officers, interns, persons providing administrative support and youth involved in a law enforcement Explorer Post, among others.

## 338.2 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

### 338.2.1 VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Volunteer Coordinator shall be appointed by the Support Services Division Commander. The function of the Volunteer Coordinator is to provide a central coordinating point for effective volunteer management within the Department, and to direct and assist staff and volunteer efforts to jointly provide more productive services. The Volunteer Coordinator should work with other Department staff on an ongoing basis to assist in the development and implementation of volunteer-staffed positions.

The Volunteer Coordinator, or his/her designee, shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) Recruiting, selecting and training qualified volunteers for various positions.
- (b) Facilitating the implementation of new volunteer activities and assignments.
- (c) Maintaining records for each volunteer.
- (d) Tracking and evaluating the contribution of volunteers.
- (e) Maintaining the volunteer handbook and outlining expectations, policies and responsibilities for all volunteers.
- (f) Maintaining a record of volunteer schedules and work hours.
- (g) Completion and dissemination as appropriate of all necessary paperwork and information.
- (h) Planning periodic recognition events.
- (i) Administering discipline when warranted.



## *Volunteer Program*

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- (j) Maintaining liaison with other volunteer-utilizing programs in the community and assisting in community-wide efforts to recognize and promote volunteering.

### 338.2.2 RECRUITMENT

Volunteers should be recruited on a continuous and ongoing basis consistent with department policy on equal opportunity nondiscriminatory employment. A primary qualification for participation in the application process should be an interest in, and an ability to assist the Department in serving the public.

Requests for volunteers should be submitted in writing by interested staff to the Volunteer Coordinator through the requester's immediate supervisor. A complete position description and a requested time frame should be included in the request. All parties should understand that the recruitment of volunteers is enhanced by creative and interesting assignments. The Volunteer Coordinator may withhold assignment of any volunteer until such time as the requesting unit is prepared to make effective use of volunteer resources.

### 338.2.3 SCREENING

All prospective volunteers should complete the volunteer application form. The Volunteer Coordinator or designee should conduct a face-to-face interview with an applicant under consideration.

A documented background investigation shall be completed on each volunteer applicant and shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- (a) Traffic and criminal background check. Fingerprints shall be obtained from all applicants and applicants shall be processed for criminal history.
- (b) Employment.
- (c) References.
- (d) Credit check.

A polygraph exam may be required of each applicant depending on the type of assignment.

### 338.2.4 SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

Service as a volunteer with the Department shall begin with an official notice of acceptance or appointment to a volunteer position. Notice may only be given by an authorized representative of the Department, who will normally be the Volunteer Coordinator. No volunteer should begin any assignment until they have been officially accepted for that position and completed all required screening and paperwork. At the time of final acceptance, each volunteer should complete all required enrollment paperwork and will receive a copy of their position description and agreement of service with the Department. All volunteers shall receive a copy of the volunteer handbook and shall be required to sign a volunteer agreement.

Volunteers should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.

## *Volunteer Program*

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### 338.2.5 TRAINING

Volunteers will be provided with an orientation program to acquaint them with the Department, personnel, policies and procedures that have a direct impact on their work assignment.

Volunteers should receive position-specific training to ensure they have adequate knowledge and skills to complete tasks required by the position and should receive periodic ongoing training as deemed appropriate by their supervisor or the Volunteer Coordinator.

Training should reinforce to volunteers that they may not intentionally represent themselves as, or by omission infer that they are sworn officers or other full-time members of the Department. They shall always represent themselves as volunteers.

All volunteers shall comply with the rules of conduct and with all orders and directives, either oral or written, issued by the Department.

### 338.2.6 FITNESS FOR DUTY

No volunteer shall report to work or be on-duty when his/her judgment or physical condition has been impaired by alcohol, medication, other substances, illness or injury.

Volunteers shall report to their supervisor any changes in status that may affect their ability to fulfill their duties. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Driver's license
- (b) Medical condition
- (c) Arrests
- (d) Criminal investigations

All volunteers shall adhere to the guidelines set forth by this department regarding drug and alcohol use.

### 338.2.7 DRESS CODE

As representatives of the Department, volunteers are responsible for presenting a professional image to the community. Volunteers shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties.

Volunteers shall conform to department-approved dress consistent with their duty assignment. Uniforms authorized for volunteers should be readily distinguishable from those worn by sworn officers. The uniform or identifiable parts of the uniform shall not be worn while off-duty except volunteers may choose to wear the uniform while in transit to or from official department assignments or functions provided an outer garment is worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the volunteer while he/she is off duty.

Volunteers shall be required to return any issued uniform or department property at the termination of service.

## *Volunteer Program*

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### **338.3 SUPERVISION OF VOLUNTEERS**

Each volunteer who is accepted to a position with the Department must have a clearly identified supervisor who is responsible for direct management of that volunteer. This supervisor will be responsible for day-to-day management and guidance of the work of the volunteer and should be available to the volunteer for consultation and assistance.

A volunteer may be assigned as and act as a supervisor of other volunteers provided that the supervising volunteer is under the direct supervision of a paid staff member.

Functional supervision of volunteers is the responsibility of the supervisor in charge of the unit where the volunteer is assigned. Following are some considerations to keep in mind while supervising volunteers:

- (a) Take the time to introduce volunteers to employees on all levels.
- (b) Ensure volunteers have work space and necessary office supplies.
- (c) Make sure the work is challenging. Do not hesitate to give them an assignment or task that will tap these valuable resources.

### **338.4 CONFIDENTIALITY**

With appropriate security clearance, volunteers may have access to confidential information such as criminal histories or investigative files. Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor or departmental policy, all information shall be considered confidential. Only that information specifically identified and approved by authorized personnel shall be released. Confidential information shall be given only to persons who have a need and a right to know as determined by departmental policy and supervisory personnel.

Each volunteer will be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement before being given an assignment with the Department. Subsequent unauthorized disclosure of any confidential information, verbally, in writing or by any other means, by the volunteer is grounds for immediate dismissal and possible criminal prosecution.

Volunteers shall not address public gatherings, appear on radio or television, prepare any article for publication, act as correspondents to a newspaper or other periodical, release or divulge any information concerning the activities of the Department, or maintain that they represent the Department in such matters without permission from the proper department personnel.

### **338.5 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Volunteers will be issued an identification card that must be worn at all times while on-duty.

Any fixed and portable equipment issued by the Department shall be for official and authorized use only. Any property or equipment issued to a volunteer shall remain the property of the Department and shall be returned at the termination of service.

## *Volunteer Program*

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### **338.5.1 VEHICLE USE**

Volunteers assigned to duties such as vacation house checks or other assignments that require the use of a vehicle must first complete the following:

- (a) A driving safety briefing and department-approved driver safety course.
- (b) Verification that the volunteer possesses a valid Washington Driver License.
- (c) Verification that the volunteer carries current vehicle insurance.

The Volunteer Coordinator should ensure that all volunteers receive safety briefing updates and license and insurance verification at least once a year.

When operating a Department vehicle, volunteers shall obey all rules of the road, including seat belt requirements. Smoking is prohibited in all Department vehicles.

Volunteers should not operate a marked patrol car unless there is a prominently placed sign indicating that it is out of service. Volunteers are not authorized to operate a Department vehicle Code-3.

### **338.5.2 RADIO AND MDC USAGE**

Volunteers shall successfully complete A Central Computerized Enforcement Service System (ACCESS) and radio procedures training prior to using the police radio or MDT and comply with all related provisions. The Volunteer Coordinator should ensure that radio and ACCESS training is provided for volunteers whenever necessary.

## **338.6 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES/TERMINATION**

A volunteer may be removed from the volunteer program at the discretion of the Chief of Police or the Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteers shall have no property interests in their continued appointment. However, if a volunteer is removed for alleged misconduct, the volunteer will be afforded an opportunity solely to clear his/her name through a liberty interest hearing which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Chief of Police or authorized designee.

Volunteers may resign from volunteer service with the Department at any time. It is requested that volunteers who intend to resign provide advance notice of their departure and a reason for their decision.

### **338.6.1 EXIT INTERVIEWS**

Exit interviews, where possible, should be conducted with volunteers who are leaving their positions. The interview should ascertain why the volunteer is leaving the position and solicit the volunteer's suggestions on improving the position. When appropriate, the interview should also include a discussion on the possibility of involvement in some other capacity with the Department.

## **338.7 EVALUATION**

An evaluation of the overall volunteer program will be conducted on an annual basis by the Volunteer Coordinator. Regular evaluations should be conducted with volunteers to ensure the

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best use of human resources available, to ensure personnel problems can be identified and dealt with promptly and fairly, and to ensure optimum satisfaction on the part of volunteers.

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## Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions

### 339.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The decision to become involved in a law enforcement action when off-duty can place an officer as well as others at great risk and must be done with careful consideration. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for officers of the Aberdeen Police Department with respect to taking law enforcement action while off-duty.

### 339.2 POLICY

Initiating law enforcement action while off-duty is generally discouraged. Officers should not attempt to initiate enforcement action when witnessing minor crimes, such as suspected intoxicated drivers, reckless driving or minor property crimes. Such incidents should be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Officers are not expected to place themselves in unreasonable peril. However, any sworn member of this department who becomes aware of an incident or circumstance that he/she reasonably believes poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death, or significant property damage may take reasonable action to minimize the threat.

When public safety or the prevention of major property damage requires immediate action, officers should first consider reporting and monitoring the activity and only take direct action as a last resort.

### 339.3 FIREARMS

Officers of this department may carry firearms while off-duty in accordance with federal regulations and department policy. All firearms and ammunition must meet guidelines as described in the department Firearms Policy. When carrying firearms while off-duty officers shall also carry their department-issued badge and identification.

Officers should refrain from carrying firearms when the consumption of alcohol is likely or when the need to carry a firearm is outweighed by safety considerations. Firearms shall not be carried by any member, either on- or off-duty, who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage, taken any drugs or medication or any combination thereof that would tend to adversely affect the officer's senses or judgment.

### 339.4 DECISION TO INTERVENE

There is no legal requirement for off-duty officers to take law enforcement action. However, should officers decide to intervene, they must evaluate whether the action is necessary or desirable, and should take into consideration the following:

- (a) The tactical disadvantage of being alone and the fact there may be multiple or hidden suspects.
- (b) The inability to communicate with responding units.

## *Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions*

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- (c) The lack of equipment, such as handcuffs, OC or baton.
- (d) The lack of cover.
- (e) The potential for increased risk to bystanders if the off-duty officer were to intervene.
- (f) Unfamiliarity with the surroundings.
- (g) The potential for the off-duty officer to be misidentified by other peace officers or members of the public.

Officers should consider waiting for on-duty uniformed officers to arrive, and gather as much accurate intelligence as possible instead of immediately intervening.

### **339.4.1 INTERVENTION PROCEDURE**

If involvement is reasonably necessary, the officer should attempt to call or have someone else call 9-1-1 to request immediate assistance. The operator should be informed that an off-duty officer is on-scene and should be provided a description of the officer if possible.

Whenever practicable, the officer should loudly and repeatedly identify him/herself as an Aberdeen Police Department officer until acknowledged. Official identification should also be displayed.

### **339.4.2 INCIDENTS OF PERSONAL INTEREST**

Officers should refrain from handling incidents of personal interest, (e.g., family or neighbor disputes) and should remain neutral. In such circumstances officers should call the responsible agency to handle the matter.

### **339.4.3 NON-SWORN RESPONSIBILITIES**

Non-sworn personnel should not become involved in any law enforcement actions while off-duty except to notify the local law enforcement authority and remain at the scene, if safe and practicable.

### **339.4.4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

When encountering a non-uniformed officer in public, uniformed officers should wait for acknowledgement by the non-uniformed officer in case he/she needs to maintain an undercover capability.

## **339.5 REPORTING**

Any off-duty officer who engages in any law enforcement activity, regardless of jurisdiction, shall notify the Patrol Lieutenant as soon as practicable. The Patrol Lieutenant shall determine whether a report should be filed by the employee.

Officers should cooperate fully with the agency having jurisdiction in providing statements or reports as requested or as appropriate.

# Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation

## 340.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended ensure the protection and security of ancient or historic grave sites, including notification of personnel responsible for cultural items, in compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) (25 USC § 3001 et seq.).

### 340.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (43 CFR 10.2):

**Funerary objects and associated funerary objects** - Objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed intentionally at the time of death or later with or near individual human remains, or that were made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains.

**Native American human remains** - The physical remains of the body of a person of Native American ancestry.

**Objects of cultural patrimony** - Objects having ongoing historical, traditional or cultural importance that is central to the Native American group or culture itself and therefore cannot be appropriated or conveyed by any individual, including members of the Native American group or Native Hawaiian organization. Such objects must have been considered inalienable by the Native American group at the time the object was separated from the group.

**Sacred objects** - Specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions.

## 340.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that the protection of Native American human remains, funerary objects, associated funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony is the responsibility of all members. Such protection includes minimizing destruction, contamination, inadvertent disruption or complicated custody transfer processes.

## 340.3 COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT

Upon discovery or arrival upon a scene where it reasonably appears that a Native American grave, human remains, funerary objects, associated funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony are exposed or otherwise unsecured, members shall secure the site in the same manner as a crime scene. All activity at the scene other than scene preservation activity must cease (43 CFR 10.4).

No photography or video recording may be permitted by the media or any group or individual who may wish to exhibit the remains.



## *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation*

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Without delay, the appropriate agency or group shall be notified to respond and take control of the scene. These include the following (43 CFR 10.4):

- Federal land - Appropriate agency at the U.S. Department of the Interior or U.S. Department of Agriculture
- State land - Coroner (RCW 68.50.645)
- Tribal land - Responsible Indian tribal official

### **340.4 EVIDENCE AND PROPERTY**

If the location has been investigated as a possible homicide scene prior to identification as a NAGPRA site, investigators shall work with other appropriate agencies and individuals to ensure the proper transfer and repatriation of any material collected. Members shall ensure that any remains or artifacts located at the site are expediently processed (43 CFR 10.6).

# Extreme Risk Protection Orders

## 341.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for petitioning and serving extreme risk protection orders and accounting for the firearms obtained pursuant to those orders (RCW 7.94.010 et seq.).

### 341.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Extreme risk protection order** – An order prohibiting a named person from controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, accessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of any firearms.

**Ex parte extreme risk protection order** – An extreme risk protection order that has been issued in the absence of or without notification to the named person.

## 341.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to petition for and serve extreme risk protection orders in compliance with state law and to properly account for firearms obtained by the Department pursuant to such orders.

## 341.3 EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDERS

An officer who reasonably believes a person, including a person under the age of 18, is a present danger to him/herself or another person by controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, accessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of a firearm may request permission from his/her supervisor to petition the court for an extreme risk protection order (RCW 7.94.030).

Officers petitioning the court shall use any standard petition and order forms created by the administrative office of the court (RCW 7.94.030; RCW 7.94.150).

The petition shall (RCW 7.94.030):

- (a) Allege that the person poses a significant danger of causing personal injury to him/herself or others by controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, accessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of a firearm and be accompanied by an affidavit, made under oath, that provides the specific statements, actions, or facts that give rise to a reasonable fear of future dangerous acts by the person.
- (b) Identify the number, types, and locations of any firearms that the officer believes to be owned, possessed, accessed, controlled, or in the custody of the person.
- (c) Identify any other known existing protection orders governing the person.
- (d) Identify, if reasonably identifiable, any pending lawsuits, complaints, petitions, or other action between the person and the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (e) Include an attestation that the officer provided notice of the intent to seek the order to a family or household member of the person and to any third party who the officer

## *Extreme Risk Protection Orders*

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reasonably believes may be at risk of violence, or an attestation to the steps that will be taken to provide this notice.

An officer may also seek an ex parte extreme risk protection order, without notice to the person, by including in the petition detailed allegations based on personal knowledge that the person poses a significant danger of causing personal injury to him/herself or others in the near future by having in his/her custody or control, purchasing, possessing, or receiving a firearm. If necessary, the ex parte may be petitioned using an on-call, after-hours judge using the same procedures for after-hours search warrants (RCW 7.94.030; RCW 7.94.050).

### **341.3.1 NOTICE OF PETITION**

When a member of the Aberdeen Police Department petitions for an extreme risk protection order, he/she shall make a good faith effort to provide notice to a family or household member of the person and to any third party who the member reasonably believes may be at risk of violence. The notice shall state the intention to seek an extreme risk protection order or that the order has already been sought and include referrals to appropriate resources, including behavioral health, domestic violence, and counseling (RCW 7.94.030).

### **341.4 SERVICE**

Service of notice of hearing and petitions, ex parte extreme risk protection orders, and extreme risk protection orders should take precedence over the service of other documents, unless the other documents are of a similar emergency nature (RCW 7.94.040; RCW 7.94.060).

Officers serving a notice of hearing and petition for an extreme risk protection order should make reasonable efforts to personally serve the person no less than five court days prior to the hearing. If an ex parte extreme risk protection order was issued, then the order, notice of hearing, and the petition are served together (RCW 7.94.040; RCW 7.94.050).

Officers assigned to serve an extreme risk protection order shall attempt service within 24 hours of receipt of the order whenever practicable, but not more than 10 days after the Aberdeen Police Department received the order. If the order is issued against a minor under the age of 18, officers should also make reasonable efforts to serve a copy of the order on the parent or guardian of the minor at the address where the minor resides, or the Department of Children, Youth, and Families in the case where the minor is the subject of a dependency or court approved out-of-home placement (RCW 7.94.060).

When timely personal service is not completed, the officer should notify the court and take reasonable steps to notify the petitioner (RCW 7.94.040; RCW 7.94.060).

The officer serving any extreme risk protection order, including an ex parte order, shall (RCW 7.94.090):

- (a) Request that any firearms and any concealed pistol license be immediately surrendered and issue a receipt for the surrendered items.
  1. The officer should ensure the original receipt is forwarded to the Special Assignments Officer.

## *Extreme Risk Protection Orders*

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- (b) Take into custody any firearms discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search.
- (c) As soon as practicable, but by the end of his/her shift, submit the proof of service to the Special Assignments Officer.

All firearms collected shall be handled and booked in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

### **341.5 SEARCH WARRANTS**

If a person who has been served with an extreme risk protection order refuses to surrender any firearm, the officer should consider whether to seek a search warrant. If a search warrant is to be obtained, the preparation and service of the search warrant shall be done in accordance with the Warrant Service Policy.

### **341.6 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Special Assignments Officer is responsible for ensuring that:

- (a) Orders received by the court are entered into the national instant criminal background check system or any other federal or state computer-based system used by the Department that identifies prohibited purchasers of firearms, and into any other computer-based criminal intelligence information systems used by the Department that lists outstanding warrants (RCW 7.94.110).
- (b) The original receipt of surrendered firearms is filed with the court within 72 hours of service of an extreme risk protection order. A copy of the receipt shall also be properly maintained by the Department (RCW 7.94.090).
- (c) Any proofs of service for notices or orders are filed with the court.
- (d) Expired or terminated orders entered into computer-based systems by the Department are removed (RCW 7.94.110).

### **341.7 COURT-ORDERED FIREARMS SURRENDERS**

Authorized members should accept firearms and a concealed pistol license from any person who is the subject of an extreme risk protection order. The member receiving any firearm shall:

- (a) Record the person's name, address, and telephone number.
- (b) Record the serial number of the firearm.
- (c) Prepare an incident report and property report.
- (d) Provide a property receipt to the person who surrendered the firearms (RCW 7.94.090).
  - 1. The original receipt is to be forward to the Special Assignments Officer.
- (e) Package and submit the firearms in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

## *Extreme Risk Protection Orders*

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### **341.8 RELEASE OF FIREARMS**

Firearms that were taken into custody or surrendered pursuant to an extreme risk protection order should be returned to the restrained person upon the expiration of the order, in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy (RCW 7.94.100).

### **341.9 RENEWAL OF EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER**

The Investigation Unit supervisor is responsible for review of an extreme risk protection order obtained by the Department, to determine if renewal should be requested within the time prescribed by law (RCW 7.94.080).

### **341.10 STANDARD FOR ARREST**

When an officer has confirmed that a valid extreme risk protection order exists and has probable cause to believe the person has knowledge of the order and violated that order, the officer shall make an arrest and take the person into custody (RCW 10.31.100).

### **341.11 ORDERS TO SHOW CAUSE**

When the Department receives notice from the court of an order to show cause, the Investigation Unit supervisor should consult with legal counsel, as appropriate, to address any requirements involving the Department, including the following (RCW 7.94.090):

- (a) Fulfilling any additional service requirements for the order to show cause
- (b) Providing the court a complete list of firearms surrendered by the person pursuant to the extreme risk protection order that are in the possession of the Department
- (c) Providing the court with verification that any concealed pistol license was surrendered by the person pursuant to the extreme risk protection order and that the agency with authority to revoke the license has been notified
- (d) Filing an affidavit with the court where there is reasonable suspicion that the person who is subject to the extreme risk protection order is not in full compliance with the terms, including the basis for the belief

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## Department Use of Social Media

### 342.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that any use of social media on behalf of the Department is consistent with the department mission.

This policy does not address all aspects of social media use. Specifically, it does not address:

- Personal use of social media by department members (see the Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking Policy).
- Use of social media in personnel processes (see the Recruitment and Selection Policy).
- Use of social media as part of a criminal investigation, other than disseminating information to the public on behalf of this department (see the Investigation and Prosecution Policy).

#### 342.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Social media** - Any of a wide array of Internet-based tools and platforms that allow for the sharing of information, such as the department website or social networking services.

### 342.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department may use social media as a method of effectively informing the public about department services, issues, investigations and other relevant events.

Department members shall ensure that the use or access of social media is done in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of all.

### 342.3 AUTHORIZED USERS

Only members authorized by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee may utilize social media on behalf of the Department. Authorized members shall use only department-approved equipment during the normal course of duties to post and monitor department-related social media, unless they are specifically authorized to do otherwise by their supervisors.

The Chief of Police may develop specific guidelines identifying the type of content that may be posted. Any content that does not strictly conform to the guidelines should be approved by a supervisor prior to posting.

Requests to post information over department social media by members who are not authorized to post should be made through the member's chain of command.

### 342.4 AUTHORIZED CONTENT

Only content that is appropriate for public release, that supports the department mission and conforms to all department policies regarding the release of information may be posted.

## *Department Use of Social Media*

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Examples of appropriate content include:

- (a) Announcements.
- (b) Tips and information related to crime prevention.
- (c) Investigative requests for information.
- (d) Requests that ask the community to engage in projects that are relevant to the department mission.
- (e) Real-time safety information that is related to in-progress crimes, geographical warnings or disaster information.
- (f) Traffic information.
- (g) Press releases.
- (h) Recruitment of personnel.

### **342.4.1 INCIDENT-SPECIFIC USE**

In instances of active incidents where speed, accuracy and frequent updates are paramount (e.g., crime alerts, public safety information, traffic issues), the Public Information Officer or the authorized designee will be responsible for the compilation of information to be released, subject to the approval of the Incident Commander.

### **342.5 PROHIBITED CONTENT**

Content that is prohibited from posting includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Content that is abusive, discriminatory, inflammatory or sexually explicit.
- (b) Any information that violates individual rights, including confidentiality and/or privacy rights and those provided under state, federal or local laws.
- (c) Any information that could compromise an ongoing investigation.
- (d) Any information that could tend to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Aberdeen Police Department or its members.
- (e) Any information that could compromise the safety and security of department operations, members of the Department, victims, suspects or the public.
- (f) Any content posted for personal use.
- (g) Any content that has not been properly authorized by this policy or a supervisor.

Any member who becomes aware of content on this department's social media site that he/she believes is unauthorized or inappropriate should promptly report such content to a supervisor. The supervisor will ensure its removal from public view and investigate the cause of the entry.

### **342.5.1 PUBLIC POSTING**

Department social media sites should be designed and maintained to prevent posting of content by the public.

## *Department Use of Social Media*

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The Department may provide a method for members of the public to contact department members directly.

### **342.6 MONITORING CONTENT**

The Chief of Police will appoint a supervisor to review, at least annually, the use of department social media and report back on, at a minimum, the resources being used, the effectiveness of the content, any unauthorized or inappropriate content and the resolution of any issues.

### **342.7 RETENTION OF RECORDS**

The Support Services Division Commander should work with the Custodian of Records to establish a method of ensuring that public records generated in the process of social media use are retained in accordance with established records retention schedules.

### **342.8 TRAINING**

Authorized members should receive training that, at a minimum, addresses legal issues concerning the appropriate use of social media sites, as well as privacy, civil rights, dissemination and retention of information posted on department sites.



# Behavioral Health Navigator Program

## 343.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The City of Aberdeen Police Department Behavioral Health Navigator Program gives police access to a Behavioral Health Navigator (Police Navigator) who connects individuals with behavioral health needs to available services and resources. The Police Navigators may respond with officers to calls involving behavioral health issues when they occur and/or provide outreach to individuals after police contact. Police Navigators perform outreach to individuals who are at risk of entering or who have entered the criminal justice system. Police Navigators share information with officers that may assist them in the field.

Police Navigators will not provide assessments, case management, or clinical services. Nothing in this program description and/or policies are to supersede officer safety tactics or the policies of the Aberdeen Police Department and its partnering agencies.

## 343.2 GOALS

The goals of the Behavioral Health Navigator Program are to:

- (a) Connect individuals with behavioral health issues experiencing crisis or at risk of crisis to social services and treatment.
- (b) Connect individuals with behavioral health issues who are at risk of arrest or who have been arrested to social services and treatment.
- (c) Reduce police time spent on behavioral health-related calls.
- (d) Provide prosecutors with resource information relevant to diversion agreements.
- (e) Improve behavioral health services by identifying treatment gaps in the county and promoting new approaches.

The Navigator Program fully appreciates the fact that behavioral health disorders take many forms. Specific challenges are not necessarily isolated from each other and often present themselves as co-occurring issues.

## 343.3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy:

**Behavioral Health:** (as defined by WAC 182-538C-050) includes mental health, substance abuse disorders and conditions, and benefits related to treatment.

**Behavioral Health Crisis:** (as defined by WAC 182-538C-0200) means an actual or perceived urgent or emergent situation that occurs when (a) an individual's stability or functioning is disrupted; and (b) there is an immediate need to resolve the situation to prevent (i) a serious

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Policy deterioration in the individual's mental or physical health; or (ii) the need for referral to a significantly higher level of care.

**Behavioral Health Issues:** (BHI) refers to behavior that suggests sensory, mental, or physical impairment because of mental illness and/or co-occurring issues.

**Crisis Intervention Officer:** (CIOs) are officers who are designated by their agency in accordance with state law and department policies as being certified CIOs. (40-hour minimum course)

**Mental Health Professional:** (MHP) (as defined by WAC 182-538A-0200) means a psychiatrist, psychologist, psychiatric nurse, social worker, or other mental health professionals.

**Behavioral Health Navigator:** (Police Navigator) is a Mental Health Professional or an individual with a minimum of two years of professional experience working with people with BHI who assists police by connecting people to behavioral health resources and services. Navigators also work with family members of people with BHI, caregivers, service providers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and court personnel to share resource information and promote access to care. Navigators do not perform mental health treatment services, are not medical providers, and do not perform assessments or provide clinical services.

### **343.4 PROGRAM COMPOSITION**

The Navigator Program is an Aberdeen Police Department program which operates independently from, yet in collaboration with, similar programs operating within the city and county.

#### **343.4.1 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICE NAVIGATOR**

Their role is to:

- (a) Facilitate access to resources and care providers.
- (b) Improve communication between police and service providers.
- (c) Assist officers with information pertaining to community resources.
- (d) Work with family members of people with BHI, caregivers, service providers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and court personnel to share resource information.
- (e) Not provide assessments, case management, or clinical services.
- (f) Work collaboratively with CIOs and patrol officers.
- (g) Work with prosecutors, defense attorneys, and court personnel to share resource information and to aid the Navigator Program development.

#### **343.4.2 CHIEF OF POLICE (OR HIS/HER DESIGNEE)**

Their role is to:

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- (a) Oversee functions related to the Navigator Program as a whole.
- (b) Serve as a point person in the community for overall Navigator Program related issues, organize internal and external meetings related to the Program.
- (c) Engage in fundraising and grant writing related to the Navigator Program.
- (d) Collect, analyze, and present data related to the Navigator Program to aid in program development.

### **343.4.3 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER**

Their role is to:

- (a) Assist with oversight of the day-to-day operations of the Navigator Program, to include supervision and adherence to CJIS and Aberdeen Police Department policies.
- (b) Work with Police Navigator to ensure she/he has the tools they need to work effectively and that operational problems are addressed.
- (c) Responsible to oversee the budget and report out on financials as they relate to the program.

### **343.5 REFERRALS TO NAVIGATOR**

Officers are encouraged to refer individuals to the Police Navigators, both to connect them to services and to share information that may improve access to care.

Officers may refer any individual with BHI to a Police Navigator, either directly or through a CIO. Police Navigators will not be available to follow up to all referrals, outreach is based in part upon Police Navigator availability. Priority is given to individuals with BHI who are at risk of behavioral health crisis or arrest and/or have repeated contact with police. Referral requests will be acknowledged within 48 business hours by a Police Navigator.

It is preferable that referrals to a Police Navigator be done, in writing, submitted to the agency's assigned Navigator via email to their City of Aberdeen employee email address. The email should only include (i) Case number and (ii) Indication of Time Sensitivity (if relevant); no other identifying information should be sent via email.

Officers may also request assistance from a Police Navigator, in person, by phone, or by bringing a police report to his/her attention.

Direct referrals to a Police Navigator will only be accepted from city law enforcement, city prosecutor, city municipal court and/or Fire Cares team members.

### **343.6 REPORTING**

Police Navigators will document all their outreach, follow-up, and other contacts as supplemental reports in the departmental records management system. The supplemental reports will

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correspond with the original report that generated the referral.

Police Navigators will not record or retain health care information from health care providers or from third-party sources (such as family).

Police Navigators will notify the WA State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) when there is reasonable cause to believe that abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, and/or neglect of a vulnerable adult has occurred. Police Navigators will also communicate the reported situation to the dispatch center for a response by the involved agency.

Police Navigators will notify the WA State Department of Children, Youth and Families, Child Protective Services (CPS) when there is reasonable cause to believe that abuse or neglect of a child has occurred. Police Navigators will also communicate the reported situation to the dispatch center for a response by the involved agency.

Police Navigators will be required to fully cooperate with law enforcement agency personnel and prosecutors in the event the Police Navigator is a witness or obtains information necessary for the identification, apprehension, and prosecution of any person involved in a crime while providing services pursuant to this policy.

### **343.7 COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SHARING**

Messages to the Police Navigator are to be sent through the City of Aberdeen email system.

Officers are encouraged to send a case number or event number about individuals they encounter that might benefit from having communication with a Police Navigator by providing a case number or event number.

Transitory notes may be taken to accurately document navigator outreach efforts. Once the supplemental report is completed, the corresponding transitory notes are to be destroyed.

The Police Navigator will have access to police records only within CJIS secured locations while working within program police agencies. The Navigator will only access those records which are directly relevant to their work within the Navigator Program, will not access such records from non-CJIS secured locations and are prohibited from removing such records from their secured locations.

### **343.8 NAVIGATOR OUTREACH, UNIFORM STANDARDS**

Police Navigators may respond to dispatched calls with officers, accept referrals for outreach from city law enforcement, city prosecutor and/or the municipal court in the scope of the program

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as described herein, along with the applicable policies and procedures of the program and the Aberdeen Police Department.

The Police Navigator will request that officers call in to Gray's Harbor Communication with their Unit Number when partnering in the field.

In their effort to connect individuals to services and support continuity of care, the Police Navigator may meet with inmates at the City of Aberdeen Jail or the Grays Harbor County Jail. Police Navigators will advise the Sergeant on duty at the Grays Harbor County Jail prior to any visit with an inmate. The Police Navigator will receive jail security training and all visits will follow jail protocol. Meeting locations will be determined by corrections officers.

No outreach will be done in private homes or remote locations without an officer present.

The Police Navigator shall be readily identifiable as Aberdeen Police Department employees (uniform jacket, department identification and ballistic vest) anytime they are riding in a patrol vehicle, making contacts in the field while working with an officer, or at any other time the Police Navigator and/or CIO or officer determine that a significant safety concern exists.

It is also understood that certain contacts made by the Police Navigators may be more effective when they are not readily identifiable as a police department employee. In these cases, Police Navigators are permitted to use discretion on their appearance after a consultation to assess the potential for danger has occurred with the CIO or another available officer.

Police Navigators may work in partnership with other agencies and service providers if approved by the Chief of Police (or his/her designee) of the Aberdeen Police Department. The City of Aberdeen may contract with outside agencies and service providers to enhance the Navigator Program.

All Police Navigator outreach will be documented in the form of a supplemental report in the departmental records management system within 48 business hours.

### **343.9 NAVIGATOR BACKGROUND CHECK, TRAINING**

The Police Navigator will undergo a pre-employment background check (including a Washington State Patrol check, personal history statement, investigation by a background investigator, and polygraph exam).

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The Police Navigator will successfully complete CJIS security and ACCESS training within the first six months of employment and maintain that certification while employed as a Navigator.

The Police Navigator will receive Crisis Intervention Training and Washington State Department of Health approved suicide prevention training within the first three months of employment.

The Police Navigator will receive orientation training at Grays Harbor Communications.

The Police Navigator will receive jail security training from Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office. The Police Navigator will be trained to use a police radio by a Crisis Intervention Officer.

The Police Navigator will be trained in the use of the department records management system by a Crisis Intervention Officer and/or the Administrative Services Manager.

The Police Navigator will receive training in Public Records Act requirements.

The Police Navigator will comply with all City of Aberdeen employee policies, rules, requirements, and expectations, along with all the Aberdeen Police Department Policies and Procedures.

All members of the Police Navigator Team will identify training that will enhance the Police Navigator's ability to perform duties. In addition, the Police Navigator will participate in all police department training required by policy or that directly effects their employment with the department. Training records will be updated and retained by the Administrative Services Manager.

### **343.10 PUBLIC RECORDS AND RECORDS RETENTION**

Records maintained by the Behavioral Health Navigator program are subject to the Washington State Public Records Act (Chapter 42.56 RCW) and Washington State record retention laws. Records will be maintained, prepared, and released in accordance with Washington State law, along with City of Aberdeen and the Aberdeen Police Department policies and procedures. Records requests for Behavioral Health Navigator Program records shall be directed to the City of Aberdeen Public Records Officer for the police department

## **Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations**

## Patrol Function

### 400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the patrol unit of the Department to ensure intra-department cooperation and information sharing.

#### 400.1.1 FUNCTION

Officers will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles, patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of Aberdeen, respond to calls for assistance, act as a deterrent to crime, enforce state and local laws and respond to emergencies 24 hours per day seven days per week.

Patrol will generally provide the following services within the limits of available resources:

- (a) Patrol that is directed at the prevention of criminal acts, traffic violations and collisions, the maintenance of public order, and the discovery of hazardous situations or conditions.
- (b) Crime prevention activities such as residential inspections, business inspections, community presentations, etc.
- (c) Calls for service, both routine and emergency in nature.
- (d) Investigation of both criminal and non-criminal acts.
- (e) The apprehension of criminal offenders.
- (f) Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving activities such as citizen assists and individual citizen contacts of a positive nature.
- (g) The sharing of information between the Patrol and other divisions within the Department, as well as other outside governmental agencies.
- (h) The application of resources to specific problems or situations within the community, which may be improved or resolved by Community Oriented Policing and problem solving strategies.
- (i) Traffic direction and control.

#### 400.1.2 TERRORISM

It is the goal of the Aberdeen Police Department to make every reasonable effort to accurately and appropriately gather and report any information that may relate to either foreign or domestic terrorism. Officers should advise a supervisor as soon as practicable of any activity believed to be terrorism related and should document such incidents with a written report or Field Interview (FI). The supervisor should ensure that all terrorism related reports and FIs are forwarded to the Investigation Unit Supervisor in a timely fashion.



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### **400.2 PATROL INFORMATION SHARING PROCEDURES**

The following guidelines are intended to develop and maintain intra-department cooperation and information flow between the various divisions of the Aberdeen Police Department.

#### **400.2.1 CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT**

The Crime Analysis Unit function is handled by the detective section. It should be the central unit for information exchange. Criminal information and intelligence reports can be submitted to the Records for distribution to all divisions within the Department through special bulletins.

#### **400.2.2 CRIME REPORTS**

A crime report may be completed by any patrol officer who receives criminal information. The report will be processed and forwarded to the appropriate section for retention or follow-up investigation. Patrol officers generally handle the follow-up responsibility on misdemeanor's and other non-criminal assigned calls for service. Follow-up responsibility on felony cases of a less serious nature is expected and encouraged.

#### **400.2.3 PATROL BRIEFING**

Patrol lieutenants and supervisors, detective sergeants, and special unit sergeants are encouraged to share information as much as possible. All supervisors and/or officers will be provided an opportunity to share information at the daily patrol briefings as time permits, at other meetings, or on the format for department shift briefing.

#### **400.2.4 INFORMATION CLIPBOARDS**

Several information clipboards will be maintained in the patrol office or on the department computer system, and will be available for review by officers from all divisions within the Department. These will include, but not be limited to, department communications book, the patrol check clipboard, the wanted persons clipboard, and the written directive clipboard.

#### **400.2.5 BULLETIN BOARDS**

A Traffic Information bulletin board will be kept in the hallway outside the patrol office for display of traffic enforcement related information. New Departmental Directives will be made available for patrol supervisors and will be discussed at briefings and shift meetings. A copy of the Departmental Directive will be placed in the department communications book and the lunch room bulletin board. Each member of the department shall review the directive in the department communication book and sign and date the acknowledgment in a timely manner. A Patrol Information bulleting board will be kept in the Sergeants Office that may display suspect information, intelligence reports and photographs and any other relevant pass-on type information.

### **400.3 CROWDS, EVENTS AND GATHERINGS**

Officers may encounter gatherings of people, including but not limited to, civil demonstrations, civic, social and business events, public displays, parades and sporting events. Officers should monitor such events as time permits in an effort to keep the peace and protect the safety and rights of those present. A patrol supervisor should be notified when it becomes reasonably foreseeable that such an event may require increased monitoring, contact or intervention.

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Officers responding to an event or gathering that warrants law enforcement involvement should carefully balance the speech and association rights of those present with applicable public safety concerns before taking enforcement action. Officers are encouraged to contact organizers or responsible persons to seek voluntary compliance that may address relevant public safety/order concerns.

Officers should consider enforcement of applicable state and local laws, when the activity blocks the entrance or egress of a facility or location and when voluntary compliance with the law is not achieved.

## Bias-Based Policing

### 401.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to department members that affirms the Aberdeen Police Department's commitment to policing that is fair and objective. Nothing in this policy prohibits the use of specified characteristics in law enforcement activities designed to strengthen the department's relationship with its diverse communities (e.g., cultural and ethnicity awareness training, youth programs, community group outreach, partnerships) (RCW 43.101.410).

#### 401.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Bias-based policing** - An inappropriate reliance on actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or affiliation with any non-criminal group (protected characteristics) as the basis for providing differing law enforcement service or enforcement.

### 401.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services to the community with due regard for the racial, cultural or other differences of those served. It is the policy of this department to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally, fairly, objectively and without discrimination toward any individual or group.

#### 401.2.1 DEFINITION

**Bias-based policing** - The inappropriate reliance on race, ethnicity or national origin as a factor in deciding whether to take law enforcement action or to provide service.

### 401.3 BIAS-BASED POLICING PROHIBITED

Bias-based policing is strictly prohibited.

However, nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit an officer from considering protected characteristics in combination with credible, timely and distinct information connecting a person or people of a specific characteristic to a specific unlawful incident, or to specific unlawful incidents, specific criminal patterns or specific schemes.

#### 401.3.1 OTHER PROHIBITIONS

The Aberdeen Police Department also condemns the illegal use of an individual or group's attire, appearance, or mode of transportation, including the fact that an individual rides a motorcycle or wears motorcycle-related paraphernalia, as a factor in deciding to stop and question, take enforcement action, arrest, or search a person or vehicle with or without a legal basis under the United States Constitution or Washington State Constitution (RCW 43.101.419).

## *Bias-Based Policing*

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Additionally, members shall not collect information from a person based on religious belief, practice, or affiliation unless permitted under state law. Members shall not (RCW 42.60.020; RCW 42.60.030):

- (a) Provide or disclose to federal government authorities personally identifiable information about a person's religious belief, practice, or affiliation unless the member is being questioned as a witness to a crime.
- (b) Assist federal government authorities in compiling personal information about a person's religious belief, practice, or affiliation.
- (c) Investigate or enforce any requirement that a person register with the federal government or a federal agency based on religion.

### **401.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Every member of this department shall perform his/her duties in a fair and objective manner and is responsible for promptly reporting any suspected or known instances of bias-based policing to a supervisor. Members should, when reasonable to do so, intervene to prevent any biased-based actions by another member.

#### **401.4.1 REASON FOR CONTACT**

Officers contacting a person shall be prepared to articulate sufficient reason for the contact independent of the protected characteristics of the individual.

To the extent that written documentation would otherwise be completed (e.g., arrest report, field interview (FI) card), the involved officer should include those facts giving rise to the contact, as applicable.

Except for required data-collection forms or methods, nothing in this policy shall require any officer to document a contact that would not otherwise require reporting.

### **401.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors should monitor those individuals under their command for compliance with this policy and shall handle any alleged or observed violations in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

- (a) Supervisors should discuss any issues with the involved officer and his/her supervisor in a timely manner.
  - 1. Supervisors should document these discussions, in the prescribed manner.
- (b) Supervisors should periodically review MAV recordings, portable audio/video recordings, Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) data and any other available resource used to document contact between officers and the public to ensure compliance with this policy.
  - 1. Supervisors should document these periodic reviews.
  - 2. Recordings that capture a potential instance of bias-based policing should be appropriately retained for administrative investigation purposes.

## *Bias-Based Policing*

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- (c) Supervisors shall initiate investigations of any actual or alleged violations of this policy.
- (d) Supervisors should take prompt and reasonable steps to address any retaliatory action taken against any member of this department who discloses information concerning bias-based policing.

### **401.6 STATE REPORTING**

Subject to any fiscal constraints, the Operations Division Commander should review available data related to traffic stops, including demographic data, existing procedures, practices and training, as well as complaints. The data should be analyzed for any patterns or other possible indicators of racial- or bias-based profiling and included in an annual report for the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (RCW 43.101.410(3)).

### **401.7 ADMINISTRATION**

The Operations Division Commander should review the efforts of the Department to provide fair and objective policing and submit an annual report, including public concerns and complaints, to the Chief of Police. The annual report should not contain any identifying information about any specific complaint, citizen or officers. It should be reviewed by the Chief of Police to identify any changes in training or operations that should be made to improve service.

Supervisors should review the annual report submitted to the Washington Association of Chiefs of Police and discuss the results with those they are assigned to supervise.

### **401.8 TRAINING**

Training on fair and objective policing and review of this policy should be conducted as directed by the Training Coordinator (RCW 43.101.410).

# Briefing Training

## 402.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Briefing training is generally conducted at the beginning of the officer's assigned shift. Briefing provides an opportunity for important exchange between employees and supervisors. A supervisor generally will conduct Briefing; however officers may conduct Briefing for training purposes with supervisor approval.

Briefing should accomplish, at a minimum, the following basic tasks:

- (a) Briefing officers with information regarding daily patrol activity, with particular attention given to unusual situations and changes in the status of wanted persons, stolen vehicles, and major investigations.
- (b) Notifying officers of changes in schedules and assignments.
- (c) Notifying officers of new Departmental Directives or changes in Departmental Directives.
- (d) Reviewing recent incidents for training purposes.
- (e) Providing training on a variety of subjects.

## 402.2 PREPARATION OF MATERIALS

The supervisor conducting Briefing is responsible for preparation of the materials necessary for a constructive briefing. Supervisors may delegate this responsibility to a subordinate officer in his/her absence or for training purposes.

## 402.3 RETENTION OF BRIEFING TRAINING RECORDS

Briefing training materials and a curriculum or summary shall be forwarded to the Training Coordinator for inclusion in training records, as appropriate.

# Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity

## 403.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in handling a major crime or disaster.

## 403.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to secure crime or disaster scenes so that evidence is preserved, and to identify and mitigate the dangers associated with a major crime or disaster scene for the safety of the community and those required to enter or work near the scene.

## 403.3 SCENE RESPONSIBILITY

The first officer at the scene of a crime or major incident is generally responsible for the immediate safety of the public and preservation of the scene. Officers shall also consider officer safety and the safety of those persons entering or exiting the area, including those rendering medical aid to any injured parties. Once an officer has assumed or been assigned to maintain the integrity and security of the crime or disaster scene, the officer shall maintain the crime or disaster scene until he/she is properly relieved by a supervisor or other designated person.

## 403.4 COMMAND AND SUPERVISION OF CRIME SCENES AND INCIDENTS

Successful Police service in the community depends on the level of performance of its Police officers. Command and control is inherent in and appropriate to all levels of a Police organization, and accordingly the following shall serve as guidelines for field situations.

- (a) When two or more officers are dispatched to or are present at any activity, the primary unit assigned by Grays Harbor Communications to respond to the complaint (or if no primary unit, the first unit to arrive) shall assume control of the situation until it is concluded or until properly relieved by a more senior officer.
- (b) Whenever a supervisor responds to a scene, he/she shall assume charge until his/her departure or until relieved by a command officer.
- (c) At any major crime scene that detectives respond to, the Operations Commander, or if absent, the Detective Sergeant shall assume command of the investigation, or in his/her absence, the assigned Detective, the Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty patrol Supervisor shall assume command.
- (d) At any fatal or major traffic accident that Collision Investigation Team (CIT) personnel respond to, the CIT Commander, CIT Team Leader, Patrol Lieutenant, or the on-duty patrol Supervisor shall assume command.
- (e) The presence of a higher ranking commander may be requested by the Sergeant, or on duty Patrol Supervisor, in charge of any incident. Upon arrival, the higher ranking commander will evaluate the scene and assume command as he/she deems necessary.

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- (f) The arrival at any scene of a higher ranking commander shall not be considered as an assumption of command, unless such assumption is communicated by the higher ranking individual.
- (g) Whenever two or more Patrol Supervisors are present at any activity or scene, the first Supervisor to arrive shall assume supervisory control of the situation until it is concluded, unless relieved of that responsibility by a command level officer or Detective Supervisor.

### **403.5 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS**

The following list generally describes the first responder's function at a crime or disaster scene. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive, is not necessarily in order and may be altered according to the demands of each situation:

- (a) Broadcast emergency information, including requests for additional assistance and resources.
- (b) Provide for the general safety of those within the immediate area by mitigating, reducing or eliminating threats or dangers.
- (c) Locate or identify suspects and determine whether dangerous suspects are still within the area.
- (d) Provide first aid to injured parties if it can be done safely.
- (e) Evacuate the location safely as required or appropriate.
- (f) Secure the inner perimeter.
- (g) Protect items of apparent evidentiary value.
- (h) Secure an outer perimeter.
- (i) Identify potential witnesses.
- (j) Start a chronological log noting critical times and personnel allowed access.

### **403.6 SEARCHES**

Officers arriving at crime or disaster scenes are often faced with the immediate need to search for and render aid to victims, and to determine if suspects are present and continue to pose a threat. Once officers are satisfied that no additional suspects are present and/or there are no injured persons to be treated, those exigent circumstances will likely no longer exist. Officers should thereafter secure the scene and conduct no further search until additional or alternate authority for the search is obtained, such as consent or a search warrant.

#### **403.6.1 CONSENT**

When possible, officers should seek written consent to search from authorized individuals. However, in the case of serious crimes or major investigations, it may be prudent to also obtain



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a search warrant. Consent as an additional authorization may be sought, even in cases where a search warrant has been granted.

### **403.7 OPERATIONS DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Operations Division Commander is responsible for ensuring procedures are established that are consistent with the Washington State Patrol Crime Laboratory Division Crime Scene Procedures Manual, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring reasonable access to qualified personnel, equipment and supplies for processing crime scenes.
- (b) Establishing procedures for collecting, processing and preserving physical evidence in the field.
- (c) Establishing procedures for photographing, video-recording and other imaging used to collect and preserve evidence.
- (d) Establishing procedures for processing, developing, lifting and labeling fingerprints.
- (e) Establishing procedures for the safe collection, storage, transportation and submission of biological and other evidence for DNA testing and evaluation.

### **403.8 EXECUTION OF HEALTH ORDERS**

Sworn members of this department shall enforce all lawful orders of the local health officer, issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease (RCW 70.05.070; WAC 246-100-040(2)).

## Crisis Response Unit

### 404.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Crisis Response Unit (CRU) is comprised of two specialized teams: the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) and the Special Tactics Team (STT). The unit has been established to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations where intense negotiations and/or special tactical deployment methods beyond the capacity of field officers appear to be necessary.

#### 404.1.1 OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

The sections of this policy are divided into Administrative and Operational Policy and Procedures. Since situations that necessitate the need for such a police response vary greatly from incident to incident and such events often demand on-the-scene evaluation, the Operational sections serve as a guideline to department personnel allowing for appropriate on scene decision making as required. The Administrative Procedures, however, are more restrictive and few exceptions should be taken.

#### 404.1.2 CRU TEAM DEFINED

A CRU team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers that is specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units including, but not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents. As a matter of department policy, such a unit may also be used to serve high-risk warrants, both search and arrest, where public and officer safety issues warrant the use of such a unit.

#### 404.1.3 COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

The composition and structure of the Aberdeen Police Department CRU team will be as follows:

- (a) CRU Commander: The CRU Commander shall hold the rank of Lieutenant or higher, and will be responsible for overall supervision of CRU. The CRU Commander will be responsible for the following:
  - 1. Coordinating with the Incident Commander, or another person, the development of tactical strategies for the CRU response to a given mission.
  - 2. Manage logistical concerns of the CRU team during the duration of the team's activation.
  - 3. It is anticipated that the CRU Commander will act as the Incident Commander at critical incidents as defined in the mission statement. The Incident Commander will report directly to the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
  - 4. Coordinating team training with the Team Leader and Assistant Team Leaders, ensuring that each member is competent with assigned weapons, skills, tactics, and is physically able to accomplish assignments during a critical incident.

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5. When CRU is activated, the CRU Commander or Incident Commander, if a different person, is responsible for setting up a command post, notifying the Chief of Police, coordinating the activities of on-scene patrol officers, obtaining additional assistance if needed, coordinating with the Crisis Negotiator supervisor, medical personnel, news media, and STT team leader. The CRU Commander is not required to be on scene or establish a command post when STT executes a high-risk warrant.
  6. The Chief of Police or his designee may, at his/her discretion, elect to have the Team Leader take the role of acting CRU Commander and/or Incident Commander on a mission-by-mission basis.
- (b) Team Leader: The Team Leader shall normally hold the rank of Corporal or higher. He/she is part of the team leadership element.
1. Shall take tactical control of elements of the team as they are utilized to accomplish the STT goals relating to the total mission.
  2. Shall be responsible for developing the tactical plan to be used, if needed, at the critical incident. Any tactical plan must be approved by the CRU Commander prior to implementation.
  3. Shall assist the CRU Commander in identifying, researching, and developing training and equipment needs.
  4. Shall be responsible for coordinating the training sessions for STT.
  5. Shall train to assume the role of acting CRU Commander and/or Incident Commander when necessary.
  6. The Team Leader, or his/her designee will handle the duties of equipment officer.
- (c) Assistant Team Leader: May hold the rank of officer or above, and is part of the team leadership element.
1. Shall assume the Team Leader's role in his absence.
  2. Assist the Team Leader and CRU Commander in fulfilling their respective duties.
  3. Is responsible for the team's training records and the maintenance of all mission documents.
  4. The Assistant Team Leader should train to take over the Team Leader's role when necessary.
- (d) Marksman Leader: The Marksman Leader shall direct the marksman/spotter elements with STT.
1. Shall organize the training unique to the marksman/spotter assignment, subject to the Team Leader's approval.
  2. Shall organize and document all training unique to the marksman/spotter assignment and forward all records to the Assistant Team Leader.
  3. Shall identify, research, report, and forward all training and equipment needs to the Team Leader who shall review and forward to the CRU Commander.

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- (e) Sniper/Spotter: Members of STT will be assigned as sniper/spotters as required.
  - 1. Will maintain proficiency with the team's marksman rifles, AR-15's, and any other weapons selected for use by STT. This will include any less-lethal weapons assigned to STT.
  - 2. Shall be assigned the responsibility of providing anti-sniper control, long and intermediate range defense, and an accurate base support fire at all ranges for the team when these functions are part of the tactical plan.
  - 3. May fill other positions in the team as needed.
- (f) Gas Officer: Shall be assigned to a team member on a mission-by-mission basis. Will deliver gas munitions as needed.
- (g) Tactical Officer: All members of the team other than the CRU Commander and Crisis Negotiators shall be Tactical Officers. They may fill any role within the team that their training and rank qualifies them for. If not assigned in a special capacity they normally deploy in the entry of containment element.
- (h) Crisis Negotiators: Shall be full time officers of the Aberdeen Police Department. The Crisis Negotiation Team is led by a lead negotiator who is part of the team leadership element.

### **404.2 LEVELS OF CAPABILITY/TRAINING**

#### **404.2.1 LEVEL I**

A level I SWAT team is a basic team capable of providing containment and intervention with critical incidents that exceed the training and resources available to line-level officers. This does not include ad hoc teams of officers that are formed around a specific mission, detail or incident (e.g. active shooter response). Generally 5 percent of the basic team's on-duty time should be devoted to training.

#### **404.2.2 LEVEL II**

A level II, Intermediate level SWAT team is capable of providing containment and intervention. Additionally, these teams possess tactical capabilities above the Level I teams. These teams may or may not work together on a daily basis, but are intended to respond to incidents as a team. At least 5 percent of their on-duty time should be devoted to training with supplemental training for tactical capabilities above the Level I team.

#### **404.2.3 LEVEL III**

A Level III, Advanced level SWAT team is a SWAT team whose personnel function as a full-time unit. Generally 25 percent of their on-duty time is devoted to training. Level III teams operate in accordance with contemporary best practices. Such units possess both skills and equipment to utilize tactics beyond the capabilities of Level I and Level II teams.

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### 404.2.4 APD CRU MISSION

To support the Aberdeen Police Department and any other requesting law enforcement agency with a tactical response to critical incidents. Critical incidents are defined as follows:

- (a) Hostage Situations: The holding of any person(s) against their will by an armed or potentially armed suspect.
- (b) Barricade Situations: The standoff created by an armed or potentially armed suspect in any location, whether fortified or not, who is refusing to comply with police demands for surrender.
- (c) Sniper Situations: The firing upon citizens and/or police by an armed suspect, whether stationary or mobile.
- (d) Apprehension: The arrest or apprehension of armed or potentially armed suspect(s) where there is the likelihood of armed resistance.
- (e) Warrant Service: The service of search or arrest warrants where there is a likelihood of armed or potential armed suspect(s) and there is the potential of armed resistance.
- (f) Special Assignments: Any assignment, approved by the Chief, Deputy Chief or CRU Commander, based upon the level of threat or the need for a special expertise.

### 404.3 POLICY

It shall be the policy of this department to maintain a CRU team and to provide the equipment, manpower, and training necessary to maintain a CRU team. The CRU team should develop sufficient resources to perform three basic operational functions:

- (a) Command and Control.
- (b) Containment.
- (c) Entry/Apprehension/Rescue.

It is understood it is difficult to categorize specific capabilities for critical incidents. Training needs may vary based on the experience level of the team personnel, team administrators and potential incident commanders. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit individual teams from responding to a situation that exceeds their training levels due to the exigency of the circumstances. The preservation of innocent human life is paramount.

#### 404.3.1 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A needs assessment should be conducted to determine the type and extent of CRU missions and operations appropriate to this department. The assessment should consider the team's capabilities and limitations and should be reviewed annually by the CRU Commander or his/her designee.

#### 404.3.2 ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES

This department shall develop a separate written set of organizational procedures which should address, at minimum, the following:

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- (a) Locally identified specific missions the team is capable of performing.
- (b) Team organization and function.
- (c) Personnel selection and retention criteria.
- (d) Training and required competencies.
- (e) Procedures for activation and deployment.
- (f) Command and control issues, including a clearly defined command structure.
- (g) Multi-agency response.
- (h) Out-of-jurisdiction response.
- (i) Specialized functions and supporting resources.

### 404.3.3 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

This department shall develop a separate written set of operational procedures in accordance with the determination of their level of capability, using sound risk reduction practices. The operational procedures should be patterned after the National Tactical Officers Association Suggested CRU Best Practices. Because such procedures are specific to CRU members and will outline tactical and officer safety issues, they are not included within this policy. The operational procedures should include, at minimum, the following:

- (a) Designated personnel responsible for developing an operational or tactical plan prior to, and/or during CRU operations (time permitting).
  - 1. All CRU team members should have an understanding of operational planning.
  - 2. CRU team training should consider planning for both spontaneous and planned events.
  - 3. CRU teams should incorporate medical emergency contingency planning as part of the CRU operational plan.
- (b) Plans for mission briefings conducted prior to an operation, unless circumstances require immediate deployment.
  - 1. When possible, briefings should include the specialized units and supporting resources.
- (c) Protocols for a sustained operation should be developed which may include relief, rotation of personnel and augmentation of resources.
- (d) A generic checklist to be worked through prior to initiating a tactical action as a means of conducting a threat assessment to determine the appropriate response and resources necessary, including the use of CRU.
- (e) The appropriate role for a trained negotiator.
- (f) A standard method of determining whether or not a warrant should be regarded as high-risk.

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- (g) A method for deciding how best to serve a high-risk warrant with all reasonably foreseeable alternatives being reviewed in accordance with risk/benefit criteria prior to selecting the method of response.
- (h) Post incident scene management including:
  - 1. Documentation of the incident.
  - 2. Transition to investigations and/or other units.
  - 3. Debriefing after every deployment of the CRU team.
    - (a) After-action team debriefing provides evaluation and analysis of critical incidents and affords the opportunity for individual and team assessments, helps to identify training needs, and reinforces sound risk management practices.
    - (b) Such debriefing should not be conducted until involved officers have had the opportunity to individually complete necessary reports or provide formal statements.
    - (c) In order to maintain candor and a meaningful exchange, debriefing will generally not be recorded.
    - (d) When appropriate, debriefing should include specialized units and resources.
- (i) Sound risk management analysis.
- (j) Standardization of equipment deployed.

### **404.4 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

The CRU Commander shall conduct an annual CRU Training needs assessment to ensure that training is conducted within team capabilities and department policy.

#### **404.4.1 INITIAL TRAINING**

CRU team operators and CRU supervisors/team leaders should not be deployed until successful completion of a Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) approved Basic SWAT Course or its equivalent.

- (a) To avoid unnecessary or redundant training, previous training completed by members may be considered equivalent when the hours and content (topics) meet or exceed department requirements or standardized training recommendations.

#### **404.4.2 UPDATED TRAINING**

Appropriate team training for the specialized CRU functions and other supporting resources should be completed prior to full deployment of the team.

CRU team operators and CRU supervisors/team leaders should complete Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) approved update or refresher training every 24 months.

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### 404.4.3 SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Command and executive personnel are encouraged to attend training for managing the CRU at the organizational level to ensure personnel who provide active oversight at the scene of CRU operations understand the purpose and capabilities of the teams.

Command personnel who may assume incident command responsibilities should attend Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) approved SWAT or Critical Incident Commander course or its equivalent. CRU command personnel should attend a SWAT commander or tactical commander course, or its equivalent.

### 404.4.4 SWAT ONGOING TRAINING

Training shall be coordinated by the CRU Commander. The CRU Commander may conduct monthly training exercises that include a review and critique of personnel and their performance in the exercise in addition to specialized training. Training shall consist of the following:

- (a) Each CRU member shall perform a physical fitness test twice each year. A minimum qualifying score must be attained by each team member.
- (b) Any CRU team member failing to attain the minimum physical fitness qualification score will be notified of the requirement to retest and attain a qualifying score. Within 30 days of the previous physical fitness test date, the member required to qualify shall report to a team supervisor and complete the entire physical fitness test. Failure to qualify after a second attempt may result in dismissal from the team.
- (c) Those members who are on vacation, ill, or are on light duty status with a doctor's note of approval on the test date, shall be responsible for reporting to a team supervisor and taking the test within 30 days of their return to regular duty. Any member, who fails to arrange for and perform the physical fitness test within the 30-day period, shall be considered as having failed to attain a qualifying score for that test period.
- (d) Quarterly, each CRU team member shall perform the mandatory CRU handgun qualification course. The qualification course shall consist of the CRU Basic Drill for the handgun. Failure to qualify will require that officer to seek remedial training from a team range master approved by the CRU Commander. Team members who fail to qualify will not be used in CRU operations until qualified. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify within 30 days with or without remedial training may result in dismissal from the team.
- (e) Each CRU team member shall complete the quarterly CRU qualification course for any specialty weapon issued to, or used by, the team member during CRU operations. Failure to qualify will require the team member to seek remedial training from the Rangemaster who has been approved by the CRU Commander. Team members who fail to qualify on their specialty weapon may not utilize the specialty weapon on CRU operations until qualified. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify with specialty weapons within 30 days may result in the team member being removed from the team or permanently disqualified from use of that particular specialty weapon.



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### 404.4.5 TRAINING SAFETY

Use of a designated safety officer should be considered for all tactical training.

### 404.4.6 SCENARIO BASED TRAINING

CRU teams should participate in scenario-based training that simulates the tactical operational environment. Such training is an established method of improving performance during an actual deployment.

### 404.4.7 TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

Individual and team training shall be documented and records maintained by the Training Coordinator. Such documentation shall be maintained in each member's individual training file. A separate agency CRU training file shall be maintained with documentation and records of all team training.

## **404.5 UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIREARMS**

### 404.5.1 UNIFORMS

CRU teams from this agency should wear uniforms that clearly identify team members as law enforcement officers. It is recognized that certain tactical conditions may require covert movement. Attire may be selected appropriate to the specific mission.

### 404.5.2 EQUIPMENT

CRU teams from this agency should be adequately equipped to meet the specific mission(s) identified by the agency.

### 404.5.3 FIREARMS

Weapons and equipment used by CRU, the specialized units, and the supporting resources shall be agency-issued or approved, including any modifications, additions, or attachments.

### 404.5.4 OPERATIONAL READINESS INSPECTIONS

The CRU Commander shall appoint a CRU supervisor to perform operational readiness inspections of all unit equipment at least quarterly. The result of the inspection will be forwarded to the CRU commander in writing. The inspection will include personal equipment issued to members of the unit, operational equipment maintained in the CRU facility and equipment maintained or used in CRU vehicles.

## **404.6 MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The Commander of the CRU shall be selected by the Chief of Police upon recommendation of staff.

### 404.6.1 PRIMARY UNIT MANAGER

Under the direction of the Chief of Police, through the Operations Division Commander, the Crisis Response Unit shall be managed by a lieutenant.

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### 404.6.2 TEAM SUPERVISORS

The Crisis Negotiation Team and each Special Weapons and Tactics Team will be supervised by a sergeant.

The team supervisors shall be selected by the Chief of Police upon specific recommendation by staff and the CRU Commander.

The following represent the supervisor responsibilities for the Crisis Response Unit.

- (a) The Crisis Negotiation Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the Crisis Negotiation Team which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the CRU Commander.
- (b) The Special Weapons and Tactics Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the CRU Team, which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the CRU Commander.

### 404.7 CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

The Crisis Negotiation Team has been established to provide skilled verbal communicators who may be utilized to attempt to de-escalate and effect surrender in critical situations where suspects have taken hostages, barricaded themselves, or have suicidal tendencies.

The following procedures serve as directives for the administrative operation of the Crisis Negotiation Team.

#### 404.7.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a letter of interest to the CRU Commander, with a copy forwarded to the STT Team Leader and Crisis Negotiation Team supervisor. Qualified applicants will then be invited to an oral interview.

- (a) To be eligible for a position of **Crisis Negotiator** the applicant:
  - 1. Must be a full time officer of the department.
  - 2. Completed two years of satisfactory full time employment with the Aberdeen Police Department.
  - 3. Live within a reasonable distance of the City of Aberdeen, as determined by the CRU Commander.
  - 4. Have a satisfactory job performance history in previous and present assignments at all times.

The oral board will consist of the CRU Commander, the Crisis Negotiation Team supervisor, and a third person to be selected by the two. Interested personnel shall be evaluated by the following criteria:

- (a) Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.
- (b) Demonstrated good judgment and understanding of critical role of negotiator and negotiation process.
- (c) Effective communication skills to ensure success as a negotiator.

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- (d) Special skills, training, or appropriate education as it pertains to the assignment.
- (e) Commitment to the unit, realizing that the assignment may necessitate unusual working hours, conditions, and training obligations.
- (f) A list of potential applicants shall be submitted to the CRU participating chiefs of police and the sheriff for consideration and input.
- (g) The list of potential applicants shall be then submitted to the Aberdeen Chief of Police, by the CRU Commander, for final selection.

### **404.7.2 TRAINING OF NEGOTIATORS**

Those officers selected as members of the Negotiation Team should attend the Basic Negotiators Course as approved by the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) prior to primary use in an actual crisis situation. Untrained officers may be used in a support or training capacity. Additional training will be coordinated by the team supervisor.

A minimum of one training day per quarter will be required to provide the opportunity for role playing and situational training necessary to maintain proper skills. This will be coordinated by the team supervisor.

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the team supervisor. Performance and efficiency levels, established by the team supervisor, will be met and maintained by all team members. Any member of the Negotiation Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the unit.

### **404.8 CRU TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

The Crisis Response Unit was established to provide a skilled and trained team which may be deployed during events requiring specialized tactics in such situations as cases where suspects have taken hostages and/or barricaded themselves as well as prolonged or predictable situations in which persons armed or suspected of being armed pose a danger to themselves or others.

The following procedures serve as directives for the administrative operation of the CRU.

#### **404.8.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL**

Interested sworn personnel who are off probation shall submit a change of assignment request to their appropriate Division Commander, a copy of which will be forwarded to the CRU Commander and other CRU supervisors. Those qualifying applicants will then be invited to participate in the testing process. The order of the tests will be given at the discretion of the CRU Commander. The testing process will consist of an oral board, physical agility, CRU basic handgun, and team evaluation.

- (a) Oral board: The oral board will consist of personnel selected by the CRU Commander. Applicants will be evaluated by the following criteria:
  - 1. Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.

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2. Demonstrated good judgment and understanding of critical role of SWAT member.
  3. Special skills, training, or appropriate education as it pertains to this assignment.
  4. Commitment to the unit, realizing that the additional assignment may necessitate unusual working hours, conditions, and training obligations.
- (b) Physical agility: The physical agility test is designed to determine the physical capabilities of the applicant as it relates to performance of CRU-related duties. The test and scoring procedure will be established by the CRU Commander. A minimum qualifying score shall be attained by the applicant to be considered for the position.
- (c) CRU basic handgun: Candidates will be invited to shoot the CRU Basic Drill for the handgun. A minimum qualifying score of 465 out of a possible score of 500 must be attained to qualify.
- (d) Team evaluation: Current team members will evaluate each candidate on his/her field tactical skills, teamwork, ability to work under stress, communication skills, judgment, and any special skills that could benefit the team.
- (e) A list of successful applicants shall be submitted to the Chief of Police, by the CRU Commander, for final selection.

### 404.8.2 TEAM EVALUATION

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the CRU Commander. The performance and efficiency level, as established by the team supervisor, will be met and maintained by all CRU Team members. Any member of the CRU Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the team.

### 404.8.3 SUSPENSION AND REMOVAL FROM CRU

Once accepted and assigned to the Aberdeen Police Department CRU, all operational team members, regardless of rank or position, must maintain acceptable standards of performance as stated above in policy §404.7.1 and §404.8.1. Failure to meet the minimum standards will result in the team member being placed in a temporary, non-deployable status for a period of 90 days. Failure to meet the acceptable standard within 90 days will result in immediate removal from the team.

Being placed in a temporary, non-deployable status twice within two years will result in immediate removal from the team. Members who are temporarily unable to perform their CRU duties due to injury, illness, or other unusual circumstances may make application to the CRU Commander for a waiver of the above-described requirements. A team member may voluntarily withdraw from the team at any time, for any reason.

A team member may be removed from the team, without cause, when deemed necessary for the good of the team by a majority of the leadership elements of the team and approved by the CRU Commander. The leadership element consists of the CRU Team Leader, Assistant Team Leader, and Negotiations Team Leader.

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Assignment to the CRU shall be exempt from position rotation.

### **404.9 OPERATION GUIDELINES FOR CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The following procedures serve as guidelines for the operational deployment of the Crisis Response Unit. Generally, the CRU and the Crisis Negotiation Team will be activated together. It is recognized, however, that a tactical team may be used in a situation not requiring the physical presence of the Crisis Negotiation Team such as warrant service operations. This shall be at the discretion of the CRU Commander.

#### **404.9.1 ON-SCENE DETERMINATION**

The supervisor in charge on the scene of a particular event will assess whether the Crisis Response Unit is to be requested to respond to the scene. Upon final determination by the Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty patrol supervisor, he/she will notify the CRU Commander.

#### **404.9.2 APPROPRIATE SITUATIONS FOR USE OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The following are examples of incidents which may result in the activation of the Crisis Response Unit:

- (a) Barricaded suspects who refuse an order to surrender.
- (b) Incidents where hostages are taken.
- (c) Cases of suicide threats.
- (d) Arrests of dangerous persons.
- (e) Any situation that could enhance the ability to preserve life, maintain social order, and ensure the protection of property.

#### **404.9.3 MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SWAT OPERATIONS**

The CRU team, including relevant specialized units and supporting resources, should develop protocols, agreements, MOU's, or working relationships to support multi-jurisdictional or regional responses.

- (a) If it is anticipated that multi-jurisdictional CRU operations will regularly be conducted; CRU multi-agency and multi-disciplinary joint training exercises are encouraged.
- (b) Members of the Aberdeen Police Department CRU team shall operate under the policies, procedures and command of the Aberdeen Police Department when working in a multi-agency situation.

#### **404.9.4 MOBILIZATION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The on-scene supervisor should make a request to a Patrol Lieutenant for the Crisis Response Unit. If the on-scene supervisor is unsuccessful in contacting a Patrol Lieutenant see 404.9.5 (b).

CRU activations take precedence over all other assignments within the Aberdeen Police Department. Once the team is activated, members assigned to the Aberdeen Police Department CRU reports directly to the CRU Commander until he/she determines that the activation is over.

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- (a) Command Staff officer generally may activate CRU/STT only. The activation will take place when the CRU Commander, or the next Command Officer notified if the CRU Commander is unavailable, is contacted by the requesting Lieutenant or on-duty OIC and is briefed on the critical incident.
- (b) The procession of all requests to activate CRU/STT shall initially go to the CRU Commander. The OIC should attempt the department cell phone number and then all known phone numbers when attempting contact. If the CRU Commander is not contacted, the OIC should then proceed to attempt to contact the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief, Commander, or Lieutenant in this order. If no command officer is contacted, the requesting OIC may contact the STT Team Leader or Assistant Team Leader, in this order, to request activation of CRU/STT. The Team or Assistant STT team leader shall be responsible for the decision to activate. Attempts to contact the CRU Commander, or other Command level officers, should continue until notification is made. A relevant message should be left with a call back number if notification is not made.
- (c) Any OIC may request the assistance of CRU/STT in planning and/or conducting appropriate operations. The requesting OIC or Command Officer will contact the CRU Commander with the request for assistance. The CRU Commander, if approving the request, will then activate the team using standard call-out procedures. The contact procedures as outlined in subsection (b.) shall be followed.
- (d) The Aberdeen Police Department CRU is available, with the approval of the Chief or Deputy Chief of Police, to assist an outside law enforcement agency. When a request is received it shall be immediately forwarded to the CRU Commander, or other Command Officer if the CRU Commander is unavailable, who will determine if the situation warrants the activation of the team. The CRU Commander will contact the Chief or Deputy Chief of Police and obtain permission to activate the team. Once permission is received the activation will follow standard procedures.
- (e) When the CRU is activated for any reason it will be used in accordance with Aberdeen Police Department policy and procedures, and shall be under the exclusive command and control of the CRU Commander or an Incident Commander from the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (f) When any operation becomes contrary to the policies and procedures of the Aberdeen Police Department, Chief of Police or his designee, acting upon the advice of the CRU Commander or Incident Commander, may withdraw assigned Aberdeen Police Department personnel. The decision to withdraw personnel shall be made known to the supervising officer of the requesting law enforcement agency as soon as possible and a good faith effort to make a safe transfer of control shall be undertaken.

The Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty OIC should advise the CRU Commander with as much of the following information which is available at the time:

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- (a) The number of suspects, known weapons and resources.
- (b) If the suspect is in control of hostages.
- (c) If the suspect is barricaded.
- (d) The type of crime involved.
- (e) If the suspect has threatened or attempted suicide.
- (f) The location of the command post and a safe approach to it.
- (g) The extent of any perimeter and the number of officers involved.
- (h) Any other important facts critical to the immediate situation and whether the suspect has refused an order to surrender.

The CRU Commander or supervisor shall then call selected officers to respond.

### 404.9.5 FIELD UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

While waiting for the Crisis Response Unit, field personnel should, if safe, practical and sufficient resources exist:

- (a) Establish an inner and outer perimeter.
- (b) Establish a command post outside of the inner perimeter.
- (c) Establish an arrest/response team. The team actions may include:
  - 1. Securing any subject or suspect who may surrender.
  - 2. Taking action to mitigate a deadly threat or behavior.
- (d) Evacuate any injured persons or citizens in the zone of danger.
- (e) Attempt to establish preliminary communication with the suspect. Once the CRU has arrived, all negotiations should generally be halted to allow the negotiators and CRU time to set up.
- (f) Be prepared to brief CRU Commander on situation.
- (g) Plan for, and stage, anticipated resources.

### 404.9.6 ON-SCENE COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon arrival of the Crisis Response Unit at the scene, the Incident Commander shall brief the CRU Commander and team supervisors about the situation. Upon review, it will be the Incident Commander's decision, with input from the CRU Commander, whether to deploy the Crisis Response Unit. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the CRU Commander will be responsible for the tactical portion of the operation. The Incident Commander shall continue supervision of the command post operation, outer perimeter security, and support for the Crisis Response Unit. The Incident Commander and the CRU Commander (or his/her designee) shall maintain communications at all times.

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### 404.9.7 COMMUNICATION WITH CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT PERSONNEL

All of those persons who are non-Crisis Response Unit personnel should refrain from any non-emergency contact or interference with any member of the unit during active negotiations. Operations require the utmost in concentration by involved personnel and, as a result, no one should interrupt or communicate with Crisis Team personnel directly. All non-emergency communications shall be channeled through the Negotiation Team Sergeant or his/her designee.



# Ride-Along Policy

## 405.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Ride-Along Program provides an opportunity for citizens to experience the law enforcement function first hand. This policy provides the requirements, approval process, and hours of operation for the Ride-Along Program.

### 405.1.1 ELIGIBILITY

The Aberdeen Police Department Ride-Along Program is offered to interested individuals. Every attempt will be made to accommodate interested persons however any applicant may be disqualified without cause.

The following factors may be considered in disqualifying an applicant and are not limited to:

- Being under 15 years of age.
- Prior criminal history.
- Pending criminal action.
- Pending lawsuit against the Department.
- Denial by any supervisor.

### 405.1.2 AVAILABILITY

The Ride-Along Program is available on most days of the week, with certain exceptions. The ride-along times are from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Exceptions to this schedule may be made as approved by the Chief of Police, Division Commander, or Patrol Lieutenant.

## 405.2 PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A RIDE-ALONG

Generally, ride-along requests will be scheduled by the Patrol Lieutenant. The participant will complete a ride-along waiver form. Information requested will include a valid ID or Washington driver's license, address, and telephone number. If the participant is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must be present to complete the Ride-Along Form.

The Patrol Lieutenant will schedule a date, based on availability. If approved, a copy will be forwarded to the respective Patrol Lieutenant as soon as possible for his/her scheduling considerations.

If the ride-along is denied after the request has been made, a representative of the Department will contact the applicant and advise him/her of the denial.

### 405.2.1 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Once approved, civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once every six months. An exception would apply to the following: Cadets, Explorers, RSVP, Chaplains, Reserves, police applicants, and all others with approval of the Patrol Lieutenant.

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An effort will be made to ensure that no more than one citizen will participate in a ride-along during any given time period. Normally, no more than one ride-along will be allowed in the officer's vehicle at a given time.

Ride-along requirements for police cadets are covered in the Police Cadet Program Policy.

### **405.2.2 SUITABLE ATTIRE**

Any person approved to ride along is required to be suitably dressed in collared shirt, blouse or jacket, slacks and shoes. Sandals, T-shirts, tank tops, shorts and ripped or torn blue jeans are not permitted. Hats and ball caps will not be worn in the police vehicle. The Patrol Lieutenant or field supervisor may refuse a ride along to anyone not properly dressed.

### **405.2.3 PEACE OFFICER RIDE-ALONGS**

Off-duty members of this department or any other law enforcement agency will not be permitted to ride-along with on-duty officers without the expressed consent of the Patrol Lieutenant. In the event that such a ride-along is permitted, the off-duty employee shall not be considered on-duty and shall not represent themselves as a peace officer or participate in any law enforcement activity except as emergency circumstances may require.

### **405.3 OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

The officer shall advise the dispatcher that a ride-along is present in the vehicle before going into service. Officers shall consider the safety of the ride-along at all times. Officers should use sound discretion when encountering a potentially dangerous situation, and if feasible, let the participant out of the vehicle in a well-lighted place of safety. The dispatcher will be advised of the situation and as soon as practical have another police unit respond to pick up the participant at that location. The ride-along may be continued or terminated at this time.

The Patrol Lieutenant is responsible for maintaining and scheduling ride-alongs. Upon completion of the ride-along, the form shall be returned to the Patrol Lieutenant with any comments which may be offered by the officer.

### **405.4 CONTROL OF RIDE-ALONG**

The assigned employee shall maintain control over the ride-along at all times and instruct him/her in the conditions that necessarily limit their participation. These instructions should include:

- (a) The ride-along will follow the directions of the officer.
- (b) The ride-along will not become involved in any investigation, handling of evidence, discussions with victims or suspects, or handling any police equipment.
- (c) The ride-along may terminate the ride-along at any time and the officer may return the observer to their home or to the station if the ride-along interferes with the performance of the officer's duties.
- (d) Ride-alongs may be allowed to continue riding during the transportation and booking process provided this does not jeopardize their safety.

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- (e) Officers will not allow any ride-alongs to be present in any residences or situations that would jeopardize their safety or cause undue stress or embarrassment to a victim or any other citizen.
- (f) Under no circumstance shall a civilian ride along be permitted to enter a private residence with an officer without the expressed consent of the resident or other authorized person.

# Hazardous Material Response

## 406.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Exposure to hazardous materials present potential harm to department members and the public. This policy outlines the responsibilities of members who respond to these events and the factors that should be considered while on-scene, including the reporting of exposures and supervisor responsibilities.

### 406.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Hazardous material** - A substance which, by its nature, containment and reactivity, has the capability of inflicting harm during exposure; characterized as being toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive, an irritant or strong sensitizer and thereby posing a threat to health when improperly managed.

## 406.2 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE

Members may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic collision, chemical spill, or fire. When members come into contact with a suspected hazardous material, certain steps should be taken to protect themselves and other persons.

The fire department is the agency trained and equipped to properly respond to and mitigate most incidents involving hazardous materials and biohazards.

Responders should not perform tasks or use equipment without proper training. A responder entering the area may require decontamination before he/she is allowed to leave the scene, and should be evaluated by appropriate technicians and emergency medical services personnel for signs of exposure.

## 406.3 REPORTING EXPOSURE

Department members who believe that they have been exposed to a hazardous material shall immediately report the exposure to a supervisor. Each exposure shall be documented by the member in an incident report that shall be forwarded via chain of command to the Patrol Lieutenant as soon as practicable. Should the affected member be unable to document the exposure for any reason, it shall be the responsibility of the notified supervisor to complete the report.

Injury or illness caused or believed to be caused from exposure to hazardous materials shall be reported the same as any other on-duty injury or illness in addition to a crime report or incident report as applicable.

### 406.3.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

When a supervisor has been informed that a member has been exposed to a hazardous material, he/she shall ensure that immediate medical treatment is obtained and appropriate action is taken to mitigate the exposure or continued exposure.

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To ensure the safety of members, PPE is available from supervisors. PPE items not maintained by this department may be available through the appropriate fire department or emergency response team.

### **406.4 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to respond to hazardous material emergencies with due regard for the safety of the public and those members responding to such incidents.

### **406.5 CONSIDERATIONS**

The following steps should be considered at any scene involving suspected hazardous materials:

- (a) Make the initial assessment of a potentially hazardous material from a safe distance.
- (b) Notify Grays Harbor Communications, appropriate supervisors, the appropriate fire department and hazardous response units.
  - 1. Provide weather conditions, wind direction, a suggested safe approach route and any other information pertinent to responder safety.
- (c) Wear personal protective equipment (PPE), being cognizant that some hazardous material can be inhaled.
- (d) Remain upwind, uphill and at a safe distance, maintaining awareness of weather and environmental conditions, until the material is identified and a process for handling has been determined.
- (e) Attempt to identify the type of hazardous material from a safe distance using optical aids (binoculars or spotting scopes) if they are available. Identification can be determined by:
  - 1. Placards or use of an emergency response guidebook.
  - 2. Driver's manifest or statements or shipping documents from the person transporting the material.
  - 3. Information obtained from any involved person with knowledge regarding the hazardous material. Information should include:
    - (a) The type of material.
    - (b) How to secure and contain the material.
    - (c) Any other information to protect the safety of those present, the community and the environment.
- (f) Provide first-aid to injured parties if it can be done safely and without contamination.
- (g) Make reasonable efforts to secure the scene and prevent access from unauthorized individuals and to protect and identify any evidence.
- (h) Begin evacuation of the immediate and surrounding areas, dependent on the material. Voluntary evacuation should be considered; mandatory evacuation may be necessary and will depend on the type of material.
- (i) Establish a decontamination area when needed.

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- (j) Activate automated community notification systems, if applicable.
- (k) Dependent upon the substance and other specific conditions, consider initiating an emergency public notification or evacuation. The decision to initiate public notifications and/or evacuations shall be in accordance with the Aberdeen Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) procedures.

# Hostage and Barricade Incidents

## 407.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for situations where officers have legal cause to contact, detain or arrest a person, and the person refuses to submit to the lawful requests of the officers by remaining in a structure or vehicle and/or by taking a hostage.

The scope of this policy is not intended to address all variables that officers encounter during their initial response or when a hostage or barricade situation has developed. This policy does not require or purport to recommend specific strategies or tactics for resolution as each incident is a dynamic and rapidly evolving event.

### 407.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Barricade situation** - An incident where a person maintains a position of cover or concealment and ignores or resists law enforcement personnel, and it is reasonable to believe the subject is armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon.

**Hostage situation** - An incident where it is reasonable to believe a person is unlawfully held by a hostage-taker as security so that specified terms or conditions will be met.

## 407.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to address hostage and barricade situations with due regard for the preservation of life and balancing the risk of injury, while obtaining the safe release of hostages, apprehending offenders and securing available evidence.

## 407.3 COMMUNICATION

When circumstances permit, initial responding officers should try to establish and maintain lines of communication with a barricaded person or hostage-taker. Officers should attempt to identify any additional subjects, inquire about victims and injuries, seek the release of hostages, gather intelligence information, identify time-sensitive demands or conditions and obtain the suspect's surrender.

When available, department-authorized negotiators should respond to the scene as soon as practicable and assume communication responsibilities. Negotiators are permitted to exercise flexibility in each situation based upon their training, the circumstances presented, suspect actions or demands and the available resources.

### 407.3.1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

A supervisor may order the telephone company to cut, reroute or divert telephone lines in order to prevent a suspect from communicating with anyone other than designated personnel in a barricade or hostage situation (RCW 70.85.100).

## *Hostage and Barricade Incidents*

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### **407.4 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS**

First responding officers should promptly and carefully evaluate all available information to determine whether an incident involves, or may later develop into, a hostage or barricade situation.

The first responding officer should immediately request a supervisor's response as soon as it is determined that a hostage or barricade situation exists. The first responding officer shall assume the duties of the supervisor until relieved by a supervisor or a more qualified responder. The officer shall continually evaluate the situation, including the level of risk to officers, to the persons involved and to bystanders, and the resources currently available.

The handling officer should brief the arriving supervisor of the incident, including information about suspects and victims, the extent of any injuries, additional resources or equipment that may be needed, and current perimeters and evacuation areas.

#### **407.4.1 BARRICADE SITUATION**

Unless circumstances require otherwise, officers handling a barricade situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of stabilizing the incident by establishing and maintaining lines of communication while awaiting the arrival of specialized personnel and trained negotiators. During the interim the following options, while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.
- (b) Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.
- (c) Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).
- (d) Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.
- (e) Evacuate non-injured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.
- (f) Attempt or obtain a line of communication and gather as much information on the subject as possible, including weapons, other involved parties, additional hazards or injuries.
- (g) Establish an inner and outer perimeter as circumstances require and resources permit to prevent unauthorized access.
- (h) Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.
- (i) Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the Department, such as command officers and the Public Information Officer.



## *Hostage and Barricade Incidents*

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- (j) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.
- (k) Establish a command post.

### 407.4.2 HOSTAGE SITUATION

Officers presented with a hostage situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of controlling the incident in anticipation of the arrival of specialized personnel and trained hostage negotiators. However, it is understood that hostage situations are dynamic and can require that officers react quickly to developing or changing threats. The following options while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.
- (b) Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.
- (c) Establish a rapid response team in the event it becomes necessary to rapidly enter a building, structure or vehicle, such as when the suspect is using deadly force against any hostages (see the Rapid Response and Deployment Policy).
- (d) Assist hostages or potential hostages to escape if it is reasonably safe to do so. Hostages should be kept separated if practicable pending further interview.
- (e) Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).
- (f) Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.
- (g) Evacuate non-injured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.
- (h) Coordinate pursuit or surveillance vehicles and control of travel routes.
- (i) Attempt or obtain a line of communication and gather as much information about the suspect as possible, including any weapons, victims and their injuries, additional hazards, other involved parties and any other relevant intelligence information.
- (j) Establish an inner and outer perimeter as resources and circumstances permit to prevent unauthorized access.
- (k) Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.
- (l) Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the Department, such as command officers and the PIO.

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- (m) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.

### **407.5 CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The activation of the Crisis Response Unit should be initiated as provided by policy § 404 if it is determined by the supervisor that he/she is dealing with a Hostage or Barricaded Subject incident. The officer in charge at the scene shall remain in command until relieved by a superior officer.

### **407.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon being notified that a hostage or barricade situation exists, the supervisor should immediately respond to the scene, assess the risk level of the situation, establish a proper chain of command and assume the role of Incident Commander until properly relieved. This includes requesting a Crisis Response Unit response if appropriate and apprising the Crisis Response Unit Commander of the circumstances. In addition, the following options, listed here in no particular order, should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated and treated by medical personnel.
- (b) Ensure the completion of necessary first responder responsibilities or assignments.
- (c) Request crisis negotiators, specialized units, additional personnel, resources or equipment as appropriate.
- (d) Establish a command post location as resources and circumstances permit.
- (e) Designate assistants who can help with intelligence information and documentation of the incident.
- (f) If it is practicable to do so, arrange for video documentation of the operation.
- (g) Consider contacting utility and communication providers when restricting such services (e.g., restricting electric power, gas, telephone service).
- (h) Ensure adequate law enforcement coverage for the remainder of the City during the incident. The supervisor should direct non-essential personnel away from the scene unless they have been summoned by the supervisor or Grays Harbor Communications.
- (i) Identify a media staging area outside the outer perimeter and have the department Public Information Officer or a designated temporary media representative provide media access in accordance with the Media Relations Policy.
- (j) Identify the need for mutual aid and the transition or relief of personnel for incidents of extended duration.
- (k) Debrief personnel and review documentation as appropriate.

## *Hostage and Barricade Incidents*

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### **407.7 CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES**

It will be the Incident Commander's decision, with input from the Crisis Response Unit Commander, whether to deploy the Crisis Response Unit during a hostage or barricade situation. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the Crisis Response Unit Commander or the authorized designee will be responsible for the tactical portion of the operation. The Incident Commander shall continue supervision of the command post operation, outer perimeter security and evacuation, media access and support for the Crisis Response Unit. The Incident Commander and the Crisis Response Unit Commander or the authorized designee shall maintain communications at all times.

### **407.8 REPORTING**

Unless otherwise relieved by a supervisor or Incident Commander, the handling officer at the scene is responsible for completion and/or coordination of incident reports.

## Response to Bomb Calls

### 408.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to assist members of the Aberdeen Police Department in their initial response to incidents involving explosives, explosive devices, explosion/bombing incidents or threats of such incidents. Under no circumstances should these guidelines be interpreted as compromising the safety of first responders or the public. When confronted with an incident involving explosives, safety should always be the primary consideration.

### 408.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to place a higher priority on the safety of persons and the public over damage or destruction to public or private property.

### 408.3 RECEIPT OF BOMB THREAT

Department members receiving a bomb threat should obtain as much information from the individual as reasonably possible, including the type, placement, and alleged detonation time of the device.

If the bomb threat is received on a recorded line, reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that the recording is preserved in accordance with established department evidence procedures.

The member receiving the bomb threat should ensure that the Patrol Lieutenant is immediately advised and informed of the details. This will enable the Patrol Lieutenant to ensure that the appropriate personnel are dispatched and, as appropriate, the threatened location is given an advance warning.

### 408.4 GOVERNMENT FACILITY OR PROPERTY

A bomb threat targeting a government facility may require a different response based on the government agency.

#### 408.4.1 ABERDEEN POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITY

If the bomb threat is against the Aberdeen Police Department facility, the Patrol Lieutenant will direct and assign officers as required for coordinating a general building search or evacuation of the police department, as he/she deems appropriate.

#### 408.4.2 OTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL FACILITY OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a county or municipal facility within the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department that is not the property of this department, the appropriate agency will be promptly informed of the threat. Assistance to the other entity may be provided as the Patrol Lieutenant deems appropriate.

## *Response to Bomb Calls*

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### **408.4.3 FEDERAL BUILDING OR PROPERTY**

If the bomb threat is against a federal building or property, the Federal Protective Service should be immediately notified. The Federal Protective Service provides a uniformed law enforcement response for most facilities, which may include use of its Explosive Detector Dog teams.

If the bomb threat is against a federal government property where the Federal Protective Service is unable to provide a timely response, the appropriate facility's security or command staff should be notified.

Bomb threats against a military installation should be reported to the military police or other military security responsible for the installation.

### **408.5 PRIVATE FACILITY OR PROPERTY**

When a member of this department receives notification of a bomb threat at a location in the City of Aberdeen, the member receiving the notification should obtain as much information as reasonably possible from the notifying individual, including:

- (a) The location of the facility.
- (b) The nature of the threat.
- (c) Whether the type and detonation time of the device is known.
- (d) Whether the facility is occupied and, if so, the number of occupants currently on-scene.
- (e) Whether the individual is requesting police assistance at the facility.
- (f) Whether there are any internal facility procedures regarding bomb threats in place, such as:
  - 1. No evacuation of personnel and no search for a device.
  - 2. Search for a device without evacuation of personnel.
  - 3. Evacuation of personnel without a search for a device.
  - 4. Evacuation of personnel and a search for a device.

The member receiving the bomb threat information should ensure that the Patrol Lieutenant is immediately notified so that he/she can communicate with the person in charge of the threatened facility.

#### **408.5.1 ASSISTANCE**

The Patrol Lieutenant should be notified when police assistance is requested. The Patrol Lieutenant will make the decision whether the Department will render assistance and at what level. Information and circumstances that indicate a reasonably apparent, imminent threat to the safety of either the facility or the public may require a more active approach, including police control over the facility.

Should the Patrol Lieutenant determine that the Department will assist or control such an incident, he/she will determine:

- (a) The appropriate level of assistance.

## *Response to Bomb Calls*

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- (b) The plan for assistance.
- (c) Whether to evacuate and/or search the facility.
- (d) Whether to involve facility staff in the search or evacuation of the building.
  - 1. The person in charge of the facility should be made aware of the possibility of damage to the facility as a result of a search.
  - 2. The safety of all participants is the paramount concern.
- (e) The need for additional resources, including:
  - 1. Notification and response, or standby notice, for fire and emergency medical services.

Even though a facility does not request police assistance to clear the interior of a building, based upon the circumstances and known threat, officers may be sent to the scene to evacuate other areas that could be affected by the type of threat, or for traffic and pedestrian control.

### **408.6 FOUND DEVICE**

When handling an incident involving a suspected explosive device, the following guidelines, while not all inclusive, should be followed:

- (a) No known or suspected explosive item should be considered safe regardless of its size or apparent packaging.
- (b) The device should not be touched or moved except by the bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team.
- (c) Personnel should not transmit on any equipment that is capable of producing radio frequency energy within the evacuation area around the suspected device. This includes the following:
  - 1. Two-way radios
  - 2. Cell phones
  - 3. Other personal communication devices
- (d) The appropriate bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team should be summoned for assistance.
- (e) The largest perimeter reasonably possible should initially be established around the device based upon available personnel and the anticipated danger zone.
- (f) A safe access route should be provided for support personnel and equipment.
- (g) Search the area for secondary devices as appropriate and based upon available resources.
- (h) Consider evacuation of buildings and personnel near the device or inside the danger zone and the safest exit route.
- (i) Promptly relay available information to the Patrol Lieutenant including:
  - 1. The time of discovery.

## *Response to Bomb Calls*

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2. The exact location of the device.
3. A full description of the device (e.g., size, shape, markings, construction).
4. The anticipated danger zone and perimeter.
5. The areas to be evacuated or cleared.

### **408.7 EXPLOSION/BOMBING INCIDENTS**

When an explosion has occurred, there are multitudes of considerations which may confront the responding officers. As in other catastrophic events, a rapid response may help to minimize injury to victims, minimize contamination of the scene by gathering crowds, or minimize any additional damage from fires or unstable structures.

#### **408.7.1 CONSIDERATIONS**

Officers responding to explosions, whether accidental or a criminal act, should consider the following actions:

- (a) Assess the scope of the incident, including the number of victims and extent of injuries.
- (b) Request additional personnel and resources, as appropriate.
- (c) Assist with first aid.
- (d) Identify and take appropriate precautions to mitigate scene hazards, such as collapsed structures, bloodborne pathogens and hazardous materials.
- (e) Assist with the safe evacuation of victims, if possible.
- (f) Establish an inner perimeter to include entry points and evacuation routes. Search for additional or secondary devices.
- (g) Preserve evidence.
- (h) Establish an outer perimeter and evacuate if necessary.
- (i) Identify witnesses.

### **408.8 EXPLOSION/BOMBING INCIDENTS**

When an explosion has occurred, there are multitudes of considerations which may confront the responding officers. As in other catastrophic events, a rapid response may help to minimize injury to victims, minimize contamination of the scene by gathering crowds, or minimize any additional damage from fires or unstable structures.

# Emergency Detentions

## 409.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for when officers may place an individual under an emergency detention.

## 409.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to protect the public and individuals through legal and appropriate use of the emergency detention process.

### 409.2.1 MENTAL HEALTH DETENTIONS

- (a) A non-emergent detention is defined as one where the mentally disabled subject presents a likelihood of serious harm; or is gravely disabled. In such cases, officers may take the subject into custody only when:
  - 1. The mentally disabled person has been evaluated by a designated mental health professional; and
  - 2. Upon determining the need for detention, the mental health professional has filed a petition for initial detention; and
  - 3. The mental health professional has requested that the officer take the subject into custody and have him or her placed in a treatment facility (RCW 71.05.150).
- (b) An emergent detention is defined as one where, as the result of a mental disorder a person presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm, or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled. In such cases, officers may take the subject into custody only (RCW 71.05).
  - 1. At the written or oral request of a designated mental health professional who has evaluated the subject and determined the need for an emergent detention, or
  - 2. When the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person is in need of emergent detention.
- (c) Emergent detentions based upon the written or oral request of a designated mental health professional evaluation will be 72-hour holds. Emergent detentions based upon the officer's reasonable cause will be 12-hour holds.
- (d) In all circumstances where a person is taken into custody on a mental health detention, the officer shall also provide a verbal summary to an Emergency Department staff member regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary detention.

### 409.2.2 TRANSPORTATION

- (a) When transporting any individual for a commitment, the handling officer should have the Mental Health Provider notify the receiving facility of the estimated time of arrival,



## *Emergency Detentions*

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the level of cooperation of the patient and whether or not any special medical care is needed.

- (b) Officers may transport patients in the patrol unit and shall secure them in accordance with the handcuffing policy. Violent patients or those who are medically unstable may be restrained if appropriate and transported by ambulance and ambulance personnel. The officer will escort the patient into the facility and follow the procedures particular to that facility.
- (c) A facility security staff member should be requested to relieve the officer as soon practical. Until relieved by security the officer should physically remain in the treatment room with the patient.
- (d) In the event the person in question appears to be an imminent danger to himself or others, or appears to be gravely disabled, officers shall take that person into protective custody and transport that person to the Grays Harbor Crisis Clinic or Grays Harbor Community Hospital dependent on the situation at hand.
- (e) If the person in question is transported to Grays Harbor Community Hospital, an officer may based on the person's behavior remain with the person until a mental health professional can arrive and complete an evaluation of that person.
- (f) Persons taken into protective custody in such a manner will be handled in accordance with RCW 71.05.150.
  - 1. Persons who are suffering from an apparent mental illness shall not be confined in the city jail unless:
    - (a) That person is under arrest on criminal charges; and/or
    - (b) That person has been involuntarily committed for evaluation by a mental health professional. The person awaiting subsequent transport to an evaluation and treatment facility shall be transported as soon as possible.

### 409.2.3 RESTRAINTS

If the patient is violent or potentially violent, the officer will notify the staff of this concern. The staff member in charge will have discretion as to whether soft-restraints will be used. If these restraints are desired, the officer will wait while they are being applied to help provide physical control of the patient, if needed.

### 409.2.4 SECURING OF WEAPONS

If a receiving and secured facility prohibits weapons or if an extraordinary event occurs in the treatment facility and officers determine a need to secure their firearms, the firearm shall be secured in the appropriate gun locker at the facility or in the police unit.

## *Emergency Detentions*

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### **409.3 AUTHORITY**

An officer may take a person into emergency detention when either (RCW 71.05.150; RCW 71.05.153; RCW 71.05.201; RCW 71.34.710; RCW 71.34.351):

- (a) There is reasonable cause to believe that a person is suffering from a behavioral health disorder (e.g., mental disorder, substance abuse disorder) and presents an imminent likelihood of serious harm, or is in imminent danger because of being gravely disabled
- (b) The officer has received an order authorizing emergency detention from a court or a designated crisis responder

Persons taken into emergency detention should be transported to an appropriate facility as soon as practicable.

#### **409.3.1 VOLUNTARY EVALUATION**

If an officer encounters an individual who may qualify for emergency detention, he/she may inquire as to whether the person desires to voluntarily be evaluated at an appropriate facility. If the individual so desires, the officers should:

- (a) Transport the individual to an appropriate facility that is able to conduct the evaluation and admit the person.
- (b) Document the circumstances surrounding the individual's desire to pursue voluntary evaluation and/or admission.

If at any point the individual changes his/her mind regarding voluntary evaluation, officers should proceed with the emergency detention process, if appropriate.

### **409.4 CONSIDERATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Any officer handling a call involving an individual who may qualify for emergency detention should consider, as time and circumstances reasonably permit:

- (a) Available information that might assist in determining the cause and nature of the individual's action or stated intentions.
- (b) Community or neighborhood mediation services.
- (c) Conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques.
- (d) Community or other resources available to assist in dealing with behavioral health issues.

While these steps are encouraged, nothing in this section is intended to dissuade officers from taking reasonable action to ensure the safety of the officers and others.

Emergency detentions should be preferred over arrest for individuals with behavioral health disorders who are suspected of committing minor crimes or creating other public safety issues.

#### **409.4.1 RETURN OF CONFISCATED FIREARMS AND WEAPONS**

Weapons taken into custody for safekeeping under section 418.4 will be returned to the lawful owner upon request unless the seizing officer or the assigned detective has placed a hold on the weapons pending a petition for retention, the petition has been granted, or is pending before the

## *Emergency Detentions*

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court. Once the petition has been ruled on by the court, the weapons will be released or disposed of in accordance with the court order.

Prior to releasing any weapon, Evidence Room personnel shall be required to ensure the person is legally eligible to possess the weapon.

In the event that no timely petition is filed with the court or the court denies such a petition, the seized weapon shall be eligible for release to the lawful owner or other authorized individual unless such weapon(s) represent evidence in a criminal matter or there is other independent good cause to continue to retain custody of the weapon.

### **409.5 TRANSPORTATION**

When taking any individual into emergency detention, the transporting officer should have Grays Harbor Communications notify the receiving facility of the estimated time of arrival, the level of cooperation of the individual, and whether any special medical care is needed.

Officers may transport individuals in a patrol vehicle and shall secure them in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. Should the detainee require transport in a medical transport vehicle and the safety of any person, including the detainee, requires the presence of an officer during the transport, Patrol Lieutenant approval is required before transport commences.

### **409.6 TRANSFER TO APPROPRIATE FACILITY**

Upon arrival at the facility, the officer will escort the individual into a treatment area designated by a facility staff member. If the individual is not seeking voluntary treatment, the officer should provide the staff member with the written application for an emergency detention and remain present to provide clarification of the grounds for detention, upon request.

Absent exigent circumstances, the transporting officer should not assist facility staff with the admission process, including restraint of the individual. However, if the individual is transported and delivered while restrained, the officer may assist with transferring the individual to facility restraints and will be available to assist during the admission process, if requested. Under normal circumstances, officers will not apply facility-ordered restraints.

### **409.7 DOCUMENTATION**

The officer should complete an application for emergency detention, provide it to the facility staff member assigned to the individual, and retain a copy of the application for inclusion in the case report.

The officer should also provide a verbal summary to any evaluating staff member regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary detention.

### **409.8 CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

Officers investigating an individual who is suspected of committing a minor criminal offense and who is being taken into emergency detention should resolve the criminal matter by issuing a warning or a citation, as appropriate.

## *Emergency Detentions*

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When an individual who may qualify for emergency detention has committed a serious criminal offense that would normally result in an arrest and transfer to a jail facility, the officer should:

- (a) Arrest the individual when there is probable cause to do so.
- (b) Notify the appropriate supervisor of the facts supporting the arrest and the facts that would support the emergency detention.
- (c) Facilitate the individual's transfer to the jail facility.
- (d) Thoroughly document in the related reports the circumstances that indicate the individual may qualify for emergency detention.

In the supervisor's judgment, the individual may instead be arrested or booked and transported to the appropriate mental health facility. The supervisor should consider the seriousness of the offense, the treatment options available, the ability of this department to regain custody of the individual, department resources (e.g., posting a guard), and other relevant factors in making this decision.

### **409.9 FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS**

Whenever an individual is taken into emergency custody, the handling officers should seek to determine if the individual owns or has access to any firearm or other deadly weapon. Officers should consider whether it is appropriate and consistent with current search and seizure law under the circumstances to seize any such firearms or other dangerous weapons (e.g., safekeeping, evidence, consent).

Officers are cautioned that a search warrant may be needed before entering a residence or other place to search, unless lawful, warrantless entry has already been made (e.g., exigent circumstances, consent). A warrant may also be needed before searching for or seizing weapons.

The handling officers should further advise the individual of the procedure for the return of any firearm or other weapon that has been taken into custody.

### **409.10 TRAINING**

This department will endeavor to provide department-approved training on interaction with persons with behavioral health disorders, emergency detentions and crisis intervention.

## Citation Releases

### **410.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the Aberdeen Police Department with guidance on when to release adults who are suspected offenders on a citation and notice to appear in court for a criminal offense, rather than having the person held in custody for a court appearance or released on bail.

### **410.2 POLICY**

The Aberdeen Police Department will consider its resources and its mission of protecting the community when exercising any discretion to release suspected offenders on a citation and notice to appear in court, when authorized to do so.

### **410.3 RELEASE**

A suspected offender may be released on issuance of a citation and notice to appear in court by an officer whenever a person is arrested or could have been arrested pursuant to statute for a violation of law which is punishable as a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor (Criminal Rules, CrRLJ 2.1(b)(1)).

### **410.4 CONSIDERATIONS**

In determining whether to cite and release a person, officers shall consider whether (Criminal Rules, CrRLJ 2.1(b)(2)):

- (a) The suspected offender has identified him/herself satisfactorily.
- (b) Detention appears reasonably necessary to prevent imminent bodily harm to the suspected offender or another, property damage or breach of the peace.
- (c) The suspected offender has ties to the community reasonably sufficient to assure his/her appearance or whether there is substantial likelihood that he/she will refuse to respond to the citation and notice.
- (d) The suspected offender previously has failed to appear in response to a citation and notice issued pursuant to the court rule or to other lawful process.

# Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

## 411.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Aberdeen Police Department extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

## 411.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department respects international laws related to the special privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives assigned to the United States.

All foreign diplomatic and consular representatives shall be treated with respect and courtesy, regardless of any privileges or immunities afforded them.

## 411.3 CLAIMS OF IMMUNITY

If a member comes into contact with a person where law enforcement action may be warranted and the person claims diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, the member should, without delay:

- (a) Notify a supervisor.
- (b) Advise the person that his/her claim will be investigated and he/she may be released in accordance with the law upon confirmation of the person's status.
- (c) Request the person's identification card, either issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Chief of Protocol, or in the case of persons accredited to the United Nations, by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. These are the only reliable documents for purposes of determining privileges and immunities.
- (d) Contact the DOS Diplomatic Security Command Center at 571-345-3146 or toll free at 866-217-2089, or at another current telephone number and inform the center of the circumstances.
- (e) Verify the immunity status with DOS and follow any instructions regarding further detention, arrest, prosecution and/or release, as indicated by the DOS representative. This may require immediate release, even if a crime has been committed.

Identity or immunity status should not be presumed from the type of license plates displayed on a vehicle. If there is a question as to the status or the legitimate possession of a Diplomat or Consul license plate, a query should be run via the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), designating "US" as the state.

## *Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives*

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### **411.4 ENFORCEMENT ACTION**

If the DOS is not immediately available for consultation regarding law enforcement action, members shall be aware of the following:

- (a) Generally, all persons with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may be issued a citation or notice to appear. However, the person may not be compelled to sign the citation.
- (b) All persons, even those with a valid privilege or immunity, may be reasonably restrained in exigent circumstances for purposes of self-defense, public safety, or the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) An impaired foreign diplomatic or consular representative may be prevented from driving a vehicle, even if the person may not be arrested due to privileges and immunities.
  - 1. Investigations, including the request for field sobriety tests, chemical tests, and any other tests regarding impaired driving may proceed but they shall not be compelled.
- (d) The following persons may not be detained or arrested, and any property or vehicle owned by these persons may not be searched or seized:
  - 1. Diplomatic-level staff of missions to international organizations and recognized family members
  - 2. Diplomatic agents and recognized family members
  - 3. Members of administrative and technical staff of a diplomatic mission and recognized family members
  - 4. Career consular officers, unless the person is the subject of a felony warrant
- (e) The following persons may generally be detained and arrested:
  - 1. International organization staff; however, some senior officers are entitled to the same treatment as diplomatic agents.
  - 2. Support staff of missions to international organizations
  - 3. Diplomatic service staff and consular employees; however, special bilateral agreements may exclude employees of certain foreign countries.
  - 4. Honorary consular officers

### **411.5 DOCUMENTATION**

All contacts with persons who have claimed privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives should be thoroughly documented and the related reports forwarded to DOS.

### **411.6 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TABLE**

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

# Aberdeen Police Department

Aberdeen PD WA Policy Manual

## Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

Category	Arrested or Detained	Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures	Issued Traffic Citation	Subpoenaed as Witness	Prosecuted	Recognized Family Members
<b>Diplomatic Agent</b>	No (note b)	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
<b>Member of Admin and Tech Staff</b>	No (note b)	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
<b>Service Staff</b>	Yes (note a)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note a).	No immunity or inviolability (note a)
<b>Career Consul Officer</b>	Yes if for a felony and pursuant to a warrant (note a)	Yes (note d)	Yes	No for official acts. Testimony may not be compelled in any case.	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note a).	No immunity or inviolability
<b>Honorable Consul Officer</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts. Yes otherwise.	No for official acts. Yes otherwise.	No immunity or inviolability
<b>Consulate Employees</b>	Yes (note a)	Yes	Yes	No for official acts. Yes otherwise.	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note a).	No immunity or inviolability (note a)
<b>Int'l Org Staff (note b)</b>	Yes (note c)	Yes (note c)	Yes	Yes (note c)	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note c).	No immunity or inviolability
<b>Diplomatic-Level Staff of Missions to Int'l Org</b>	No (note b)	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
<b>Support Staff of Missions to Int'l Orgs</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts. Yes otherwise.	No immunity or inviolability

Notes for diplomatic immunity table:



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## *Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives*

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- (a) This table presents general rules. The employees of certain foreign countries may enjoy higher levels of privileges and immunities on the basis of special bilateral agreements.
- (b) Reasonable constraints, however, may be applied in emergency circumstances involving self-defense, public safety, or in the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) A small number of senior officers are entitled to be treated identically to diplomatic agents.
- (d) Note that consul residences are sometimes located within the official consular premises. In such cases, only the official office space is protected from police entry.

# Rapid Response and Deployment

## 412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Violence that is committed in schools, workplaces and other locations by individuals or a group of individuals who are determined to target and kill persons and to create mass casualties presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist responding officers in situations that call for rapid response and deployment.

### 412.1.1 DEFINITIONS

- (a) **Active Shooter** - An incident which is ongoing and the suspect(s) are actively engaged in causing death or great bodily injury and the potential for mass casualties exists. The 3 primary elements supporting are:
  - 1. a) Armed attacker using deadly force
  - 2. b) Unrestricted access to additional victims
  - 3. c) Immediate and direct police action is feasible, necessary and likely to save lives.
- (b) **Contact team** - A group of responding Law Enforcement officers designated with the task of controlling, containing or neutralizing a threat in an active shooter situation. This group should generally consist of a minimum of 2 officers.
- (c) **Dynamic mode** - Contact teams have real time intelligence (i.e. shots fired or screaming) that indicates violence is actively occurring. Teams move rapidly and aggressively in formation to the threat to contain, control, or neutralize the suspect(s).
- (d) **Transit mode** - Moving from one point to another to accomplish a tactical objective. Contact teams move in formation to this area covering and bypassing threats, as they proceed.
- (e) **Search mode** - Contact teams hastily search looking for suspect(s).
- (f) **Rescue mode** - A combined Law Enforcement/Firefighter team whose purpose is to extricate viable victims from the warm zone to the CCP. Walking wounded should be encouraged to self extricate. Consider establishing a safe corridor on arrival of additional resources.
- (g) **Casualty Collection Point (CCP)** - A forward location initially designated by law enforcement and later confirmed by fire command where victims can be assembled for movement from areas of risk to the triage/treatment location. From this location Law Enforcement and Fire Incident Commanders together will assign rescue teams.
- (h) **Rescue Team** - A group of responding Law Enforcement officers and designated EMS personnel that enter the warm zone to affect a rescue of injured persons. The rescue

## *Rapid Response and Deployment*

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team which generally consists of 2 medics and a minimum of 3 armed officers to assist in immediate care, triage, and priority evacuation decisions.

- (i) **Warm Zone** - Those areas that have been quickly cleared by Law Enforcement but are not 100% secure. This area will be where victims will be contacted by rescue teams.
- (j) **Evacuation Corridor** - A term used to describe an area inside the warm zone and secured by Law Enforcement personnel, that allows for mitigated risk in transporting victims from the Casualty Collection Point (CCP) to the triage/treatment area.
- (k) **Unified Command** - The integration of command personnel from the primary responding agencies to a multi-jurisdictional or multi-agency operational event to enhance communication, planning, and logistics for all responding agencies by the utilization of shared resources, knowledge and expertise.
- (l) **Command Post** - Physical location of unified command.

### **412.2 POLICY**

The Aberdeen Police Department will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations, and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those that are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the Department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

### **412.3 FIRST RESPONSE**

If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding officers should consider reasonable options to reduce, prevent or eliminate the threat. Officers must decide, often under a multitude of difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat or wait for additional resources.

If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, officers should take immediate action, if reasonably practicable, while requesting additional assistance.

Officers should remain aware of the possibility that an incident may be part of a coordinated multi-location attack that may require some capacity to respond to other incidents at other locations.

When deciding on a course of action officers should consider:

- (a) Whether to advance on or engage a suspect who is still a possible or perceived threat to others. Any advance or engagement should be made based on information known or received at the time.
- (b) Whether to wait for additional resources or personnel. This does not preclude an individual officer from taking immediate action.

## *Rapid Response and Deployment*

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- (c) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved or evacuated with reasonable safety.
- (d) Whether the suspect can be contained or denied access to victims.
- (e) Whether the officers have the ability to effectively communicate with other personnel or resources.
- (f) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.
- (g) The availability of rifles, shotguns, shields, breaching tools, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.

In a case of a barricaded suspect with no hostages and no immediate threat to others, officers should consider summoning and waiting for additional assistance (special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).

### 412.3.1 SELECTION AND OPERATION OF A CASUALTY COLLECTION POINT (CCP)

Any arriving officer may find him or herself responsible for selecting a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) and assisting the responding fire department supervisor with designating rescue teams.

When selecting a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) officers should consider:

- (a) A position of cover.
- (b) Easy route of ingress and egress for ambulances.
- (c) Adjacent to an exterior wall to aid in victim removal.
- (d) Proximity to the majority of the injured.
- (e) Consider the size for each patient as a 4X8 sheet of plywood.

When operating a Casualty Collection Point (CCP) officers should consider:

- (a) Area is to be cleared before accepting patients
- (b) There will be a continuous law enforcement presence
- (c) Appropriately trained medical providers will staff the area.
- (d) Avoid bringing uninjured or dead persons to the CCP.
- (e) Do not block the points of egress and ingress for responding/transporting ambulances.

### 412.3.2 SELECTION OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT STAGING LOCATION

Experience has shown that an Active Shooter Response situation will by its nature bring assets and personnel from all areas of the Law Enforcement community. Incident Commanders may quickly find themselves overwhelmed with the response they are receiving. Responding officers should be encouraged to respond to a designated staging location where these assets can be better managed.

When selecting a staging location officers should consider:

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(a) Proximity to the event

- Staging areas should be away from the incident but as close to the operational area as possible. Staging areas should not be more than 5 minutes away.

(b) Proximity to possible hazards

- Staging areas should be located out of the way of any direct hazard

(c) Access routes

- Staging areas must have readily accessible routes for both egress and ingress

(d) Space

- Staging areas must be large enough to accommodate available resources and should be large enough for expansion.

(e) Security

- Staging areas must offer security for both personnel and equipment

### 412.3.3 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)

Dissemination of information to the public by the use of local media outlets is of the utmost importance when responding to an Active Shooter situation. A Public Information Officer (PIO) should be designated as part of the response plan to field incoming requests for information from these media outlets. This alleviates this responsibility from the Incident Commanders and allows them to concentrate on the task at hand.

### 412.3.4 TACTICAL SEQUENCE

An active shooter response is a dynamic and rapidly evolving situation. The initial response to the end of all law enforcement presence may extend over several days. Many objectives are to be met during the initial response and recovery phases of the incident. When deciding on the tactical sequence of events officers should consider:

(a) Safe arrival and approach.

(b) Threat assessment, does it meet the definition of an active shooter.

(c) Forming contact teams.

(d) Advising dispatch of the entry and point of entry of the contact teams.

(e) Communicate information as quickly and concisely as possible to arriving units.

(f) Enter building using appropriate tactical mode of movement (dynamic, transit or search mode).

(g) Complete tactical objectives (contain, control or neutralize threat).

(h) Establish a warm zone and evacuation corridor.

(i) Establish a Casualty Collection Point (CCP).

(j) Implement Unified Command (law and fire).

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- (k) Establish rescue teams.
- (l) Establish a perimeter (containment) around the scene.
- (m) Establish a staging location for incoming Law Enforcement resources.
- (n) Secure the scene for additional law enforcement objectives (i.e. PIO, Investigations)

### **412.4 CONSIDERATIONS**

When dealing with a crisis situation members should:

- (a) Assess the immediate situation and take reasonable steps to maintain operative control of the incident.
- (b) Obtain, explore and analyze sources of intelligence and known information regarding the circumstances, location and suspect involved in the incident.
- (c) Attempt to attain a tactical advantage over the suspect by reducing, preventing or eliminating any known or perceived threat.
- (d) Attempt, if feasible and based upon the suspect's actions and danger to others, a negotiated surrender of the suspect and release of the hostages.

### **412.5 PLANNING**

The Operations Division Commander should coordinate critical incident planning. Planning efforts should consider:

- (a) Identification of likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.
- (b) Availability of building plans and venue schematics of likely critical incident target sites.
- (c) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (d) Training opportunities in critical incident target sites, including joint training with site occupants.
- (e) Evacuation routes in critical incident target sites.
- (f) Patrol first-response training.
- (g) Response coordination and resources of emergency medical and fire services.
- (h) Equipment needs.
- (i) Mutual aid agreements with other agencies.
- (j) Coordination with private security providers in critical incident target sites.

### **412.6 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

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- (a) Orientation to likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.
- (b) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (c) Patrol first-response training, including patrol rifle, shotgun, breaching tool and control device training.
- (d) First aid, including gunshot trauma.
- (e) Reality-based scenario training (e.g., active shooter, disgruntled violent worker).

### **412.7 SCHOOL NOTIFICATION**

The Operations Division Commander should establish protocols for public and private school notification in the event an incident reasonably appears to require a lockdown or evacuation. Protocols should include notification to all known schools in the vicinity of the incident that may be similarly threatened (RCW 28A.320.125).

# Immigration Violations

## 413.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to members of the Aberdeen Police Department relating to immigration laws and interacting with federal immigration officials (RCW 43.10.315).

## 413.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that all members make personal and professional commitments to equal enforcement of the law and equal service to the public. Confidence in this commitment will increase the effectiveness of this department in protecting and serving the entire community and recognizing the dignity of all persons, regardless of their national origin or immigration status.

## 413.3 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

To encourage crime reporting and cooperation in the investigation of criminal activity, all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure that contacting or being addressed by members of law enforcement will not automatically lead to immigration inquiry and/or deportation. While it may be necessary to determine the identity of a victim or witness, members shall treat all individuals equally and not in any way that would violate the United States or Washington constitutions.

## 413.4 FEDERAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Requests by federal immigration officials for assistance from this department should be directed to a supervisor. The Department may provide available support services, such as traffic control or peacekeeping efforts.

## 413.5 INFORMATION SHARING

No member of this department will prohibit, or in any way restrict, any other member from doing any of the following regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual (8 USC § 1373; RCW 2.28.310):

- (a) Sending information to, or requesting or receiving such information from federal immigration officials
- (b) Maintaining such information in department records
- (c) Exchanging such information with any other federal, state, or local government entity

## 413.6 U VISA AND T VISA NONIMMIGRANT STATUS

Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)).

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)).



## *Immigration Violations*

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Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Investigation Unit supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case.

The Investigation Unit supervisor should:

- (a) Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.
- (b) Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.
- (c) Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner (RCW 7.98.020).
  - 1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.
- (d) Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.

### 413.6.1 TIME FRAME FOR COMPLETION

The Investigation Unit supervisor should ensure that the certification for the U visa or T visa is processed within 90 days of the request, unless the victim is in federal immigration removal proceedings, in which case the certification shall be executed within 14 days after the request is received. The certification may be withdrawn only if the victim unreasonably refuses to provide information and assistance related to the investigation or prosecution of the associated criminal activity when reasonably requested by the Department (RCW 7.98.020).

### 413.6.2 U VISA AND T VISA DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

The Investigation Unit supervisor shall keep written documentation regarding the number of certification forms that are (RCW 7.98.020):

- (a) Requested by a victim.
- (b) Signed.
- (c) Denied.
- (d) Withdrawn.

The Investigation Unit supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure that the information collected regarding certification forms is reported annually to the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy (RCW 7.98.020).

### 413.6.3 RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Personal identifying information or information regarding the citizenship or immigration status of any victim of criminal activity or trafficking who is requesting a certification shall not be disclosed except when allowed by law (RCW 7.98.020). See also the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

## *Immigration Violations*

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### **413.7 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator should ensure that officers receive training on this policy.

Training should include:

- (a) Identifying civil versus criminal immigration violations.
- (b) Factors that may be considered in determining whether a criminal immigration offense has been committed.
- (c) Statutory limitations on immigration enforcement.
- (d) U visa and T visa certification training.
- (e) Appropriate information sharing pursuant to 8 USC § 1373.

### **413.8 WASHINGTON STATE IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS**

Members shall not (RCW 10.93.160):

- (a) Inquire into or collect information about an individual's immigration or citizenship status, or place of birth unless there is a connection between such information and an investigation into a violation of state or local criminal law.
- (b) Provide information pursuant to notification requests from federal immigration authorities for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement, except as required by law.
- (c) Provide nonpublicly available personal information about an individual to federal immigration authorities in a noncriminal matter, except as required by state or federal law.
- (d) Give federal immigration authorities access to interview individuals about a noncriminal matter while they are in custody, except as required by state or federal law, a court order, or written consent of the individual.
- (e) Allow a federal immigration authority to conduct an interview regarding federal immigration violations with a person who is in custody if the person has not consented in writing to be interviewed. In order to obtain consent, the person shall be provided with an oral explanation and a written consent form that explains the purpose of the interview, that the interview is voluntary, and that the person may decline to be interviewed or may choose to be interviewed only with the person's attorney present.
- (f) Detain individuals solely for the purpose of determining their immigration status.
- (g) Take a person into custody or hold a person in custody:
  - 1. Solely for the purposes of determining immigration status
  - 2. Based solely on a civil immigration warrant issued by a federal immigration authority
  - 3. On an immigration hold request

#### **413.8.1 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

Members who are school resource officers shall not (RCW 10.93.160):

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- (a) Inquire or collect information about an individual's immigration or citizenship status, or place of birth.
- (b) Provide information pursuant to notification requests from federal immigration officials for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement, except as required by law.

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## Emergency Utility Service

### 414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The City Public Works Department has personnel available to handle emergency calls 24 hours per day. Calls for service during non-business hours are frequently directed to the Police Department. Requests for such service received by this department should be handled in the following manner.

#### 414.1.1 BROKEN WATER LINES

The City's responsibility ends at the water meter; any break or malfunction in the water system from the water meter to the citizen's residence or business is the customer's responsibility. Public Works can only turn off the valve at the meter. The citizen can normally accomplish this.

If a break occurs on the City side of the meter, emergency personnel should be called as soon as practical by Grays Harbor Communications.

#### 414.1.2 ELECTRICAL LINES

City Public Works does not maintain electrical lines to street light poles. When a power line poses a hazard, an officer should be dispatched to protect against personal injury or property damage that might be caused by power lines. The Grays Harbor PUD or Public Works should be promptly notified, as appropriate.

#### 414.1.3 RESERVOIRS, PUMPS, WELLS, ETC.

Public Works maintains the reservoirs and public water equipment, as well as several underpass and other street drainage pumps. In the event of flooding or equipment malfunctions, emergency personnel should be contacted as soon as possible.

#### 414.1.4 EMERGENCY NUMBERS

A current list of emergency personnel who are to be called for municipal utility emergencies is maintained by Grays Harbor Communications.

### 414.2 TRAFFIC SIGNAL MAINTENANCE

The City of Aberdeen Electrical Department has the responsibility to furnish maintenance for all traffic signals within the City, other than those maintained by the State of Washington.

#### 414.2.1 OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITY

Upon observing a damaged or malfunctioning signal, the officer will advise Aberdeen Records if staffed or Grays Harbor Communications of the location and problem with the signal. The dispatcher should make the necessary notification to the electrical department.

# Aircraft Accidents

## 415.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide department members with guidelines for handling aircraft accidents.

This policy does not supersede, and is supplementary to, applicable portions of the Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity, Emergency Management Plan and Hazardous Material Response policies.

### 415.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Aircraft** - Any fixed wing aircraft, rotorcraft, balloon, blimp/dirigible or glider that is capable of carrying a person or any unmanned aerial vehicle other than those intended for non-commercial recreational use.

## 415.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to provide an appropriate emergency response to aircraft accidents. This includes emergency medical care and scene management.

## 415.3 ARRIVAL AT SCENE

Officers or other authorized members tasked with initial scene management should establish an inner and outer perimeter to:

- (a) Protect persons and property.
- (b) Prevent any disturbance or further damage to the wreckage or debris, except to preserve life or rescue the injured.
- (c) Preserve ground scars and marks made by the aircraft.
- (d) Manage the admission and access of public safety and medical personnel to the extent necessary to preserve life or to stabilize hazardous materials.
- (e) Maintain a record of persons who enter the accident site.
- (f) Consider implementation of an Incident Command System (ICS).

## 415.4 INJURIES AND CASUALTIES

Members should address emergency medical issues and provide care as a first priority.

Those tasked with the supervision of the scene should coordinate with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) before the removal of bodies. If that is not possible, the scene supervisor should ensure documentation of what was disturbed, including switch/control positions and instrument/gauge readings.

## *Aircraft Accidents*

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### **415.5 NOTIFICATIONS**

When an aircraft accident is reported to this department, the responding supervisor shall ensure notification is or has been made to NTSB, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and when applicable, the appropriate branch of the military.

Supervisors shall ensure other notifications are made once an aircraft accident has been reported. The notifications will vary depending on the type of accident, extent of injuries or damage, and the type of aircraft involved. When an aircraft accident has occurred, it is generally necessary to notify the following:

- (a) Fire department
- (b) Appropriate airport tower
- (c) Emergency medical services (EMS)

### **415.6 CONTROLLING ACCESS AND SCENE AUTHORITY**

Prior to NTSB arrival, scene access should be limited to authorized personnel from the:

- (a) FAA.
- (b) Fire department, EMS or other assisting law enforcement agencies.
- (c) Coroner.
- (d) Air Carrier/Operators investigative teams with NTSB approval.
- (e) Appropriate branch of the military, when applicable.
- (f) Other emergency services agencies (e.g., hazardous materials teams, biohazard decontamination teams, fuel recovery specialists, explosive ordnance disposal specialists).

The NTSB has primary responsibility for investigating accidents involving civil aircraft. In the case of a military aircraft accident, the appropriate branch of the military will have primary investigation responsibility.

After the NTSB or military representative arrives on-scene, the efforts of this department will shift to a support role for those agencies.

If NTSB or a military representative determines that an aircraft or accident does not qualify under its jurisdiction, the on-scene department supervisor should ensure the accident is still appropriately investigated and documented.

### **415.7 DANGEROUS MATERIALS**

Members should be aware of potentially dangerous materials that might be present. These may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Fuel, chemicals, explosives, biological or radioactive materials and bombs or other ordnance.
- (b) Pressure vessels, compressed gas bottles, accumulators and tires.

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- (c) Fluids, batteries, flares and igniters.
- (d) Evacuation chutes, ballistic parachute systems and composite materials.

### **415.8 DOCUMENTATION**

All aircraft accidents occurring within the City of Aberdeen shall be documented. At a minimum the documentation should include the date, time and location of the incident; any witness statements, if taken; the names of APD members deployed to assist; other City resources that were utilized; and cross reference information to other investigating agencies. Suspected criminal activity should be documented on the appropriate crime report.

#### **415.8.1 WRECKAGE**

When reasonably safe, members should:

- (a) Obtain the aircraft registration number (N number) and note the type of aircraft.
- (b) Attempt to ascertain the number of casualties.
- (c) Obtain photographs or video of the overall wreckage, including the cockpit and damage, starting at the initial point of impact, if possible, and any ground scars or marks made by the aircraft.
  - 1. Military aircraft may contain classified equipment and therefore shall not be photographed unless authorized by a military commanding officer (18 USC § 795).
- (d) Secure, if requested by the lead authority, any electronic data or video recorders from the aircraft that became dislodged or cell phones or other recording devices that are part of the wreckage.
- (e) Acquire copies of any recordings from security cameras that may have captured the incident.

#### **415.8.2 WITNESSES**

Members tasked with contacting witnesses should obtain:

- (a) The location of the witness at the time of his/her observation relative to the accident site.
- (b) A detailed description of what was observed or heard.
- (c) Any photographs or recordings of the accident witnesses may be willing to voluntarily surrender.
- (d) The names of all persons reporting the accident, even if not yet interviewed.
- (e) Any audio recordings of reports to 9-1-1 regarding the accident and dispatch records.

### **415.9 MEDIA RELATIONS**

The Public Information Officer (PIO) should coordinate a response to the media, including access issues, road closures, detours and any safety information that is pertinent to the surrounding community. Any release of information regarding details of the accident itself should

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be coordinated with the NTSB or other authority who may have assumed responsibility for the investigation.

Depending on the type of aircraft, the airline or the military may be responsible for family notifications and the release of victims' names. The PIO should coordinate with other involved entities before the release of information.



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## Field Training Officer Program

### 416.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Field Training Program is intended to provide a standardized program to facilitate the officer's transition from the academic setting to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties of the Aberdeen Police Department.

It is the policy of this department to assign all new police officers to a structured Field Training Officer Program that is designed to prepare the new officer to perform in a patrol assignment possessing all skills needed to operate in a safe, productive and professional manner.

### 416.2 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER SELECTION AND TRAINING

The Field Training Officer (FTO) is an experienced officer trained in the art of supervising, training and evaluating entry level and lateral police officers in the application of their previously acquired knowledge and skills.

#### 416.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

FTO's will be selected based on the following requirements:

- (a) Desire to be an FTO.
- (b) Minimum of four years of patrol experience, two of which shall be with this department.
- (c) Demonstrated ability as a positive role model.
  - 1. Last two performance evaluations must have been rated overall as acceptable and no "unsatisfactory" ratings in any category.
  - 2. Any inconsistent ratings in any category should be weighed as to category and supervisory comments.
- (d) Participate and pass an internal oral interview selection process.
- (e) Evaluation by supervisors and current FTO's.
- (f) Holds a valid Peace Officer Certificate with CJTC.
- (g) When more applicants than available positions exist the department reserves the right to determine best qualified officer(s) for current training needs.
- (h) Appointed by the Chief of Police

#### 416.2.2 TRAINING

An officer selected as a Field Training Officer shall successfully complete a CJTC Certified (40-hour) Field Training Officer's Course prior to being assigned as an FTO.

## *Field Training Officer Program*

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### **416.3 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR**

The Field Training Officer Program coordinator will be appointed by the Chief of Police .

The responsibilities of the FTO Program Supervisor include the following:

- (a) Assignment of trainees to FTOs.
- (b) Conduct FTO meetings.
- (c) Maintain and ensure FTO/Trainee performance evaluations are completed.
- (d) Maintain, update and issue the Field Training Manual to each trainee.
- (e) Monitor individual FTO performance.
- (f) Monitor overall FTO Program.
- (g) Maintain liaison with FTO Coordinators of other agencies.
- (h) Maintain liaison with academy staff on recruit performance during the academy.
- (i) Develop ongoing training for FTOs.

### **416.4 TRAINEE DEFINED**

Any entry level or lateral police officer newly appointed to the Aberdeen Police Department who has successfully completed a CJTC approved Basic Academy.

### **416.5 REQUIRED TRAINING**

Entry level officers shall be required to successfully complete the Field Training Program, consisting of approximately 14 weeks.

The training period for a lateral officers may be modified depending on the trainee's demonstrated performance and level of experience, but shall consist of a minimum of twelve weeks.

To the extent practicable, entry level and lateral officers should be assigned to a variety of Field Training Officers and shifts during their Field Training Program.

#### **416.5.1 FIELD TRAINING MANUAL**

Each new officer will be issued a Field Training Manual at the beginning of his/her Primary Training Phase. This manual is an outline of the subject matter and/or skills necessary to properly function as an officer with the Aberdeen Police Department. The officer shall become knowledgeable of the subject matter as outlined. He/she shall also become proficient with those skills as set forth in the manual.

The Field Training Manual will specifically cover those policies, procedures, rules and regulations enacted by the Aberdeen Police Department.

### **416.6 EVALUATIONS**

Evaluations are an important component of the training process and shall be completed as outlined below.

## *Field Training Officer Program*

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### 416.6.1 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER

The FTO will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Complete and submit a written evaluation on the performance of his/her assigned trainee to the FTO program supervisor on a daily basis.
- (b) Review the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations with the trainee each day.
- (c) Complete a detailed end-of-phase performance evaluation on his/her assigned trainee at the end of each phase of training.
- (d) Sign off all completed topics contained in the Field Training Manual, noting the method(s) of learning and evaluating the performance of his/her assigned trainee.

### 416.6.2 IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR

- (a) The Field Training Coordinator will review and approve the Daily Observation Reports and forward them to the Field Training Administrator.
- (b) The FTO Coordinator will complete a Weekly Performance Evaluation and forward it to the Field Training Administrator.

### 416.6.3 FIELD TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR

The Field Training Administrator will review and approve the Daily Observation Reports and Weekly Performance Evaluations submitted by the FTO Coordinator.

### 416.6.4 TRAINEE

At the completion of the Field Training Program, the trainee shall submit a confidential performance evaluation on each of their FTO's and on the Field Training Program to the Operations Division Commander.

## **416.7 DOCUMENTATION**

All documentation of the Field Training Program will be retained in the officer's training files and will consist of the following:

- (a) Daily Observation Reports.
- (b) End of phase evaluations.
- (c) A Certificate of Completion certifying that the trainee has successfully completed the required number of hours of field training.

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# Obtaining Air Support

## 417.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The use of a police helicopter can be invaluable in certain situations. This policy specifies potential situations where the use of a helicopter may be requested and the responsibilities for making a request.

## 417.2 REQUEST FOR HELICOPTER ASSISTANCE

If a supervisor or officer in charge of an incident determines that the use of a helicopter would be beneficial, a request to obtain helicopter assistance may be made to the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police.

It is anticipated that most operations and responses by the department will be required to be addressed without helicopter support.

Only the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police may authorize the request of a helicopter.

### 417.2.1 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ANOTHER AGENCY

After consideration and approval of the request for a helicopter, the Patrol Lieutenant, or his/her designee, will call the closest agency having helicopter support available. The Patrol Lieutenant on duty will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

### 417.2.2 CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE REQUESTED

Police helicopters may be requested under any of the following conditions:

- (a) When the helicopter is activated under existing mutual aid agreements.
- (b) Whenever the safety of law enforcement personnel is in jeopardy and the presence of the helicopters may reduce such hazard.
- (c) When the use of the helicopters will aid in the capture of a suspected fleeing felon whose continued freedom represents an ongoing threat to the community.
- (d) When a helicopter is needed to locate a person who has strayed or is lost and whose continued absence constitutes a serious health or safety hazard.
- (e) Vehicle pursuits.

While it is recognized that the availability of helicopter support will generally provide valuable assistance to ground personnel, the presence of a helicopter will rarely replace the need for officers on the ground.

## Contacts and Temporary Detentions

### 418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for temporarily detaining but not arresting persons in the field, conducting field interviews (FI) and pat-down searches, and the taking and disposition of photographs.

#### 418.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Consensual encounter** - When an officer contacts an individual but does not create a detention through words, actions, or other means. In other words, a reasonable individual would believe that his/her contact with the officer is voluntary.

**Field interview (FI)** - The brief detainment of an individual, whether on foot or in a vehicle, based on reasonable suspicion for the purposes of determining the individual's identity and resolving the officer's suspicions.

**Field photographs** - Posed photographs taken of a person during a contact, detention, or arrest in the field. Undercover surveillance photographs of an individual and recordings captured by the normal operation of a Mobile Audio Video (MAV) system, body-worn camera, or public safety camera when persons are not posed for the purpose of photographing are not considered field photographs.

**Pat-down search** - A type of search used by officers in the field to check an individual for dangerous weapons. It involves a thorough patting down of clothing to locate any weapons or dangerous items that could pose a danger to the officer, the detainee, or others.

**Reasonable suspicion** - When, under the totality of the circumstances, an officer has articulable facts that criminal activity may be afoot and a particular person is connected with that possible criminal activity.

**Temporary detention** - When an officer intentionally, through words, actions or physical force, causes an individual to reasonably believe he/she is required to restrict his/her movement without an actual arrest. Temporary detentions also occur when an officer actually restrains a person's freedom of movement.

### 418.2 FIELD INTERVIEWS

Based on observance of suspicious circumstances or upon information from investigation, an officer may initiate the stop of a person, and conduct an FI, when there is articulable, reasonable suspicion to do so. A person, however, shall not be detained longer than is reasonably necessary to resolve the officer's suspicion.

Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage consensual contacts. Frequent casual contact with consenting individuals is encouraged by the Aberdeen Police Department to strengthen community involvement, community awareness, and problem identification.

## *Contacts and Temporary Detentions*

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### **418.2.1 INITIATING A FIELD INTERVIEW**

When initiating the stop, the officer should be able to point to specific facts which, when considered with the totality of the circumstances, reasonably warrant the stop. Such facts include but are not limited to an individual's:

- (a) Appearance or demeanor suggesting that he/she is part of a criminal enterprise or is engaged in a criminal act.
- (b) Actions suggesting that he/she is engaged in a criminal activity.
- (c) Presence in an area at an inappropriate hour of the day or night.
- (d) Presence in a particular area is suspicious.
- (e) Carrying of suspicious objects or items.
- (f) Excessive clothes for the climate or clothes bulging in a manner that suggests he/she is carrying a dangerous weapon.
- (g) Location in proximate time and place to an alleged crime.
- (h) Physical description or clothing worn that matches a suspect in a recent crime.
- (i) Prior criminal record or involvement in criminal activity as known by the officer.

### **418.3 PAT-DOWN SEARCHES**

Once a valid stop has been made, and consistent with the officer's training and experience, an officer may pat a suspect's outer clothing for weapons if the officer has a reasonable, articulable suspicion the suspect may pose a safety risk. The purpose of this limited search is not to discover evidence of a crime, but to allow the officer to pursue the investigation without fear of violence. Circumstances that may establish justification for performing a pat-down search include but are not limited to the following:

- (a) The type of crime suspected, particularly in crimes of violence where the use or threat of deadly weapons is involved.
- (b) Where more than one suspect must be handled by a single officer.
- (c) The hour of the day and the location or neighborhood where the stop takes place.
- (d) Prior knowledge of the suspect's use of force and/or propensity to carry weapons.
- (e) The actions and demeanor of the suspect.
- (f) Visual indications which suggest that the suspect is carrying a firearm or other dangerous weapon.

Whenever practicable, pat-down searches should not be conducted by a lone officer. A cover officer should be positioned to ensure safety and should not be involved in the search.

### **418.4 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS**

All available databases should be searched before photographing any field detainee. If a photograph is not located, or if an existing photograph no longer resembles the detainee, the officer shall carefully consider, among other things, the factors listed below.

## *Contacts and Temporary Detentions*

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### **418.4.1 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITH CONSENT**

Field photographs may be taken when the subject of the photograph knowingly and voluntarily gives consent. When taking a consensual photograph, the officer should have the individual read and sign the appropriate form accompanying the photograph.

### **418.4.2 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITHOUT CONSENT**

Field photographs may be taken without consent only if they are taken during a detention that is based on reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, and the photograph serves a legitimate law enforcement purpose related to the detention. The officer must be able to articulate facts that reasonably indicate that the subject was involved in or was about to become involved in criminal conduct. The subject should not be ordered to remove or lift any clothing for the purpose of taking a photograph.

If, prior to taking a photograph, the officer's reasonable suspicion of criminal activity has been dispelled, the detention must cease and the photograph should not be taken.

### **418.4.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

While it is recognized that field photographs often become valuable investigative tools, supervisors should monitor such practices in view of the above listed considerations. This is not to imply that supervisor approval is required before each photograph is taken.

Access to, and use of, field photographs shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

### **418.4.4 DISPOSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

All detainee photographs must be adequately labeled and saved to the network with a case number. Documentation explaining the nature of the contact will be entered into Spillman under the corresponding case number.

When a photograph is taken in association with a particular case, the investigator may use such photograph in a photo lineup. Thereafter, the individual photograph should be retained as a part of the case file. All other photographs shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

## **418.5 POLICY**

The Aberdeen Police Department respects the right of the public to be free from unreasonable searches or seizures. Due to an unlimited variety of situations confronting the officer, the decision to temporarily detain a person and complete an FI, pat-down search, or field photograph shall be left to the officer based on the totality of the circumstances, officer safety considerations, and constitutional safeguards.

## **418.6 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS**

Because potential witnesses to an incident may become unavailable or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, officers should, when warranted by the

## *Contacts and Temporary Detentions*

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seriousness of the case, take reasonable steps to promptly coordinate with an on-scene supervisor and/or criminal investigator to utilize available members for the following:

- (a) Identifying all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.
  - 1. When feasible, a recorded statement should be obtained from those who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred.
  - 2. Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, officers should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.
- (b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a recorded statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by department members.
  - 1. A written, verbal or recorded statement of consent should be obtained prior to transporting a witness. When the witness is a minor, consent should be obtained from the parent or guardian, if available, prior to transport.



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# Criminal Organizations

## 419.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Aberdeen Police Department appropriately utilizes criminal intelligence systems and temporary information files to support investigations of criminal organizations and enterprises.

### 419.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Criminal intelligence system** - Any record system that receives, stores, exchanges or disseminates information that has been evaluated and determined to be relevant to the identification of a criminal organization or enterprise, its members or affiliates. This does not include temporary information files.

## 419.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes that certain criminal activities, including but not limited to gang crimes and drug trafficking, often involve some degree of regular coordination and may involve a large number of participants over a broad geographical area.

It is the policy of this department to collect and share relevant information while respecting the privacy and legal rights of the public.

## 419.3 CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS

No department member may create, submit to or obtain information from a criminal intelligence system unless the Chief of Police has approved the system for department use.

Any criminal intelligence system approved for department use should meet or exceed the standards of 28 CFR 23.20 and RCW 43.43.762.

A designated supervisor will be responsible for maintaining each criminal intelligence system that has been approved for department use. The supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure the following:

- (a) Members using any such system are appropriately selected and trained.
- (b) Use of every criminal intelligence system is appropriately reviewed and audited.
- (c) Any system security issues are reasonably addressed.

### 419.3.1 SYSTEM ENTRIES

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information from a report, FI, photo or other relevant document into an authorized criminal intelligence system. If entries are made based upon information that is not on file with this department, such as open or public source documents or documents that are on file at another agency, the designated supervisor should ensure copies of those documents are retained by the Records. Any supporting documentation

## *Criminal Organizations*

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for an entry shall be retained by the Records in accordance with the established records retention schedule and for at least as long as the entry is maintained in the system.

The designated supervisor should ensure that any documents retained by the Records are appropriately marked as intelligence information. The Special Assignments Officer may not purge such documents without the approval of the designated supervisor.

### **419.3.2 SYSTEM ENTRIES**

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information into a criminal intelligence system operated by the state patrol and authorized by RCW 43.43.762. Entries into such a database shall be based upon reasonable suspicion of criminal activity or actual criminal activity, and must be supported by documentation, where documentation is available (RCW 43.43.762(2)).

### **419.4 TEMPORARY INFORMATION FILE**

No member may create or keep files on individuals that are separate from the approved criminal intelligence system. However, members may maintain temporary information that is necessary to actively investigate whether a person or group qualifies for entry into the department-approved CIS only as provided in this section. Once information qualifies for inclusion, it should be submitted to the supervisor responsible for consideration of CIS entries.

#### **419.4.1 FILE CONTENTS**

A temporary information file may only contain information and documents that, within one year, will have a reasonable likelihood to meet the criteria for entry into an authorized criminal intelligence system.

Information and documents contained in a temporary information file:

- (a) Must only be included upon documented authorization of the responsible department supervisor.
- (b) Should not be originals that would ordinarily be retained by the Records or Evidence Room, but should be copies of, or references to, retained documents, such as copies of reports, field interview (FI) forms, Grays Harbor Communications records or booking forms.
- (c) Shall not include opinions. No person, organization or enterprise shall be labeled as being involved in crime beyond what is already in the document or information.
- (d) May include information collected from publicly available sources or references to documents on file with another government agency. Attribution identifying the source should be retained with the information.

## *Criminal Organizations*

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### **419.4.2 FILE REVIEW AND PURGING**

The contents of a temporary information file shall not be retained longer than one year. At the end of one year, the contents must be purged in compliance with the department records retention schedule or entered in an authorized criminal intelligence system, as applicable.

The designated supervisor shall periodically review the temporary information files to verify that the contents meet the criteria for retention. Validation and purging of files is the responsibility of the supervisor.

### **419.5 INFORMATION RECOGNITION**

Department members should document facts that suggest an individual, organization or enterprise is involved in criminal activity and should forward that information appropriately. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Gang indicia associated with a person or residence.
- (b) Information related to a drug-trafficking operation.
- (c) Vandalism indicating an animus for a particular group.
- (d) Information related to an illegal gambling operation.

Department supervisors who utilize an authorized criminal intelligence system should work with the Training Coordinator to train members to identify information that may be particularly relevant for inclusion.

### **419.6 RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

Department members shall comply with the rules of an authorized criminal intelligence system regarding inquiries and release of information.

Information from a temporary information file may only be furnished to department members and other law enforcement agencies on a need-to-know basis and consistent with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

When an inquiry is made by the parent or guardian of a juvenile as to whether that juvenile's name is in a temporary information file, such information should be provided by the supervisor responsible for the temporary information file, unless there is good cause to believe that the release of such information might jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation.

### **419.7 CRIMINAL STREET GANGS**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should ensure that there are an appropriate number of department members who can:

- (a) Testify as experts on matters related to criminal street gangs, and maintain an above average familiarity with identification of criminal street gangs, criminal street gang members and patterns of criminal gang activity.

## *Criminal Organizations*

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- (b) Train other members to identify gang indicia and investigate criminal street gang-related crimes.

### **419.8 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator should provide training on best practices in the use of each authorized criminal intelligence system to those tasked with investigating criminal organizations and enterprises. Training should include:

- (a) The protection of civil liberties
- (b) Participation in a multi-agency criminal intelligence system.
- (c) Submission of information into a multi-agency criminal intelligence system or the receipt of information from such a system, including any governing federal and state rules and statutes.
- (d) The type of information appropriate for entry into a criminal intelligence system or temporary information file.
- (e) The review and purging of temporary information files.
- (f) All users of the Washington criminal street gang database shall receive training on its use prior to accessing the database (RCW 43.43.762).

## Patrol Lieutenants

### **420.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Each patrol shift must be directed by supervisors or Acting Supervisors who are capable of making decisions and communicating in a manner consistent with department policies, procedures, practices, functions and objectives. To accomplish this goal, a Lieutenant heads each watch.

### **420.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING PATROL LIEUTENANT**

When a Lieutenant is unavailable for duty as Patrol Lieutenant, at the discretion of the Chief of Police, an Acting Patrol Lieutenant should be designated.

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# Mobile Data Terminal Use

## 421.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper access, use and application of the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) system in order to ensure appropriate access to confidential records from local, state and national law enforcement databases, and to ensure effective electronic communications between department members and Grays Harbor Communications.

## 421.2 POLICY

Aberdeen Police Department members using the MDT shall comply with all appropriate federal and state rules and regulations and shall use the MDT in a professional manner, in accordance with this policy.

## 421.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to messages accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

### 421.3.1 WORD PROCESSING

Word processing functions, i.e., report writing should be conducted as time permits on the MDT. To comply with current procedures, reports generated on an MDT should be saved using the department issued USB keys and then uploaded into the department network. The issued USB keys are the only file transfer/storage devices approved for use between the MDT and the department network and are for official use only.

## 421.4 RESTRICTED ACCESS AND USE

MDT use is subject to the Information Technology Use and Protected Information policies.

Members shall not access the MDT system if they have not received prior authorization and the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of the MDT by another member to their supervisors or Patrol Lieutenants.

Use of the MDT system to access law enforcement databases or transmit messages is restricted to official activities, business-related tasks and communications that are directly related to the business, administration or practices of the Department. In the event that a member has questions about sending a particular message or accessing a particular database, the member should seek prior approval from his/her supervisor.

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive, harassing or any other inappropriate messages on the MDT system is prohibited and may result in discipline.

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message or access a law enforcement database under another member's name or to use the password of another member to log in to the MDT system unless directed to do so by a supervisor. Members are required to log off the MDT or secure

## *Mobile Data Terminal Use*

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the MDT when it is unattended. This added security measure will minimize the potential for unauthorized access or misuse.

### **421.4.1 USE WHILE DRIVING**

Use of the MDT by the vehicle operator should be limited to times when the vehicle is stopped. Information that is required for immediate enforcement, investigative, tactical or safety needs should be transmitted over the radio.

### **421.5 DOCUMENTATION OF ACTIVITY**

Except as otherwise directed by the Patrol Lieutenant or other department-established protocol, all calls for service assigned by a dispatcher should be communicated by voice over the police radio and electronically via the MDT unless security or confidentiality prevents such broadcasting.

MDT and voice transmissions are used to document the member's daily activity. To ensure accuracy:

- (a) All contacts or activity shall be documented at the time of the contact.
- (b) Whenever the activity or contact is initiated by voice, it should be documented by a dispatcher.
- (c) Whenever the activity or contact is not initiated by voice, the member shall document it via the MDT.

#### **421.5.1 STATUS CHANGES**

All changes in status (e.g., arrival at scene, meal periods, in service) will be transmitted over the police radio or through the MDT system.

Members responding to in-progress calls should advise changes in status over the radio to assist other members responding to the same incident. Other changes in status can be made on the MDT when the vehicle is not in motion.

#### **421.5.2 EMERGENCY ACTIVATION**

If there is an emergency activation and the member does not respond to a request for confirmation of the need for emergency assistance or confirms the need, available resources will be sent to assist in locating the member. If the location is known, the nearest available officer should respond in accordance with the Officer Response to Calls Policy.

Members should ensure a field supervisor and the Patrol Lieutenant are notified of the incident without delay.

Officers not responding to the emergency shall refrain from transmitting on the police radio until a no-further-assistance broadcast is made or if they are also handling an emergency.

### **421.6 EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

## *Mobile Data Terminal Use*

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### 421.6.1 MALFUNCTIONING MDT

Whenever possible, members will not use vehicles with malfunctioning MDTs. Whenever members must drive a vehicle in which the MDT is not working, they shall notify Grays Harbor Communications.

### 421.6.2 BOMB CALLS

When investigating reports of possible bombs, members should not communicate on their MDTs when in the evacuation area of a suspected explosive device. Radio frequency emitted by the MDT could cause some devices to detonate.



# Medical Marijuana

## 422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of this department with guidelines for handling and distinguishing between claims of medical marijuana use under Washington's Medical Use of Cannabis Act and criminal controlled substance violations (RCW 69.51A.005 et seq.).

### 422.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (RCW 69.51A.010):

**Authorization** - Documentation that is signed and dated by a qualifying patient's health care professional, authorizing use of medical marijuana.

**Designated provider** - A person who:

- Is 21 years of age or older and is the parent or guardian of a qualifying patient who is 17 years of age or younger and holds a recognition card.
- Has been designated in writing by a qualifying patient to serve as the designated provider for that patient.
- Has an authorization from the qualifying patient's health care professional.
- Has been entered into the medical marijuana authorization database as being the designated provider to a qualifying patient and has been provided a recognition card.

An individual can act as a designated provider to no more than one patient at a time and is prohibited from consuming marijuana obtained for the use of the qualifying patient and may only provide marijuana to the patient designated to the provider.

**Medical use of marijuana** - The manufacture, production, possession, transportation, delivery, ingestion, application or administration of marijuana for the exclusive benefit of a qualifying patient in the treatment of his/her terminal or debilitating medical condition.

**Qualifying patient** - Any person who meets all of the following criteria:

- Has been diagnosed by his/her health care professional as having a terminal or a debilitating medical condition.
- Is a resident of the state of Washington at the time of such diagnosis.
- Has been advised by his/her health care professional about the risks and benefits of the medical use of marijuana.
- Has been advised by the health care professional that he/she may benefit from the medical use of marijuana or has been entered into the medical marijuana authorization database and has been provided a recognition card.
- Has an authorization from his/her health care professional.
- Is not under supervision for a crime that does not allow for the use of medical marijuana.

## *Medical Marijuana*

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**Recognition Card** - A card issued to qualifying patients and designated providers by a marijuana retailer with a medical marijuana endorsement that has entered them into the medical marijuana authorization database.

### **422.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to prioritize resources to avoid making arrests related to marijuana that the arresting officer reasonably believes would not be prosecuted by state or federal authorities.

Washington medical marijuana laws are intended to provide protection from prosecution for those who use, possess, deliver or produce marijuana to mitigate the symptoms of certain debilitating or terminal medical conditions. However, Washington medical marijuana laws do not affect federal laws and there is no medical exception under federal law for the possession or distribution of marijuana.

Officers should exercise discretion to ensure laws are appropriately enforced without unreasonably burdening both the individuals protected under Washington law and the resources of the Department.

### **422.3 INVESTIGATION**

Investigations involving the possession, delivery or production of marijuana generally fall into one of several categories:

- (a) No medicinal claim is made.
- (b) A medicinal claim is made by a qualifying patient or designated provider who is in possession of amounts within the limits designated by RCW 69.51A.040.
- (c) A medicinal claim is made by a qualifying patient or designated provider who is in possession of amounts exceeding the limits designated by RCW 69.51A.040 or who presented no authorization when initially contacted.

#### **422.3.1 INVESTIGATIONS WITH NO MEDICINAL CLAIM**

In any investigation involving the possession, delivery or production of marijuana where there is no claim that the marijuana is for medicinal purposes, the officer should proceed with reasonable enforcement action. A medicinal defense may be raised at any time, so officers should document any statements and observations that may be relevant to whether the marijuana is possessed or produced for medicinal purposes.

#### **422.3.2 MEDICAL CLAIMS BY QUALIFYING PATIENTS OR DESIGNATED PROVIDERS**

A qualifying patient or designated provider who was entered into the medical marijuana authorization database and who possesses a valid recognition card should not be arrested or cited if he/she possesses no more than six plants in his/her residence with up to 8 ounces of useable marijuana from these plants and any of the following (RCW 69.51A.040; RCW 69.51A.043):

- (a) 48 ounces of marijuana-infused product in solid form

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- (b) 3 ounces of useable marijuana
- (c) 216 ounces of marijuana-infused product in liquid form
- (d) 21 grams of marijuana concentrates

A qualifying patient may be allowed to possess up to 15 plants with up to 16 ounces of useable marijuana in his/her residence for the personal medical use of the patient with appropriate health care professional authorization (RCW 69.51A.210).

Qualifying patients and designated providers may only purchase marijuana at a retail outlet at the same quantities as non-patients (RCW 69.50.360) if they do not have the appropriate authorization (RCW 69.51A.210). Qualifying patients and designated providers may purchase immature plants or clones as defined in RCW 69.50.101 and marijuana seeds from a licensed marijuana producer (RCW 69.51A.310).

If a person is both a qualifying patient and a designated provider for another, he/she may possess no more than double the amounts described above (RCW 69.51A.040(1)).

Officers may take enforcement action against a designated provider even when the above thresholds are not exceeded if there is evidence that the provider has converted the marijuana for his/her personal use or benefit or has provided for more than one patient within a 15-day period (RCW 69.51A.040).

Officers may take enforcement action against a qualifying patient even when the above thresholds are not exceeded if there is evidence that the patient possesses or uses the marijuana for his/her personal, non-medical use or benefit (RCW 69.51A.040).

### 422.3.3 EXCESS AMOUNTS OR NO AUTHORIZATION

A qualifying patient or designated provider may raise an affirmative defense to charges that the amount of marijuana in his/her possession exceeds the amount legally allowed by RCW 69.51A.040 or that he/she presented no authorization when initially contacted by law enforcement (RCW 69.51A.045).

Officers should conduct a thorough investigation in such cases, but in general, should not arrest a subject for possession, delivery or production of marijuana if an excess amount appears reasonable based upon the above policy considerations. Similarly, if an officer can verify that authorization exists, even though a recognition card was not presented or obtained by a qualified patient or designated provider, an arrest generally should not be made (RCW 69.51A.043).

All facts should be thoroughly documented and if evidence is not seized, it shall be photographed and detailed in the report.

### 422.3.4 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Prior to making a physical arrest or confiscating cannabis plants, usable cannabis, or product, officers should consider the following:

- (a) Whenever the initial investigation reveals an amount greater than specified by law, officers should, in anticipation of an affirmative defense, consider and document:

## *Medical Marijuana*

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1. The medical condition itself.
  2. The quality of the marijuana (chemical content).
  3. The method of ingestion (e.g., smoking, eating, nebulizer).
  4. The timing of the possession in relation to a harvest (patient may be storing marijuana).
  5. Whether the marijuana is being cultivated indoors or outdoors, and the climate.
- (b) Before proceeding with enforcement related to collective gardens, cooperatives, or commercial producers, officers should consider conferring with appropriate legal counsel and the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board for license-related issues (WAC 314-55-410).
- (c) Medical use and possession of marijuana authorized under the Washington medical marijuana statute does not support the forfeiture of property as set forth in the Asset Forfeiture Policy (RCW 69.51A.050).
- (d) Laws and regulations do provide for the cultivation of industrial hemp. The Washington State Department of Agriculture should be contacted should questions arise regarding possible industrial hemp activity (RCW 15.140.030).
- (e) A medical endorsement can be added to a marijuana retail license to allow a retailer to sell marijuana for medical use to qualifying patients and designated providers. Transaction limits apply (WAC 314-55-080; WAC 314-55-095).
- (f) The Washington State Department of Health maintains a Medical Marijuana Authorization Database and regulates marijuana retail outlets with medical marijuana endorsements. This database may be accessed by authorized law enforcement officials for specific criminal investigations (WAC 246-71-010 et seq.).

### **422.4 EXCEPTIONS**

This policy does not apply to the following offenses; officers may take enforcement action if the person (RCW 69.51A.060):

- (a) Engages in the medical use of marijuana in a way that endangers the health or well-being of any person through the use of a motorized vehicle on a street, road, or highway, including violations of RCW 46.61.502 or RCW 46.61.504, or equivalent local ordinances.
- (b) Uses or displays medical marijuana in a manner or place open to the view of the public.
- (c) Produces fraudulent documentation.

### **422.5 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Officers may exchange information regarding a marijuana investigation with federal law enforcement authorities when information is requested by federal law enforcement authorities or whenever the officer reasonably believes federal law enforcement authorities would request the information if the authorities were aware of the information.

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### **422.6 EVIDENCE ROOM SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Evidence Room Supervisor shall ensure that marijuana, drug paraphernalia or other related property seized from a person engaged or assisting in the use of medical marijuana is not destroyed.

Upon a determination by the prosecuting attorney that the person from whom marijuana, drug paraphernalia or related property was seized is entitled to possession under the law, the Evidence Room Supervisor should return to that person any usable marijuana, plants, drug paraphernalia or other seized property. That determination is the result of a decision not to prosecute, by the dismissal of charges or an acquittal.

The Evidence Room Supervisor may destroy marijuana that was alleged to be for medical purposes upon receipt of a court order.

The Evidence Room Supervisor may release marijuana to federal law enforcement authorities upon presentation of a valid court order or by a written order of the Investigation Unit Supervisor.

## Bicycle Patrol Unit

### 423.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Aberdeen Police Department has established the Bicycle Patrol Unit (BPU) for the purpose of enhancing patrol efforts in the community. Bicycle patrol has been shown to be an effective way to increase officer visibility in congested areas and their quiet operation can provide a tactical approach to crimes in progress. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the safe and effective operation of the patrol bicycle.

### 423.2 POLICY

Patrol bicycles may be used for regular patrol duty, traffic enforcement, parking control, or special events. The use of the patrol bicycle will emphasize their mobility and visibility to the community.

Bicycles may be deployed to any area at all hours of the day or night, according to department needs and as staffing levels allow.

Requests for specific deployment of bicycle patrol officers shall be coordinated through the Patrol Lieutenant.

### 423.3 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a change of assignment request to their appropriate Division Commander. Qualified applicants will then be invited to an oral interview. Interested personnel shall be evaluated by the following criteria:

- (a) Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.
- (b) Special skills or training as it pertains to the assignment.
- (c) Good physical condition.
- (d) Willingness to perform duties using the bicycle as a mode of transportation.

### 423.4 TRAINING

Participants in the program must complete an initial department-approved bicycle-training course after acceptance into the program. Thereafter bicycle patrol officers should receive twice yearly in-service training to improve skills and refresh safety, health and operational procedures. The initial training shall minimally include the following:

- Bicycle patrol strategies.
- Bicycle safety and accident prevention.
- Operational tactics using bicycles.

Bicycle patrol officers will be required to qualify with their duty firearm while wearing bicycle safety equipment including the helmet and riding gloves.

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### **423.5 UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**

Officers shall wear the department-approved uniform and safety equipment while operating the department bicycle. Safety equipment includes department-approved helmet, riding gloves, protective eyewear and approved footwear.

The bicycle patrol unit uniform consists of the department-approved bicycle patrol shirt with department badge and patches and department-approved bicycle patrol pants or shorts.

Optional equipment includes jacket in colder weather, turtleneck shirts or sweaters when worn under the uniform shirt, and a radio head set and microphone.

Bicycle patrol officers shall carry the same equipment on the bicycle patrol duty belt as they would on a regular patrol assignment.

Officers will be responsible for obtaining the necessary forms, citation books and other department equipment needed while on bicycle patrol.

### **423.6 CARE AND USE OF PATROL BICYCLES**

Officers will be assigned a specially marked and equipped patrol bicycle, attached gear bag, two batteries, and a charger.

Bicycles are considered vehicles and are subject to laws, regulations, and privileges applicable to the operation of vehicles upon the highway (RCW 46.04.670).

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be primarily black or white with a police decal affixed to each side of the crossbar or the bike's saddlebag. Every such bicycle shall be equipped with front lights and rear reflectors or lights, and brakes satisfying the requirements of RCW 46.61.780.

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be equipped with a rear rack and/or saddle bags sufficient to carry all necessary equipment to handle routine patrol calls including report writing, vehicle storage, and citations.

Each bicycle gear bag shall include a first aid kit, tire pump, repair tool, tire tube, security lock, equipment information, and use manuals. These items are to remain with/on the bicycle at all times.

Each bicycle shall be equipped with at least one blue lamp and a siren capable of giving an audible signal (RCW 46.37.190; WAC 204-21-130).

Bicycle officers shall conduct an inspection of the bicycle and equipment prior to use to insure proper working order of the equipment. Officers are responsible for the routine care and maintenance of their assigned equipment (e.g., tire pressure, chain lubrication, overall cleaning).

If a needed repair is beyond the ability of the bicycle officer, a repair work order will be completed and forwarded to the program supervisor for repair by an approved technician.

Each bicycle will have scheduled maintenance twice yearly to be performed by a department-approved repair shop/technician.

## *Bicycle Patrol Unit*

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At the end of a bicycle assignment, the bicycle shall be returned clean and ready for the next tour of duty.

Electric patrol bicycle batteries shall be rotated on the assigned charger at the end of each tour of duty. During prolonged periods of non-use, each officer assigned an electric bicycle shall periodically rotate the batteries on the respective charges to increase battery life.

Officers shall not modify the patrol bicycle, remove, modify, or add components except with the expressed approval of the bicycle supervisor, or in the event of an emergency.

Vehicle bicycle racks are available should the officer need to transport the patrol bicycle. Due to possible component damage, transportation of the patrol bicycle in a trunk or on a patrol car push-bumper is discouraged.

Bicycles shall be properly secured when not in the officer's immediate presence.

### **423.7 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY**

Officers must operate the bicycle in compliance with applicable codes under normal operation. Officers may operate the bicycle without lighting equipment during hours of darkness when such operation reasonably appears necessary for officer safety and/or tactical considerations. Officers must use caution and care when operating the bicycle without lighting equipment.

It shall be the policy of this department that all other bicycle operation shall be in compliance with the rules of the road except when responding to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator. An emergency response or pursuit shall be conducted only with emergency lights and siren and under the conditions required by RCW 46.61.035 and with due regard and caution for the safety of all persons using the highway as required by RCW 46.61.035(4).



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## Goldberg Family Charitable Foundation Fund

### 424.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the fund is to allow ready access to monies in order to accommodate persons in distress who find themselves stranded or otherwise in need of, but not limited to, shelter, food or clothing. The amount designated for this fund is \$1,000.

- (a) The Patrol Section Commander is delegated the authority and responsibility for the safekeeping of this fund, and all accounting and records keeping. Reimbursement shall be requested from the Foundation. An internal audit of the fund shall be completed by the Patrol Section Commander each time the fund is replenished and at least quarterly. Audit reports shall be issued to the Foundation directors and on an annual basis outlining any expenditures and the purpose of those expenditures.
- (b) Due to the wide variety of circumstances in which this fund may be used, expenditures shall be authorized by the Patrol Section Commander, Patrol Lieutenant, or on-duty Patrol Supervisor. The supervisor authorizing the expenditure shall record the expenditure in the provided ledger stored with the funds.

## Foot Pursuits

### 425.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to assist officers in making the decision to initiate or continue the pursuit of suspects on foot.

### 425.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department that officers, when deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, continuously balance the objective of apprehending the suspect with the risk and potential for injury to department members, the public or the suspect.

Officers are expected to act reasonably, based on the totality of the circumstances.

### 425.3 DECISION TO PURSUE

The safety of department members and the public should be the primary consideration when determining whether a foot pursuit should be initiated or continued. Officers must be mindful that immediate apprehension of a suspect is rarely more important than the safety of the public and department members.

Officers may be justified in initiating a foot pursuit of any individual that the officer reasonably believes is about to engage in, is engaging in or has engaged in criminal activity. The decision to initiate or continue such a foot pursuit, however, must be continuously re-evaluated in light of the circumstances presented at the time.

Mere flight by a person who is not suspected of criminal activity alone shall not serve as justification for engaging in an extended foot pursuit without the development of reasonable suspicion regarding the individual's involvement in criminal activity or being wanted by law enforcement.

Deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit is a decision that an officer must make quickly and under unpredictable and dynamic circumstances. It is recognized that foot pursuits may place department members and the public at significant risk. Therefore, no officer or supervisor shall be criticized or disciplined for deciding not to engage in a foot pursuit because of the perceived risk involved.

If circumstances permit, surveillance and containment are generally the safest tactics for apprehending fleeing persons. In deciding whether to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, an officer should continuously consider reasonable alternatives to a foot pursuit based upon the circumstances and resources available, such as:

- (a) Containment of the area.
- (b) Saturation of the area with law enforcement personnel, including assistance from other agencies.
- (c) A canine search.
- (d) Thermal imaging or other sensing technology.

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- (e) Air support.
- (f) Apprehension at another time when the identity of the suspect is known or there is information available that would likely allow for later apprehension, and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect does not reasonably appear to outweigh the risk of continuing the foot pursuit.

### **425.4 GENERAL GUIDELINES**

When reasonably practicable, officers should consider alternatives to engaging in or continuing a foot pursuit when:

- (a) Directed by a supervisor to terminate the foot pursuit; such an order shall be considered mandatory.
- (b) The officer is acting alone.
- (c) Two or more officers become separated, lose visual contact with one another or obstacles separate them to the degree that they cannot immediately assist each other should a confrontation take place. In such circumstances, it is generally recommended that a single officer keep the suspect in sight from a safe distance and coordinate the containment effort.
- (d) The officer is unsure of his/her location and direction of travel.
- (e) The officer is pursuing multiple suspects and it is not reasonable to believe that the officer would be able to control the suspect should a confrontation occur.
- (f) The physical condition of the officer renders him/her incapable of controlling the suspect if apprehended.
- (g) The officer loses radio contact with the dispatcher or with assisting or backup officers.
- (h) The suspect enters a building, structure, confined space, isolated area or dense or difficult terrain, and there are insufficient officers to provide backup and containment. The primary officer should consider discontinuing the foot pursuit and coordinating containment pending the arrival of sufficient resources.
- (i) The officer becomes aware of unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances that unreasonably increase the risk to officers or the public.
- (j) The officer reasonably believes that the danger to the pursuing officers or public outweighs the objective of immediate apprehension.
- (k) The officer loses possession of his/her firearm or other essential equipment.
- (l) The officer or a third party is injured during the foot pursuit, requiring immediate assistance, and there are no other emergency personnel available to render assistance.
- (m) The suspect's location is no longer known.
- (n) The identity of the suspect is established or other information exists that will allow for the suspect's apprehension at a later time, and it reasonably appears that there is no immediate threat to department members or the public if the suspect is not immediately apprehended.

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- (o) The officer's ability to safely continue the foot pursuit is impaired by inclement weather, darkness or other environmental conditions.

### **425.5 RESPONSIBILITIES IN FOOT PURSUITS**

#### **425.5.1 INITIATING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Unless relieved by another officer or a supervisor, the initiating officer shall be responsible for coordinating the progress of the pursuit and containment. When acting alone and when practicable, the initiating officer should not attempt to overtake and confront the suspect but should attempt to keep the suspect in sight until sufficient officers are present to safely apprehend the suspect.

Early communication of available information from the involved officers is essential so that adequate resources can be coordinated and deployed to bring a foot pursuit to a safe conclusion. Officers initiating a foot pursuit should, at a minimum, broadcast the following information as soon as it becomes practicable and available:

- (a) Location and direction of travel
- (b) Call sign identifier
- (c) Reason for the foot pursuit, such as the crime classification
- (d) Number of suspects and description, to include name if known
- (e) Whether the suspect is known or believed to be armed with a dangerous weapon

Officers should be mindful that radio transmissions made while running may be difficult to understand and may need to be repeated.

Absent extenuating circumstances, any officer unable to promptly and effectively broadcast this information should terminate the foot pursuit. If the foot pursuit is discontinued for any reason, immediate efforts for containment should be established and alternatives considered based upon the circumstances and available resources.

When a foot pursuit terminates, the officer will notify the dispatcher of his/her location and the status of the foot pursuit termination (e.g., suspect in custody, lost sight of suspect), and will direct further actions as reasonably appear necessary, to include requesting medical aid as needed for officers, suspects or members of the public.

#### **425.5.2 ASSISTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Whenever any officer announces that he/she is engaged in a foot pursuit, all other officers should minimize non-essential radio traffic to permit the involved officers maximum access to the radio frequency.

#### **425.5.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon becoming aware of a foot pursuit, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to ascertain sufficient information to direct responding resources and to take command, control and coordination of the foot pursuit. The supervisor should respond to the area whenever possible;

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the supervisor does not, however, need to be physically present to exercise control over the foot pursuit. The supervisor shall continuously assess the situation in order to ensure the foot pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.

The supervisor shall terminate the foot pursuit when the danger to pursuing officers or the public appears to unreasonably outweigh the objective of immediate apprehension of the suspect.

Upon apprehension of the suspect, the supervisor shall promptly proceed to the termination point to direct the post-foot pursuit activity.

### **425.6 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The initiating officer shall complete appropriate crime/arrest reports documenting, at a minimum:

- (a) Date and time of the foot pursuit.
- (b) Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the foot pursuit.
- (c) Course and approximate distance of the foot pursuit.
- (d) Alleged offenses.
- (e) Involved vehicles and officers.
- (f) Whether a suspect was apprehended as well as the means and methods used.
  - 1. Any use of force shall be reported and documented in compliance with the Use of Force Policy.
- (g) Arrestee information, if applicable.
- (h) Any injuries and/or medical treatment.
- (i) Any property or equipment damage.
- (j) Name of the supervisor at the scene or who handled the incident.
- (k) A preliminary determination that the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy or that additional review and/or follow-up is warranted.

Assisting officers taking an active role in the apprehension of the suspect shall complete supplemental reports as necessary or as directed.

In any case in which a suspect is not apprehended and there is insufficient information to support further investigation, a supervisor may authorize that the initiating officer need not complete a formal report.

# Homeless Persons

## 426.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that personnel understand the needs and rights of the homeless and to establish procedures to guide officers during all contacts with the homeless, whether consensual or for enforcement purposes. The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes that members of the homeless community are often in need of special protection and services. The Aberdeen Police Department will address these needs in balance with the overall missions of this department. Therefore, officers will consider the following policy sections when serving the homeless community (see the Emergency Detentions Policy).

### 426.1.1 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to provide law enforcement services to all members of the community while protecting the rights, dignity and private property of the homeless. Homelessness is not a crime and members of this department will not use homelessness solely as a basis for detention or law enforcement action.

## 426.2 HOMELESS COMMUNITY LIAISON

The Chief of Police will designate a member of this department to act as the Homeless Liaison Officer. The responsibilities of the Homeless Liaison Officer include the following:

- (a) Maintain and make available to all department employees a list of assistance programs and other resources that are available to the homeless.
- (b) Meet with Social Services and representatives of other organizations that render assistance to the homeless.
- (c) Maintain a list of those areas within and near this jurisdiction that are used as frequent homeless encampments.
- (d) Remain abreast of laws dealing with the removal and/or destruction of the personal property of the homeless. This will include the following:
  - 1. Proper posting of notices of trespass and clean-up operations.
  - 2. Proper retention of property after clean-up, to include procedures for owners to reclaim their property in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy and other established procedures.
- (e) Be present during any clean-up operation conducted by this department involving the removal of personal property of the homeless to ensure the rights of the homeless are not violated.
- (f) Develop training to assist officers in understanding current legal and social issues relating to the homeless.

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### **426.3 FIELD CONTACTS**

Officers are encouraged to contact the homeless for purposes of rendering aid, support and for community-oriented policing purposes. Nothing in this policy is meant to dissuade an officer from taking reasonable enforcement action when facts support a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity. However, when encountering a homeless person who has committed a non-violent misdemeanor and continued freedom is not likely to result in a continuation of the offense or a breach of the peace, officers are encouraged to consider long-term solutions to problems that may relate to the homeless, such as shelter referrals and counseling in lieu of physical arrest.

Officers should provide homeless persons with resource and assistance information whenever it is reasonably apparent such services may be appropriate.

#### **426.3.1 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Homeless members of the community will receive the same level and quality of service provided to other members of the community. The fact that a victim or witness is homeless can, however, require special considerations for a successful investigation and prosecution. Officers should consider the following when handling investigations involving homeless victims, witnesses or suspects:

- (a) Document alternate contact information. This may include obtaining addresses and phone numbers of relatives and friends.
- (b) Document places the homeless person may frequent.
- (c) Provide homeless victims with victim/witness resources when appropriate.
- (d) Obtain statements from all available witnesses in the event a homeless victim is unavailable for a court appearance.
- (e) Consider whether the person may be a vulnerable adult and if so, proceed in accordance with the Adult Abuse Policy.
- (f) Arrange for transportation for investigation-related matters, such as medical exams and court appearances.
- (g) Consider whether a crime should be reported and submitted for prosecution even when a homeless victim indicates he/she does not desire prosecution.
- (h) Document any facts indicating that the offense was intentionally committed because the victim was homeless or perceived to be homeless (RCW 9.94A.535).

### **426.4 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The personal property of homeless persons must not be treated differently than the property of other members of the public. Officers should use reasonable care when handling, collecting and retaining the personal property of homeless persons and should not destroy or discard the personal property of a homeless person.

## *Homeless Persons*

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When a homeless person is arrested, or otherwise removed from a public place, officers should make reasonable accommodations to permit the person to lawfully secure his/her personal property. Otherwise, the personal property should be collected for safekeeping. If the arrestee has more personal property than can reasonably be collected and transported by the officer, a supervisor should be consulted. The property should be photographed and measures should be taken to remove or secure the property. It will be the supervisor's responsibility to coordinate the removal and safekeeping of the property.

Officers should not conduct or assist in clean-up operations of belongings that reasonably appear to be the property of homeless persons without the prior authorization of a supervisor or the department Homeless Liaison Officer. When practicable, requests by the public for clean-up operations of a homeless encampment should be referred to the Homeless Liaison Officer.

Officers who encounter unattended encampments, bedding or other personal property in public areas that reasonably appears to belong to a homeless person should not remove or destroy such property and should inform the department Homeless Liaison Officer if such property appears to involve a trespass, blight to the community or is the subject of a complaint. It will be the responsibility of the Homeless Liaison Officer to address the matter in a timely fashion.

### **426.5 MENTAL ILLNESSES AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENTS**

Some homeless persons may suffer from a mental illness or a mental impairment. Officers shall not detain a homeless person under a mental illness commitment unless facts and circumstances warrant such a detention.

When a mental illness detention is not warranted, the contacting officer should provide the homeless person with contact information for mental health assistance as appropriate. In these circumstances, officers may provide transportation to a mental health specialist if requested by the person and approved by a supervisor.

### **426.6 ECOLOGICAL ISSUES**

Sometimes homeless encampments can impact the ecology and natural resources of the community and may involve criminal offenses beyond mere littering. Officers are encouraged to notify other appropriate agencies or departments when a significant impact to the environment has or is likely to occur. Significant impacts to the environment may warrant a crime report, investigation, supporting photographs and supervisor notification.



# Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity

## 427.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for handling situations in which members of the public photograph or audio/video record law enforcement actions and other public activities that involve members of this department. In addition, this policy provides guidelines for situations where the recordings may be evidence.

## 427.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes the right of persons to lawfully record members of this department who are performing their official duties. Members of this department will not prohibit or intentionally interfere with such lawful recordings. Any recordings that are deemed to be evidence of a crime or relevant to an investigation will only be collected or seized lawfully.

Officers should exercise restraint and should not resort to highly discretionary arrests for offenses such as interference, failure to comply or disorderly conduct as a means of preventing someone from exercising the right to record members performing their official duties.

## 427.3 RECORDING LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Members of the public who wish to record law enforcement activities are limited only in certain aspects.

- (a) Recordings may be made from any public place or any private property where the individual has the legal right to be present.
- (b) Beyond the act of photographing or recording, individuals may not interfere with the law enforcement activity. Examples of interference include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Tampering with a witness or suspect.
  - 2. Inciting others to violate the law.
  - 3. Being so close to the activity as to present a clear safety hazard to the officers.
  - 4. Being so close to the activity as to interfere with an officer's effective communication with a suspect or witness.
- (c) The individual may not present an undue safety risk to the officers, him/herself or others.

## 427.4 OFFICER RESPONSE

Officers should promptly request that a supervisor respond to the scene whenever it appears that anyone recording activities may be interfering with an investigation or it is believed that the recording may be evidence. If practicable, officers should wait for the supervisor to arrive before taking enforcement action or seizing any cameras or recording media.

Whenever practicable, officers or supervisors should give clear and concise warnings to individuals who are conducting themselves in a manner that would cause their recording or

## *Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity*

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behavior to be unlawful. Accompanying the warnings should be clear directions on what an individual can do to be compliant; directions should be specific enough to allow compliance. For example, rather than directing an individual to clear the area, an officer could advise the person that he/she may continue observing and recording from the sidewalk across the street.

If an arrest or other significant enforcement activity is taken as the result of a recording that interferes with law enforcement activity, officers shall document in a report the nature and extent of the interference or other unlawful behavior and the warnings that were issued.

### **427.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

A supervisor should respond to the scene when requested or any time the circumstances indicate a likelihood of interference or other unlawful behavior.

The supervisor should review the situation with the officer and:

- (a) Request any additional assistance as needed to ensure a safe environment.
- (b) Take a lead role in communicating with individuals who are observing or recording regarding any appropriate limitations on their location or behavior. When practical, the encounter should be recorded.
- (c) When practicable, allow adequate time for individuals to respond to requests for a change of location or behavior.
- (d) Ensure that any enforcement, seizure or other actions are consistent with this policy and constitutional and state law.
- (e) Explain alternatives for individuals who wish to express concern about the conduct of Department members, such as how and where to file a complaint.

### **427.6 SEIZING RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE**

Officers should not seize recording devices or media unless (42 USC § 2000aa):

- (a) There is probable cause to believe the person recording has committed or is committing a crime to which the recording relates, and the recording is reasonably necessary for prosecution of the person.
  - 1. Absent exigency or consent, a warrant should be sought before seizing or viewing such recordings. Reasonable steps may be taken to prevent erasure of the recording.
- (b) There is reason to believe that the immediate seizure of such recordings is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death of any person.
- (c) The person consents.
  - 1. To ensure that the consent is voluntary, the request should not be made in a threatening or coercive manner.
  - 2. If the original recording is provided, a copy of the recording should be provided to the recording party, if practicable. The recording party should be permitted to be present while the copy is being made, if feasible. Another way to obtain the

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evidence is to transmit a copy of the recording from a device to a department-owned device.

Recording devices and media that are seized will be submitted within the guidelines of the Property and Evidence Policy.

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# First Amendment Assemblies

## 428.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for responding to public assemblies or demonstrations.

## 428.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department respects the rights of people to peaceably assemble. It is the policy of this department not to unreasonably interfere with, harass, intimidate or discriminate against persons engaged in the lawful exercise of their rights, while also preserving the peace, protecting life and preventing the destruction of property.

## 428.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Individuals or groups present on the public way, such as public facilities, streets or walkways, generally have the right to assemble, rally, demonstrate, protest or otherwise express their views and opinions through varying forms of communication, including the distribution of printed matter. These rights may be limited by laws or ordinances regulating such matters as the obstruction of individual or vehicle access or egress, trespass, noise, picketing, distribution of handbills and leafleting, and loitering. However, officers shall not take action or fail to take action based on the opinions being expressed.

Participant behavior during a demonstration or other public assembly can vary. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Lawful, constitutionally protected actions and speech.
- Civil disobedience (typically involving minor criminal acts).
- Rioting.

All of these behaviors may be present during the same event. Therefore, it is imperative that law enforcement actions are measured and appropriate for the behaviors officers may encounter. This is particularly critical if force is being used. Adaptable strategies and tactics are essential. The purpose of a law enforcement presence at the scene of public assemblies and demonstrations should be to preserve the peace, to protect life and prevent the destruction of property.

Officers should not:

- (a) Engage in assembly or demonstration-related discussion with participants.
- (b) Harass, confront or intimidate participants.
- (c) Seize the cameras, cell phones or materials of participants or observers unless an officer is placing a person under lawful arrest.

Supervisors should continually observe department members under their commands to ensure that members' interaction with participants and their response to crowd dynamics is appropriate.

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### 428.3.1 PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

Photographs and video recording, when appropriate, can serve a number of purposes, including support of criminal prosecutions by documenting criminal acts; assistance in evaluating department performance; serving as training material; recording the use of dispersal orders; and facilitating a response to allegations of improper law enforcement conduct.

Photographs and videos will not be used or retained for the sole purpose of collecting or maintaining information about the political, religious or social views of associations, or the activities of any individual, group, association, organization, corporation, business or partnership, unless such information directly relates to an investigation of criminal activities and there is reasonable suspicion that the subject of the information is involved in criminal conduct.

### 428.4 UNPLANNED EVENTS

When responding to an unplanned or spontaneous public gathering, the first responding officer should conduct an assessment of conditions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Location
- Number of participants
- Apparent purpose of the event
- Leadership (whether it is apparent and/or whether it is effective)
- Any initial indicators of unlawful or disruptive activity
- Indicators that lawful use of public facilities, streets or walkways will be impacted
- Ability and/or need to continue monitoring the incident

Initial assessment information should be promptly communicated to Grays Harbor Communications, and the assignment of a supervisor should be requested. Additional resources should be requested as appropriate. The responding supervisor shall assume command of the incident until command is expressly assumed by another, and the assumption of command is communicated to the involved members. A clearly defined command structure that is consistent with the Incident Command System (ICS) should be established as resources are deployed.

### 428.5 PLANNED EVENT PREPARATION

For planned events, comprehensive, incident-specific operational plans should be developed. The ICS should be considered for such events.

#### 428.5.1 INFORMATION GATHERING AND ASSESSMENT

In order to properly assess the potential impact of a public assembly or demonstration on public safety and order, relevant information should be collected and vetted. This may include:

- Information obtained from outreach to group organizers or leaders.
- Information about past and potential unlawful conduct associated with the event or similar events.

## *First Amendment Assemblies*

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- The potential time, duration, scope, and type of planned activities.
- Any other information related to the goal of providing a balanced response to criminal activity and the protection of public safety interests.

Information should be obtained in a transparent manner, and the sources documented. Relevant information should be communicated to the appropriate parties in a timely manner.

Information will be obtained in a lawful manner and will not be based solely on the purpose or content of the assembly or demonstration, or actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability of the participants (or any other characteristic that is unrelated to criminal conduct or the identification of a criminal subject).

### 428.5.2 OPERATIONAL PLANS

An operational planning team with responsibility for event planning and management should be established. The planning team should develop an operational plan for the event.

The operational plan will minimally provide:

- (a) Command assignments, chain of command structure, roles and responsibilities.
- (b) Staffing and resource allocation.
- (c) Management of criminal investigations.
- (d) Designation of uniform of the day and related safety equipment (e.g., helmets, shields).
- (e) Deployment of specialized resources.
- (f) Event communications and interoperability in a multijurisdictional event.
- (g) Liaison with demonstration leaders and external agencies.
- (h) Liaison with City government and legal staff.
- (i) Media relations.
- (j) Logistics: food, fuel, replacement equipment, duty hours, relief and transportation.
- (k) Traffic management plans.
- (l) First aid and emergency medical service provider availability.
- (m) Prisoner transport and detention.
- (n) Review of policies regarding public assemblies and use of force in crowd control.
- (o) Parameters for declaring an unlawful assembly.
- (p) Arrest protocol, including management of mass arrests.
- (q) Protocol for recording information flow and decisions.
- (r) Rules of engagement, including rules of conduct, protocols for field force extraction and arrests, and any authorization required for the use of force.
- (s) Protocol for handling complaints during the event.

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- (t) Parameters for the use of body-worn cameras and other portable recording devices.

### 428.5.3 MUTUAL AID AND EXTERNAL RESOURCES

The magnitude and anticipated duration of an event may necessitate interagency cooperation and coordination. The assigned Incident Commander should ensure that any required memorandums of understanding or other agreements are properly executed, and that any anticipated mutual aid is requested and facilitated (see the Outside Agency Assistance Policy).

### 428.6 UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY DISPERSAL ORDERS

If a public gathering or demonstration remains peaceful and nonviolent, and there is no reasonably imminent threat to persons or property, the Incident Commander should generally authorize continued monitoring of the event.

Should the Incident Commander make a determination that public safety is presently or is about to be jeopardized, he/she or the authorized designee should attempt to verbally persuade event organizers or participants to disperse of their own accord. Warnings and advisements may be communicated through established communications links with leaders and/or participants or to the group.

When initial attempts at verbal persuasion are unsuccessful, the Incident Commander or the authorized designee should make a clear standardized announcement to the gathering that the event is an unlawful assembly, and should order the dispersal of the participants. The announcement should be communicated by whatever methods are reasonably available to ensure that the content of the message is clear and that it has been heard by the participants. The announcement should be amplified, made in different languages as appropriate, made from multiple locations in the affected area and documented by audio and video. The announcement should provide information about what law enforcement actions will take place if illegal behavior continues and should identify routes for egress. A reasonable time to disperse should be allowed following a dispersal order.

### 428.7 USE OF FORCE

Use of force is governed by current department policy and applicable law (see the Use of Force, Handcuffing and Restraints, Control Devices and Techniques, and Conducted Energy Device policies).

Individuals refusing to comply with lawful orders (e.g., nonviolent refusal to disperse) should be given a clear verbal warning and a reasonable opportunity to comply. If an individual refuses to comply with lawful orders, the Incident Commander shall evaluate the type of resistance and adopt a reasonable response in order to accomplish the law enforcement mission (such as dispersal or arrest of those acting in violation of the law). Control devices and Conducted Energy Device (CED)s should be considered only when the participants' conduct reasonably appears to present the potential to harm officers, themselves or others, or will result in substantial property loss or damage (see the Control Devices and Techniques and the Conducted Energy Device policies).

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Force or control devices, including oleoresin capsaicin (OC), should be directed toward individuals and not toward groups or crowds, unless specific individuals cannot reasonably be targeted due to extreme circumstances, such as a riotous crowd.

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely and accurately in an appropriate report. The type of report required may depend on the nature of the incident.

### **428.8 ARRESTS**

The Aberdeen Police Department should respond to unlawful behavior in a manner that is consistent with the operational plan. If practicable, warnings or advisements should be communicated prior to arrest.

Mass arrests should be employed only when alternate tactics and strategies have been, or reasonably appear likely to be, unsuccessful. Mass arrests shall only be undertaken upon the order of the Incident Commander or the authorized designee. There must be probable cause for each arrest.

If employed, mass arrest protocols should fully integrate:

- (a) Reasonable measures to address the safety of officers and arrestees.
- (b) Dedicated arrest, booking and report writing teams.
- (c) Timely access to medical care.
- (d) Timely access to legal resources.
- (e) Timely processing of arrestees.
- (f) Full accountability for arrestees and evidence.
- (g) Coordination and cooperation with the prosecuting authority, jail and courts (see the Citation Releases Policy).

### **428.9 MEDIA RELATIONS**

The Public Information Officer should use all available avenues of communication, including press releases, briefings, press conferences and social media to maintain open channels of communication with media representatives and the public about the status and progress of the event, taking all opportunities to reassure the public about the professional management of the event (see the Media Relations Policy).

### **428.10 DEMOBILIZATION**

When appropriate, the Incident Commander or the authorized designee should implement a phased and orderly withdrawal of law enforcement resources. All relieved personnel should promptly complete any required reports, including use of force reports, and account for all issued equipment and vehicles to their supervisors prior to returning to normal operational duties.



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### **428.11 POST EVENT**

The Incident Commander should designate a member to assemble full documentation of the event, to include the following:

- (a) Operational plan
- (b) Any incident logs
- (c) Any assignment logs
- (d) Vehicle, fuel, equipment and supply records
- (e) Incident, arrest, use of force, injury and property damage reports
- (f) Photographs, audio/video recordings, Grays Harbor Communications records/tapes
- (g) Media accounts (print and broadcast media)

#### **428.11.1 AFTER-ACTION REPORTING**

The Incident Commander should work with City legal counsel, as appropriate, to prepare a comprehensive after-action report of the event, explaining all incidents where force was used including the following:

- (a) Date, time and description of the event
- (b) Actions taken and outcomes (e.g., injuries, property damage, arrests)
- (c) Problems identified
- (d) Significant events
- (e) Recommendations for improvement; opportunities for training should be documented in a generic manner, without identifying individuals or specific incidents, facts or circumstances.

### **428.12 TRAINING**

Department members should receive periodic training regarding this policy, as well as the dynamics of crowd control and incident management. The Department should, when practicable, train with its external and mutual aid partners.

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# Crisis Intervention Incidents

## 429.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for interacting with those who may be experiencing a mental health or emotional crisis. Interaction with such individuals has the potential for miscommunication and violence. It often requires an officer to make difficult judgments about a person's mental state and intent in order to effectively and legally interact with the individual.

### 429.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Person in crisis** - A person whose level of distress or mental health symptoms have exceeded the person's internal ability to manage his/her behavior or emotions. A crisis can be precipitated by any number of things, including an increase in the symptoms of mental illness despite treatment compliance; non-compliance with treatment, including a failure to take prescribed medications appropriately; or any other circumstance or event that causes the person to engage in erratic, disruptive or dangerous behavior that may be accompanied by impaired judgment.

## 429.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to providing a consistently high level of service to all members of the community and recognizes that persons in crisis may benefit from intervention. The Department will collaborate, where feasible, with mental health professionals to develop an overall intervention strategy to guide its members' interactions with those experiencing a mental health crisis. This is to ensure equitable and safe treatment of all involved.

## 429.3 SIGNS

Members should be alert to any of the following possible signs of mental health issues or crises:

- (a) A known history of mental illness
- (b) Threats of or attempted suicide
- (c) Loss of memory
- (d) Incoherence, disorientation or slow response
- (e) Delusions, hallucinations, perceptions unrelated to reality or grandiose ideas
- (f) Depression, pronounced feelings of hopelessness or uselessness, extreme sadness or guilt
- (g) Social withdrawal
- (h) Manic or impulsive behavior, extreme agitation, lack of control
- (i) Lack of fear
- (j) Anxiety, aggression, rigidity, inflexibility or paranoia

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Members should be aware that this list is not exhaustive. The presence or absence of any of these should not be treated as proof of the presence or absence of a mental health issue or crisis.

### **429.4 COORDINATION WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS**

The Chief of Police should designate an appropriate Division Commander to collaborate with mental health professionals to develop an education and response protocol. It should include a list of community resources, to guide department interaction with those who may be suffering from mental illness or who appear to be in a mental health crisis.

### **429.5 FIRST RESPONDERS**

Safety is a priority for first responders. It is important to recognize that individuals under the influence of alcohol, drugs or both may exhibit symptoms that are similar to those of a person in a mental health crisis. These individuals may still present a serious threat to officers; such a threat should be addressed with reasonable tactics. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit an officer's authority to use reasonable force when interacting with a person in crisis.

Officers are reminded that mental health issues, mental health crises and unusual behavior alone are not criminal offenses. Individuals may benefit from treatment as opposed to incarceration.

An officer responding to a call involving a person in crisis should:

- (a) Promptly assess the situation independent of reported information and make a preliminary determination regarding whether a mental health crisis may be a factor.
- (b) Request available backup officers and specialized resources as deemed necessary and, if it is reasonably believed that the person is in a crisis situation, use conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques to stabilize the incident as appropriate.
- (c) If feasible, and without compromising safety, turn off flashing lights, bright lights or sirens.
- (d) Attempt to determine if weapons are present or available.
- (e) Take into account the person's mental and emotional state and potential inability to understand commands or to appreciate the consequences of his/her action or inaction, as perceived by the officer.
- (f) Secure the scene and clear the immediate area as necessary.
- (g) Employ tactics to preserve the safety of all participants.
- (h) Determine the nature of any crime.
- (i) Request a supervisor, as warranted.
- (j) Evaluate any available information that might assist in determining cause or motivation for the person's actions or stated intentions.
- (k) If circumstances reasonably permit, consider and employ alternatives to force.

## *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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### **429.6 DE-ESCALATION**

Officers should consider that taking no action or passively monitoring the situation may be the most reasonable response to a mental health crisis.

Once it is determined that a situation is a mental health crisis and immediate safety concerns have been addressed, responding members should be aware of the following considerations and should generally:

- Evaluate safety conditions.
- Introduce themselves and attempt to obtain the person's name.
- Be patient, polite, calm, courteous and avoid overreacting.
- Speak and move slowly and in a non-threatening manner.
- Moderate the level of direct eye contact.
- Remove distractions or disruptive people from the area.
- Demonstrate active listening skills (e.g., summarize the person's verbal communication).
- Provide for sufficient avenues of retreat or escape should the situation become volatile.

Responding officers generally should not:

- Use stances or tactics that can be interpreted as aggressive.
- Allow others to interrupt or engage the person.
- Corner a person who is not believed to be armed, violent or suicidal.
- Argue, speak with a raised voice or use threats to obtain compliance.

### **429.7 INCIDENT ORIENTATION**

When responding to an incident that may involve mental illness or a mental health crisis, the officer should request that the dispatcher provide critical information as it becomes available. This includes:

- (a) Whether the person relies on drugs or medication, or may have failed to take his/her medication.
- (b) Whether there have been prior incidents, suicide threats/attempts, and whether there has been previous police response.
- (c) Contact information for a treating physician or mental health professional.

Additional resources and a supervisor should be requested as warranted.

### **429.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

A supervisor should respond to the scene of any interaction with a person in crisis. Responding supervisors should:

## *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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- (a) Attempt to secure appropriate and sufficient resources.
- (b) Closely monitor any use of force, including the use of restraints, and ensure that those subjected to the use of force are provided with timely access to medical care (see the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy).
- (c) Consider strategic disengagement. Absent an imminent threat to the public and, as circumstances dictate, this may include removing or reducing law enforcement resources or engaging in passive monitoring.
- (d) Ensure that all reports are completed and that incident documentation uses appropriate terminology and language.
- (e) Conduct an after-action tactical and operational debriefing, and prepare an after-action evaluation of the incident to be forwarded to the Division Commander.
- (f) Evaluate whether a critical incident stress management debriefing for involved members is warranted.

### **429.9 INCIDENT REPORTING**

Members engaging in any oral or written communication associated with a mental health crisis should be mindful of the sensitive nature of such communications and should exercise appropriate discretion when referring to or describing persons and circumstances.

Members having contact with a person in crisis should keep related information confidential, except to the extent that revealing information is necessary to conform to department reporting procedures or other official mental health or medical proceedings.

#### **429.9.1 DIVERSION**

Individuals who are not being arrested should be processed in accordance with the Emergency Detentions Policy.

#### **429.9.2 SUICIDE THREATS OR ATTEMPTS**

Officers should consider a referral to mental health services when a person has threatened or attempted suicide and the person does not qualify for emergency detention or voluntarily consent to immediate evaluation at a behavioral health facility (RCW 71.05.457).

- (a) Referrals should be made to the person by providing the name and phone number of the behavioral health agency and any available handouts.
- (b) The officer may notify the behavioral health agency of the referral by phone or other method, in addition to preparing a written incident report.

Incident reports documenting a referral to a behavioral health agency should be sufficiently detailed regarding the nature of the incident and the person's behavior, to facilitate the behavioral health agency's prioritization and nature of their response. The officer should promptly provide a copy of the report to the referred behavioral health agency (RCW 71.05.457).

## *Crisis Intervention Incidents*

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### **429.10 NON-SWORN INTERACTION WITH PEOPLE IN CRISIS**

Non-sworn members may be required to interact with persons in crisis in an administrative capacity, such as dispatching, records request, and animal control issues.

- (a) Members should treat all individuals equally and with dignity and respect.
- (b) If a member believes that he/she is interacting with a person in crisis, he/she should proceed patiently and in a calm manner.
- (c) Members should be aware and understand that the person may make unusual or bizarre claims or requests.

If a person's behavior makes the member feel unsafe, if the person is or becomes disruptive or violent, or if the person acts in such a manner as to cause the member to believe that the person may be harmful to him/herself or others, an officer should be promptly summoned to provide assistance.

### **429.11 EVALUATION**

The Division Commander designated to coordinate the crisis intervention strategy for this department should ensure that a thorough review and analysis of the department response to these incidents is conducted annually. The report will not include identifying information pertaining to any involved individuals, officers or incidents and will be submitted to the Chief of Police through the chain of command.

### **429.12 TRAINING**

In coordination with the mental health community and appropriate stakeholders, the Department will develop and provide comprehensive education and training to all department members to enable them to effectively interact with persons in crisis.

Training shall include mandated training in crisis intervention, certified by the Criminal Justice Training Commission, as required by Washington law (RCW 43.101.427; WAC 139-09-020 et seq.).

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# Medical Aid and Response

## 430.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy recognizes that members often encounter persons who appear to be in need of medical aid and establishes a law enforcement response to such situations.

## 430.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that all officers and other designated members be trained to provide emergency medical aid and to facilitate an emergency medical response.

## 430.3 FIRST RESPONDING MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever practicable, members should take appropriate steps to provide initial medical aid (e.g., first aid, CPR and use of an automated external defibrillator (AED)) in accordance with their training and current certification levels. This should be done for those in need of immediate care and only when the member can safely do so.

Prior to initiating medical aid, the member should contact Grays Harbor Communications and request response by emergency medical services (EMS) as the member deems appropriate.

Members should follow universal precautions when providing medical aid, such as wearing gloves and avoiding contact with bodily fluids, consistent with the Communicable Diseases Policy. Members should use a barrier or bag device to perform rescue breathing.

When requesting EMS, the member should provide Grays Harbor Communications with information for relay to EMS personnel in order to enable an appropriate response, including:

- (a) The location where EMS is needed.
- (b) The nature of the incident.
- (c) Any known scene hazards.
- (d) Information on the person in need of EMS, such as:
  - 1. Signs and symptoms as observed by the member.
  - 2. Changes in apparent condition.
  - 3. Number of patients, sex and age, if known.
  - 4. Whether the person is conscious, breathing and alert, or is believed to have consumed drugs or alcohol.
  - 5. Whether the person is showing signs or symptoms of excited delirium or other agitated chaotic behavior.

Members should stabilize the scene whenever practicable while awaiting the arrival of EMS.

Members should not direct EMS personnel whether to transport the person for treatment.

## *Medical Aid and Response*

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### **430.4 TRANSPORTING ILL AND INJURED PERSONS**

Except in extraordinary cases where alternatives are not reasonably available, members should not transport persons who are unconscious, who have serious injuries or who may be seriously ill. EMS personnel should be called to handle patient transportation.

Officers should search any person who is in custody before releasing that person to EMS for transport.

An officer should accompany any person in custody during transport in an ambulance when requested by EMS personnel, when it reasonably appears necessary to provide security, when it is necessary for investigative purposes or when so directed by a supervisor.

Members should not provide emergency escort for medical transport or civilian vehicles.

### **430.5 PERSONS REFUSING EMS CARE**

If a person who is not in custody refuses EMS care or refuses to be transported to a medical facility, an officer shall not force that person to receive care or be transported. However, members may assist EMS personnel when EMS personnel determine the person lacks mental capacity to understand the consequences of refusing medical care or to make an informed decision and the lack of immediate medical attention may result in serious bodily injury or the death of the person.

In cases where mental illness may be a factor, the officer should consider proceeding with an emergency detention in accordance with the Emergency Detentions Policy.

If an officer believes that a person who is in custody requires EMS care and the person refuses, the officer should encourage the person to receive medical treatment. The officer may also consider contacting a family member to help persuade the person to agree to treatment or who may be able to authorize treatment for the person.

If the person still refuses, the officer will require the person to be transported to the nearest medical facility. In such cases, the officer should consult with a supervisor prior to the transport.

Members shall not sign refusal-for-treatment forms or forms accepting financial responsibility for treatment.

### **430.6 SICK OR INJURED ARRESTEE**

If an arrestee appears ill or injured, or claims illness or injury, he/she should be medically cleared prior to booking. If the officer has reason to believe the arrestee is feigning injury or illness, the officer should contact a supervisor, who will determine whether medical clearance will be obtained prior to booking.

If the jail or detention facility refuses to accept custody of an arrestee based on medical screening, the officer should note the name of the facility person refusing to accept custody and the reason for refusal, and should notify a supervisor to determine the appropriate action.

Arrestees who appear to have a serious medical issue should be transported by ambulance. Officers shall not transport an arrestee to a hospital without a supervisor's approval.



## *Medical Aid and Response*

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Nothing in this section should delay an officer from requesting EMS when an arrestee reasonably appears to be exhibiting symptoms that appear to be life threatening, including breathing problems or an altered level of consciousness, or is claiming an illness or injury that reasonably warrants an EMS response in accordance with the officer's training.

### **430.7 MEDICAL ATTENTION RELATED TO USE OF FORCE**

Specific guidelines for medical attention for injuries sustained from a use of force may be found in the Use of Force, Handcuffing and Restraints, Control Devices and Techniques, and Conducted Energy Device policies.

### **430.8 AIR AMBULANCE**

Generally, when on-scene, EMS personnel will be responsible for determining whether an air ambulance response should be requested. An air ambulance may be appropriate when there are victims with life-threatening injuries or who require specialized treatment (e.g., gunshot wounds, burns, obstetrical cases), and distance or other known delays will affect the EMS response.

The Operations Division Commander should develop guidelines for air ambulance landings or enter into local operating agreements for the use of air ambulances, as applicable. In creating those guidelines, the Department should identify:

- Responsibility and authority for designating a landing zone and determining the size of the landing zone.
- Responsibility for securing the area and maintaining that security once the landing zone is identified.
- Consideration of the air ambulance provider's minimum standards for proximity to vertical obstructions and surface composition (e.g., dirt, gravel, pavement, concrete, grass).
- Consideration of the air ambulance provider's minimum standards for horizontal clearance from structures, fences, power poles, antennas or roadways.
- Responsibility for notifying the appropriate highway or transportation agencies if a roadway is selected as a landing zone.
- Procedures for ground personnel to communicate with flight personnel during the operation.

One department member at the scene should be designated as the air ambulance communications contact. Headlights, spotlights and flashlights should not be aimed upward at the air ambulance. Members should direct vehicle and pedestrian traffic away from the landing zone.

Members should follow these cautions when near an air ambulance:

- Never approach the aircraft until signaled by the flight crew.
- Always approach the aircraft from the front.
- Avoid the aircraft's tail rotor area.

## *Medical Aid and Response*

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- Wear eye protection during landing and take-off.
- Do not carry or hold items, such as IV bags, above the head.
- Ensure that no one smokes near the aircraft.

### **430.9 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) USE**

A semi-automatic external defibrillator or AED should only be used by members who have completed a course approved by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) that includes instruction in CPR and the use of an AED (RCW 70.54.310).

#### **430.9.1 AED USER RESPONSIBILITY**

Members who are issued AEDs for use in department vehicles should check the AED at the beginning of the shift to ensure it is properly charged and functioning. Any AED that is not functioning properly will be taken out of service and given to the Training Coordinator who is responsible for ensuring appropriate maintenance.

Following use of an AED, the device shall be cleaned and/or decontaminated as required. The electrodes and/or pads will be replaced as recommended by the AED manufacturer.

Any member who uses an AED shall contact Grays Harbor Communications as soon as possible and request response by EMS (RCW 70.54.310).

#### **430.9.2 AED REPORTING**

Any member using an AED will complete an incident report detailing its use. Any data from usage shall be made available, upon request, to EMS or other health care providers (RCW 70.54.310).

#### **430.9.3 AED TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE**

The Training Coordinator should ensure appropriate training is provided to members authorized to use an AED.

The Training Coordinator is responsible for ensuring AED devices are appropriately maintained and tested consistent with the manufacturer's operational guidelines, and will retain records of all maintenance in accordance with the established records retention schedule (RCW 70.54.310).

### **430.10 OPIOID PROCEDURES - OVERDOSE, EXPOSURE, AND EVIDENCE HANDLING**

The purpose of this policy is to give direction to all employees for contact with subjects that appear to have overdosed on an opioid substance; administration of the drug to counteract the overdose of an opioid substance; and the proper handling of evidence by commissioned and civilian employees.

1. Fentanyl is a prescription drug and a synthetic opioid with the same effects of morphine but at a much higher potency. Because it is so potent and readily available, the illegal drug trade is using Fentanyl and Fentanyl analogs as an additive to ("cut into") heroin and other controlled substances.

## *Medical Aid and Response*

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2.The potency of these drugs has led to an alarming increase in overdose incidents and overdose-related deaths. Fentanyl poses a significant threat to law enforcement personnel and other first responders who may come in contact through routine law enforcement, emergency or life-saving activities. Fentanyl may be ingested orally, inhaled through the nose or mouth, or absorbed through the skin or eyes. Exposure to a very small amount may lead to significant health-related complications, respiratory depression, or death.

### 430.10.1 OPIOID OVERDOSE

Law enforcement officers are often the first responders to overdose calls, even earlier than aid can respond, and it is recognized that with the proper administration of counteractive drugs such as Naloxone (commonly known by the brand name of Narcan), there can be a decrease of injury or death from opioid overdoses.

Signs of an opioid overdose include slow or no breathing, inability to speak, blue or grayish lips and fingernails, pinpoint pupils, a limp body, decreased heart rate, lack of consciousness, deep snoring/gurgling, unresponsiveness to external stimuli and/or pale, clammy skin.

### 430.10.2 OPIOID OVERDOSE PROCEDURE

1. Employees that have been issued an overdose response kit shall have the kit readily available to them at all times while on duty. It is the employee's responsibility to ensure the kit is handled correctly and available when needed.

a. Naloxone is a sun and temperature sensitive prescription medication that has a lifespan of two (2) years.

b. Employees are expected to monitor expiration date and contact appropriate department personnel for replacement and disposal of an expired kit.

2. When an employee encounters a person possibly experiencing an opioid overdose, the employee will assess the person for symptoms of an opioid overdose.

3. If the employee suspects the possible presence of any opioid overdose symptoms, the employee will:

a. Immediately request aid be dispatched or verify that aid has been dispatched.

b. Utilize universal safety precautions and PPE, and exercise extreme caution when dealing with substances that may contain Fentanyl to prevent accidental exposure to those substances, blood borne pathogens or other potentially infectious materials.

c. When arriving at a scene where there has been a suspected overdose incident, personnel should carefully examine the environment and situation before proceeding in order to detect any signs of Fentanyl contamination.

i. Inhalation or skin contact with Fentanyl can cause serious injury and even death. If Fentanyl comes in contact with skin, it can be subsequently transferred by inadvertent touching of the mouth, nose, or other mucous membranes

## *Medical Aid and Response*

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- ii. Employees should be aware of exposure signs, seek medical attention and be ready to administer Naloxone to themselves or other persons in case of accidental Fentanyl exposure.
  - iii. The onset of exposure signs usually occurs within a minute of exposure and will result in death if not treated quickly.
  - d. Administer Naloxone in accordance with training – and only to persons over five years of age and over 44 pounds. **NO EMPLOYEE SHALL CARRY AND/OR ADMINISTER NALOXONE WITHOUT FIRST RECEIVING PROPER TRAINING.**
  - e. Place the person in a recovery position unless there is evidence of head or neck trauma.
  - f. Continue to monitor the person's respiration and render first aid until relieved by aid personnel.
5. After receiving a dose of Naloxone, the person will typically show signs of improvement within minutes. Their respiratory rate and level of consciousness will increase.
- a. If the person does not begin breathing normally within three to five minutes, a second dose of Naloxone may be needed.
6. The administration of Naloxone may result in the rapid reversal of an opioid overdose. There is no set behavior that can be expected from the person, and reactions may vary among individuals.
- a. Some will resume consciousness and breathing quickly after administration, while others may need multiple doses. In some cases, the administration of Naloxone may not be effective.
  - b. Rapid reversal of an opioid overdose may cause the subject to wake up confused and lethargic and they will often immediately enter into opioid withdrawal symptoms, which can be severe. Symptoms include: irritability, sweating, nausea, projectile vomiting, violent behavior, diarrhea, stomach pain, fever, body aches, weakness, runny nose, shivering, goose bumps or pounding heartbeat.
  - c. In addition to Naloxone, an overdose subject may need CPR and rescue breathing to increase their oxygen level and restart the normal breathing process. If the overdose subject is in cardiac arrest, Naloxone can still be administered.
7. The effects of Naloxone are temporary, typically lasting 30-90 minutes. If overdose symptoms reappear before aid arrives, an additional dose should be administered.

### 430.10.3 REPORTING PROCEDURE

An employee that administers Naloxone will notify their supervisor as soon as possible and complete a Naloxone Administration Report. In addition, any employee believed to have received an exposure incident to Fentanyl will notify their supervisor as soon as possible after treatment.

A written report will be prepared of the incident as well.

## *Medical Aid and Response*

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### **430.10.4 OPIOID EVIDENCE HANDLING**

Fentanyl related substances can be lethal at low levels of exposure (microgram doses). Adverse health effects as outlined above can occur very rapidly. Hazardous synthetic drugs, particularly in powder form, that may contain Fentanyl related substances, may be fatal if swallowed, inhaled, or absorbed through the skin.

1. All personnel will take appropriate safety precautions when processing evidence that possibly includes Fentanyl related substances in order to protect the general public and law enforcement personnel from potential exposure during the acquisition, storage and transportation of Fentanyl related evidence. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO COLLECT OR OTHERWISE DISTURB ANY SUSPECTED FENTANYL, FENTANYL RELATED SUBSTANCE, SYNTHETIC OPIOID OR UNKNOWN POWDERY SUBSTANCE WITHOUT EMPLOYING PROPER PPE.**

a. Suspected Fentanyl evidence should be handled, processed, received, transferred and delivered while employing at a minimum a chemical resistant suit, respirator, nitrile gloves, and eye protection. The PPE described should only be used when evidence is located and/or received in small amounts and can easily be contained and sealed, NOT where there is loose powder and/or gross contamination. A "Level A" protective suit should be utilized in areas with gross contamination; DEA clandestine laboratory enforcement personnel are "Level A" certified and should be consulted in these instances.

b. The evidence will be packaged in accordance with drug evidence procedures with the additional precaution of sealing the exhibit within two bags.

c. The evidence will subsequently be boxed and sealed.

d. The box will be clearly marked "suspected Fentanyl/Fentanyl related substance."

e. When placed in the appropriate evidence transfer locker, the outside of the locker will be clearly marked with "suspected Fentanyl/Fentanyl related substance."

f. Because various controlled substances can be laced with Fentanyl, there is in place a "two person rule" whenever controlled substances are handled in the evidence system.

Civilian staff will use proper PPE when handling suspected Fentanyl evidence to include nitrile gloves.

### **430.11 FIRST AID TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Coordinator should ensure officers receive periodic first aid training appropriate for their position.

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## Civil Disputes

### 431.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides members of the Aberdeen Police Department with guidance for addressing conflicts between persons when no criminal investigation or enforcement action is warranted (e.g., civil matters), with the goal of minimizing any potential for violence or criminal acts.

The Domestic Violence Policy will address specific legal mandates related to domestic violence court orders. References in this policy to “court orders” apply to any order of a court that does not require arrest or enforcement by the terms of the order or by Washington law.

### 431.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes that a law enforcement presence at a civil dispute can play an important role in the peace and safety of the community. Subject to available resources, members of this department will assist at the scene of civil disputes with the primary goal of safeguarding persons and property, preventing criminal activity and maintaining the peace. When handling civil disputes, members will remain impartial, maintain a calm presence, give consideration to all sides and refrain from giving legal or inappropriate advice.

### 431.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

When appropriate, members handling a civil dispute should encourage the involved parties to seek the assistance of resolution services or take the matter to the civil courts. Members must not become personally involved in disputes and shall at all times remain impartial.

While not intended to be an exhaustive list, members should give considerations to the following when handling civil disputes:

- (a) Civil disputes tend to be confrontational and members should be alert that they can escalate to violence very quickly. De-escalation techniques should be used when appropriate.
- (b) Members should not dismiss alleged or observed criminal violations as a civil matter and should initiate the appropriate investigation and report when criminal activity is apparent.
- (c) Members shall not provide legal advice, however, when appropriate, members should inform the parties when they are at risk of violating criminal laws.
- (d) Members are reminded that they shall not enter a residence or other non-public location without legal authority.
- (e) Members should not take an unreasonable amount of time assisting in these matters and generally should contact a supervisor if it appears that peacekeeping efforts longer than 30 minutes are warranted.

## *Civil Disputes*

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### **431.4 COURT ORDERS**

Disputes involving court orders can be complex. Where no mandate exists for an officer to make an arrest for a violation of a court order, the matter should be addressed by documenting any apparent court order violation in a report. If there appears to be a more immediate need for enforcement action, the investigating officer should consult a supervisor prior to making any arrest.

If a person appears to be violating the terms of a court order but is disputing the validity of the order or its applicability, the investigating officer should document the following:

- (a) The person's knowledge of the court order or whether proof of service exists.
- (b) Any specific reason or rationale the involved person offers for not complying with the terms of the order.

A copy of the court order should be attached to the report when available. The report should be forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. The report should also be forwarded to the court issuing the order with a notice that the report was also forwarded to the prosecutor for review.

#### **431.4.1 STANDBY REQUESTS**

Officers responding to a call for standby assistance to retrieve property should meet the person requesting assistance at a neutral location to discuss the process. The person should be advised that items that are disputed will not be allowed to be removed. The member may advise the person to seek private legal advice as to the distribution of disputed property.

Members should accompany the person to the location of the property. Members should ask if the other party will allow removal of the property or whether the other party would remove the property.

If the other party is uncooperative, the person requesting standby assistance should be instructed to seek private legal advice and obtain a court order to obtain the items (RCW 26.50.080). Officers should not order the other party to allow entry or the removal of any items. If there is a restraining or similar order against the person requesting standby assistance, that person should be asked to leave the scene or he/she may be subject to arrest for violation of the order.

If the other party is not present at the location, the member will not allow entry into the location or the removal of property from the location.

### **431.5 VEHICLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Officers may be faced with disputes regarding possession or ownership of vehicles or other personal property. Officers may review documents provided by parties or available databases (e.g., vehicle registration), but should be aware that legal possession of vehicles or personal property can be complex. Generally, officers should not take any enforcement action unless a crime is apparent. The people and the vehicle or personal property involved should be identified and the incident documented.

### **431.6 REAL PROPERTY**

Disputes over possession or occupancy of real property (e.g., land, homes, apartments) should generally be handled through a person seeking a court order.

## *Civil Disputes*

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### 431.6.1 REQUEST TO REMOVE TRESPASSER DECLARATION

Officers possessing a lawful declaration signed under penalty of perjury and in the form required by law, may take enforcement action to remove a person from a residence when (RCW 9A.52.105):

- The person has been allowed a reasonable opportunity to secure and present evidence that the person is lawfully on the premises
- The officer reasonably believe he/she has probable cause to believe the person is committing criminal trespass under RCW 9A.52.070

An officer should give the trespasser a reasonable opportunity to vacate the premises before taking enforcement action.



# Suspicious Activity Reporting

## 432.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for reporting and investigating suspicious and criminal activity.

### 432.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Involved party** - An individual who has been observed engaging in suspicious activity, as defined in this policy, when no definitive criminal activity can be identified, thus precluding the person's identification as a suspect.

**Suspicious activity** - Any reported or observed activity that a member reasonably believes may have a nexus to any criminal act or attempted criminal act, or to foreign or domestic terrorism. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability should not be considered as factors that create suspicion (although these factors may be used as specific suspect descriptions). Examples of suspicious activity may include but are not limited to:

- Suspected pre-operational surveillance or intelligence gathering (e.g., photographing security features, asking questions about sensitive security-related subjects).
- Tests of security measures and response to incidents (e.g., "dry run," creating false alarms, attempts to enter secure areas without authorization).
- Suspicious purchases (e.g., purchasing large quantities of otherwise legal items, such as fertilizer, that could be used to create an explosive or other dangerous device).
- An individual in possession of such things as a hoax explosive or dispersal device, sensitive materials (e.g., passwords, access codes, classified government information), or coded or ciphered literature or correspondence.

**Suspicious Activity Report (SAR)** - An incident report used to document suspicious activity.

## 432.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes the need to protect the public from criminal conduct and acts of terrorism and shall lawfully collect, maintain and disseminate information regarding suspicious activities, while safeguarding civil liberties and privacy protections.

## 432.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Operations Division Commander and authorized designees will manage SAR activities. Authorized designees should include supervisors who are responsible for department participation in criminal intelligence systems as outlined in the Criminal Organizations Policy.

The responsibilities of the Operations Division Commander include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Remaining familiar with those databases available to the Department that would facilitate the purpose of this policy.

## *Suspicious Activity Reporting*

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- (b) Maintaining adequate training in the area of intelligence gathering to ensure no information is being maintained that would violate the law or civil rights of any individual.
- (c) Ensuring a process is available that would allow members to report relevant information. The process should be designed to promote efficient and quick reporting, and should not be cumbersome, duplicative or complicated.
- (d) Ensuring that members are made aware of the purpose and value of documenting information regarding suspicious activity, as well as the databases and other information resources that are available to the Department.
- (e) Ensuring that SAR information is appropriately disseminated to members in accordance with their job responsibilities.
- (f) Coordinating investigative follow-up, if appropriate.
- (g) Coordinating with any appropriate agency or fusion center.
- (h) Ensuring that, as resources are available, the Department conducts outreach that is designed to encourage members of the community to report suspicious activity and that outlines what they should look for and how they should report it (e.g., website, public service announcements).

### **432.4 REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION**

Any department member receiving information regarding suspicious activity should take any necessary immediate and appropriate action, including a request for tactical response or immediate notification of specialized entities, when applicable. Any non-sworn member who receives such information should ensure that it is passed on to an officer in a timely manner.

If the suspicious activity is not directly related to a reportable crime, the member should prepare a SAR and include information about involved parties and the circumstances of the incident. If, during any investigation, an officer becomes aware of suspicious activity that is unrelated to the current investigation, the information should be documented separately in a SAR and not included in the original incident report. The report number of the original incident should be included in the SAR as a cross reference. A SAR should be processed as any other incident report.

### **432.5 HANDLING INFORMATION**

The Records will forward copies of SARs, in a timely manner, to the following:

- Investigation Unit supervisor
- Crime Analysis Unit
- Other authorized designees

## **Chapter 5 - Traffic Operations**

# Traffic Function and Responsibility

## 500.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The ultimate goal of traffic law enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions. This may be achieved through the application of such techniques as geographic/temporal assignment of personnel and equipment and the establishment of preventive patrols to deal with specific categories of unlawful driving behavior. Traffic enforcement techniques are based on accident data, enforcement activity records, traffic volume, and traffic conditions. This department provides enforcement efforts toward violations, not only in proportion to the frequency of their occurrence in accident situations, but also in terms of traffic-related needs.

### 500.1.1 VIOLATOR CONTACT

Enforcement action should be accomplished in a businesslike, firm, impartial, fair and courteous manner. The officer's action should demonstrate a professional attitude and serve to improve the relationship between the motoring public and the police.

## 500.2 TRAFFIC OFFICER DEPLOYMENT

All officers assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement functions will emphasize enforcement of accident causing violations during high accident hours and at locations of occurrence. All officers will take directed enforcement action on request, and random enforcement action when appropriate against violators as a matter of routine.

Other factors to be considered for deployment are citizen requests, construction zones or special events.

## 500.3 ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement actions are commensurate with applicable laws and take into account the degree and severity of the violation committed. This department does not establish ticket quotas and the number of arrests or citations issued by any officer shall not be used as the sole criterion for evaluating officer overall performance. The visibility and quality of an officer's work effort will be commensurate with the philosophy of this policy. Several methods are effective in the reduction of collisions:

### 500.3.1 WARNINGS

Warnings or other non-punitive enforcement actions should be considered in each situation and substituted for arrests or citations when circumstances warrant, especially in the case of inadvertent violations.

### 500.3.2 CITATIONS

Citations may be issued when an officer believes it is appropriate. It is essential that officers fully explain the rights and requirements imposed on motorists upon issuance of a citation for a traffic violation. Officers should provide the following information at a minimum:

- (a) Explanation of the violation or charge.

## *Traffic Function and Responsibility*

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- (b) Court appearance procedure including the optional or mandatory appearance by the motorist.
- (c) Notice of whether the motorist can enter a plea and pay the fine by mail or at the court.

### 500.3.3 ARRESTS FOR TRAFFIC OFFENSES

Officers may issue a traffic citation for any criminal traffic offense or infraction when such violations are committed in an officer's presence or as allowed pursuant to RCW 10.31.100. With limited exceptions, the detention in such cases may not be for a period of time longer than is reasonably necessary to issue and serve a citation to the violator.

A traffic-related detention may expand to a physical arrest under the following circumstances:

- (a) When the officer has probable cause to believe that a felony has been committed, whether or not it was in the officer's presence
- (b) When the offense is one or more of the traffic violations listed in RCW 10.31.100
- (c) When a driver has been detained for a traffic offense listed in RCW 46.63.020 and fails to provide adequate identification or when the officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person to be cited will not respond to a written citation. In such cases, officers should, when practicable, obtain the approval of a supervisor before making an arrest.

### 500.3.4 HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS

Officers of the Aberdeen Police Department will take enforcement action when traffic violations of a possible or actual accident causing nature occur in their presence, or when probable cause exists upon investigation of an accident or criminal traffic matter. Enforcement may be in the form of a written notice of infraction/citation, verbal warning, or a custodial arrest for those traffic violations enumerated in RCW 46.63.020.

### 500.3.5 LEGISLATORS

During the legislative session, legislators are "privileged from arrest in all cases except treason, felony, and breach of the peace", (Art. II, sec. 16, WA. St. Cont.). Legislators may be issued traffic citations and they may be taken into custody for the purpose of obtaining a breath test, but they should not be incarcerated for infraction or misdemeanor violations during the legislative session.

### 500.3.6 MILITARY PERSONNEL

When a custodial arrest is made of military personnel, the arresting officer should notify the individuals' home base. If this is not possible, we should contact the nearest base of the same service and inform them of the detention. This does not apply to the issuance of a traffic citation when an actual custodial arrest is not made.

### 500.3.7 PUBLIC CARRIER VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

- (a) Local Transit and School Buses: If a local transit or school bus is stopped for a violation, the officer will obtain the driver's name, inform him/her of the violation, and

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note the vehicle license number. If a citation is to be issued, inform the driver that you will contact him/her at a later time when the bus schedule will not be interfered with.

- (b) Public Carriers Not Local: Public carriers from outside the area may be detained in order to issue a notice of infraction to the driver.

### 500.3.8 VOIDING THE NOTICE OF INFRACTION/CITATION

- (a) Notice of Infraction/Citation may be voided if written in error of law or judgment. Reasons for voiding the Notice of Infraction/Citation may include:
  - 1. Violator gave false information, such as wrong name, address, etc. (when voiding the Notice of Infraction/Citation, indicate the number of the new Notice of Infraction/Citation).
  - 2. Officer entered wrong information, which caused the Notice of Infraction/Citation to be invalid. (When voiding the Notice of Infraction/Citation, indicate the number of the new Notice of Infraction/Citation).
  - 3. Vehicle parked in prohibited zone, but was broken down. Driver returned with assistance before officer completed Notice of Infraction/Citation.
  - 4. Officer unable to complete Notice of Infraction/Citation because of receiving an emergency call, such as a robbery in progress, assist another officer, etc.
  - 5. Administrative review determines that the issuance of the Notice of Infraction/Citation was not in compliance with Department policy statements or existing traffic laws/ordinances.
- (b) In voiding traditional paper Notice of Infraction/Citation, the following steps should be taken:
  - 1. The officer will contact his/her immediate supervisor as soon as possible to explain the reason the Notice of Infraction/Citation was voided and to permit the supervisor to review the officer's action.
  - 2. The officer shall print "VOID" along with a brief, concise statement of the reason for the voiding on all copies of the Notice of Infraction/Citation.
  - 3. Voiding of SECTOR notice of infractions or citations shall follow procedures as defined by SECTOR. A SECTOR notice of infraction or citation cannot be voided if the violator copy of the notice of infraction or citation cannot be retrieved, or after the notice of infraction or citation has been uploaded to the SECTOR web site.

### 500.4 SUSPENDED OR REVOKED DRIVERS LICENSES

If an officer contacts a traffic violator who is driving on a suspended or revoked license, the officer may issue a traffic citation or make an arrest as appropriate.

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### **500.4.1 SUSPENDED, REVOKED OR CANCELED COMMERCIAL LICENSE PLATES**

If an officer contacts a traffic violator who is operating a commercial truck, truck tractor or tractor with registration that a computer check confirms to be revoked, suspended or canceled, the officer shall confiscate the license plates. The Department may either recycle or destroy the plates (RCW 46.32.100).

### **500.5 HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS**

The Department has provided American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Class II high-visibility vests to increase the visibility of department members who may be exposed to hazards presented by passing traffic, maneuvering or operating vehicles, machinery, and equipment (23 CFR 655.601).

Although intended primarily for use while performing traffic related assignments, high-visibility vests shall be worn at any time increased visibility would improve the safety or efficiency of the member.

#### **500.5.1 REQUIRED USE**

Except when working in a potentially adversarial or confrontational role, such as during vehicle stops, high-visibility vests shall be worn at any time it is anticipated that an employee will be exposed to the hazards of approaching traffic or construction and recovery equipment.

Examples of when high-visibility vests shall be worn include traffic control duties, accident investigations, lane closures, and while at disaster scenes, or anytime high visibility is desirable.

When emergency conditions preclude the immediate donning of the vest, officers shall retrieve and wear the vest as soon as conditions reasonably permit. Use of the vests shall also be mandatory when directed by a supervisor.

Vests maintained in the investigation units may be used any time a plainclothes officer might benefit from being readily identified as a member of law enforcement.

### **500.6 HAZARDOUS ROAD CONDITIONS**

The Aberdeen Police Department will make all reasonable efforts to address all reported hazardous road conditions in a timely manner as circumstances and resources permit.

### **500.7 TRAFFIC COMPLAINTS BY CROSSING GUARDS**

Crossing guards have the authority to submit reports to this department for certain violations occurring in and around crosswalks (RCW 46.61.275). Generally these reports may be for offenses involving a driver's failure to stop at a crosswalk or to exercise due care for pedestrians. Reports must be received no later than 72 hours after the violation occurred.

This department will give due consideration and will investigate, to a reasonable degree, reports of violations submitted by crossing guards, in an effort to identify the alleged violator. If the driver is identified and there is reasonable cause to believe a violation of RCW 46.61.235(5), RCW 46.61.245(2) or RCW 46.61.261(2) has occurred, a notice of traffic infraction should be issued.

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### **500.8 SCHOOL BUS SAFETY CAMERAS**

Any school district with buses properly equipped with cameras that capture stop-arm violations may report such violations to the Aberdeen Police Department whenever they occur within the department's jurisdiction.



# Traffic Collision Reporting

## 501.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Aberdeen Police Department prepares traffic collision reports and as a public service makes traffic collision reports available to the community with some exceptions.

### 501.1.1 TRAFFIC COLLISION INVESTIGATION

Officers will respond to all reportable collisions and in addition, to any collision where there is impairment of an operator due to alcohol or drugs; damage to public vehicles or property; a disturbance between the principals; major traffic congestion as a result of the collision; any collision where damage to the vehicle(s) requires towing; and all hit and run collisions. Officers will respond to other non-reportable collisions when requested, as workload allows.

## 501.2 TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTS

All traffic collision reports taken by members of this department shall be forwarded to the Patrol Lieutenant through the chain of command for approval. All approved reports shall be forwarded to the Records for data entry into the Records Management System. The Patrol Section Commander will be responsible for monthly and quarterly reports on traffic collision statistics to be forwarded to the Chief of Police, Public Information Officer, and Deputy Chief of Police, or other persons as required.

On non-reportable accidents, the officer assigned will provide the Field Accident Report form to the drivers involved and assist them with the exchange of necessary information and ensure the call is properly documented per department report writing policy.

### 501.2.1 STATEWIDE ELECTRONIC COLLISION AND TICKET ONLINE RECORDS (SECTOR)

This department utilizes SECTOR software to complete traffic citations and traffic collision reports. SECTOR shall only be used by those authorized employees who have completed department-approved training in the use of SECTOR software. All traffic collision reports completed with SECTOR software shall comply with established report approval requirements.

All reports completed using SECTOR software should be downloaded to the designated server as soon as practicable or in any case prior to the end of the employee's shift.

### 501.2.2 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

If a collision investigator has probable cause to believe a traffic infraction or criminal violation occurred, the investigating officer will take appropriate enforcement action. Citations may be issued at the scene or mailed to the violator after the investigation is complete.

- (a) Any collision involving a City of Aberdeen vehicle will be referred to the City Attorney's office for determination of proper action before a citation is issued.
- (b) If an emergency vehicle belonging to any public agency is involved, the driver will not be cited for an infraction. Information regarding the collision will be forwarded to the

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driver's agency for an internal review. Any disciplinary action will be the responsibility of the driver's agency.

### **501.3 REPORTING SITUATIONS**

#### **501.3.1 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS INVOLVING CITY VEHICLES**

Traffic collision investigation reports shall be taken when a City-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision upon a roadway or highway wherein any damage or injury results. A general information report may be taken in lieu of a traffic collision report at the direction of a supervisor when the collision occurs on private property or does not involve another vehicle. Whenever there is damage to a City vehicle, a Vehicle Damage Report shall be completed and forwarded to the appropriate Support Services Division managed by the Chief of Police, Operations is managed by the Deputy Chief, Special Assignments managed by a sergeant or above..

Photographs of the collision scene and vehicle damage may be taken at the discretion of the traffic investigator or any supervisor.

#### **501.3.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES**

When an employee of this department, either on-duty or off-duty, is involved in a traffic collision within the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department resulting in a serious injury or fatality, the Deputy Chief of Police, Division Commander, or the Patrol Lieutenant, may notify the Washington State Patrol for assistance.

The term serious injury is defined as any injury that may result in a fatality.

When an on-duty employee is involved in a traffic collision, whether in or out of the jurisdiction of Aberdeen, a Collision Review Board may be convened. See Policy below

#### **501.3.3 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS**

The Deputy Chief of Police, Division Commander, or on-duty Patrol Lieutenant may request assistance from the Washington State Patrol for the investigation of any traffic collision involving any City official or employee where a serious injury or fatality has occurred.

#### **501.3.4 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

Collisions occurring on private property will be addressed in the same manner as non-reportable collisions except for DUI, reckless, negligent driving, hit and run, or any fatal or serious injury incident, which will be handled the same as if on a public roadway.

An Incident Report may be taken at the discretion of any supervisor.

#### **501.3.5 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON ROADWAYS OR HIGHWAYS**

Traffic collision reports shall be taken when they occur on a roadway or highway within the jurisdiction of this department under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) When there is a death or injury to any persons involved in the collision.
- (b) When there is an identifiable violation of the Revised Code of Washington.

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- (c) Property damage exceeding the dollar amount currently established by WSP.
- (d) When a report is requested by any involved driver.

In all cases where a traffic collision report is required by policy, the current state authorized form will to used to document the collision (RCW 46.52.070).

### 501.3.6 FIRE HAZARD

For collisions involving injuries, fire hazards, and/or hazardous materials, the Fire Department will be notified immediately. When necessary, officers will render appropriate first aid until relieved by AFD personnel. In the case of fire hazards or hazardous materials, the officer will clear citizens to a safe distance. The hazardous materials should be identified if possible, and the information relayed to the Fire Department. Non-reportable collisions that involve hazardous materials, will be reported on an offense report.

### 501.4 COLLISION REVIEW BOARDS

When a police vehicle is involved in a motor vehicle collision, there may be an investigation and hearing by a Collision Review Board. For that reason, the following procedures shall be adhered to in the initial investigation of that collision:

#### 501.4.1 INITIAL COLLISION INVESTIGATION PROCEDURE

- (a) The driver of the police vehicle shall, as soon as possible after the collision, verbally notify the on-duty patrol supervisor.
- (b) The patrol supervisor shall assign someone other than the driver to investigate the collision. If at all possible, the patrol supervisor should not investigate the collision.
- (c) If required by State Law, the driver shall complete a Washington State Motor Vehicle Collision Report. Regardless of the damage to the police vehicle, the driver shall complete a written report about the incident. The officer(s) investigating the collision shall complete an Officer's Report and a Washington State Police Traffic Collision Report (when the collision meets RCW specifications).
- (d) All information concerning the collision (reports, photographs, statements, etc.) shall be forwarded to the Deputy Chief of Police, through the chain of command, no later than 7 calendar days following the collision. All materials concerning the collision shall remain in the official file until final disposition of the investigation.
- (e) The Deputy Chief of Police shall review all information concerning the collision and shall forward that information to the Chief of Police, along with a recommendation as to whether a Collision Review Board should or should not be convened. The Chief of Police shall have the final determination as to whether a Collision Review Board will be held.
- (f) If, for any reason, there are significant delays in the process, the involved driver/officer should be kept informed of the delays and the status of the administrative review.

#### 501.4.2 CRITERIA TO CONVENE A COLLISION REVIEW BOARD

The Collision Review Board will generally be convened under the following circumstances:

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- (a) The collision results in death.
- (b) The collision results in substantial injury or disfigurement.
- (c) Any facts of the collision are unclear or are disputed.
- (d) There are questions related to causation factors involving the collision.
- (e) There is a high potential liability to the City of Aberdeen as a result of the collision.
- (f) If requested by the involved driver/officer.

### 501.4.3 COLLISION REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Collision Review Board shall be appointed by the Chief of Police, and a new Board shall be appointed for each collision event. The Board shall consist of five officers who shall be selected as follows:

- (a) The Chief of Police shall select four members, one of which shall be of the same rank as the driver/officer, and one shall be a member of the Command Staff.
- (b) The driver/officer shall furnish the Chief of Police with the name of the officer of his choice as the fifth member.
- (c) The ranking member of the Board shall be designated by the Chief of Police as the presiding officer.

### 501.4.4 COLLISION REVIEW BOARD INVESTIGATION

The Collision Review Board shall make a thorough investigation of the traffic collision by viewing the scene of the collision, if necessary, and reviewing all materials submitted to the Chief of Police. Traffic Review Boards will normally not be conducted until criminal investigations and/or investigations by outside agencies are completed, unless approved by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

### 501.4.5 COLLISION REVIEW BOARD HEARING

The Collision Review Board hearing shall be a semi-formal administrative hearing. The Collision Review Board shall provide timely notice in writing to the driver/officer of the time and place of the hearing, which shall not be more than thirty days from the date of the collision, unless circumstances dictate a reasonable extension.

- (a) The Collision Review Board may require testimony from the driver/officer and any witnesses the Board or the driver/officer requests to attend the hearing.
- (b) The Board shall determine if a training problem existed for the driver/officer.
- (c) After conducting a thorough investigation and hearing, the presiding officer shall file a written report detailing the Board's findings with the Chief of Police. The report shall contain the conclusions reached by the Board, and may contain recommendations made by the Board.
- (d) After completing the investigation, the Board will render one of the following findings:

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- **Non-Preventable.** This means the actions of the employee were proper and there was nothing they could have reasonably done to prevent the collision.
- **Contributory.** This means though not necessarily at fault, the employee could have taken preventative measures to avoid the collision.
- **Preventable.** This means either by omission or commission the employee failed to comply with traffic laws or department policies, the result of which either directly or indirectly led to the collision.

### 501.4.6 COLLISION REVIEW BOARD DISCIPLINE

If the conclusions from the Board indicate a violation of Department Policy or Procedure, final disposition of the collision shall be provided through the Disciplinary Policy. A Collision Review Board need not convene if in a signed memo the employee requests to forgo the review board process, accepts responsibility for their actions, and agrees that the collision was preventable.

Employees should realize written discipline will most likely occur under these circumstances.

### 501.5 NOTIFICATION OF TRAFFIC BUREAU SUPERVISION

Whenever a traffic collision results in serious injury or death, or may potentially result in civil action against the city, the responding officer will notify the shift supervisor, who will respond to the scene and take charge of the investigation.

In the event of a serious injury or death related traffic collision, the Patrol Lieutenant, or on-duty patrol supervisor should notify the Patrol Commander, Deputy Chief of Police and Collision Investigation Team Supervisor to relate the circumstances of the traffic collision. The Patrol Lieutenant, or on-duty patrol supervisor may seek assistance from the Collision Investigation Team, Washington State Patrol, or other agency as the incident commander deems necessary.

#### 501.5.1 FATAL COLLISION INVESTIGATOR

The shift supervisor is responsible for the supervision of all serious injury or fatal collisions. He/she has the authority to call out the required resources from the Collision Investigation Team to assist with the investigation. The supervisor will make sure that a thorough investigation is completed. This may include photographs and videotape of the collision scene, measurements, searches, statements, blood and urine tests, and an accounting for the activities of the driver(s) and others involved prior to the incident. When there is probable cause to believe the driver/suspect is under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, the following procedure is to be followed:

- (a) Arrest the suspect for investigation of vehicular assault in the case of serious injury or investigation of vehicular homicide in the case of death.
- (b) Transport the suspect to the hospital as soon as possible and obtain a blood sample. You do not need the suspect's consent. You should Mirandize the suspect.
- (c) Do not arrest for D.U.I. and do not give a BAC test.
- (d) The Collision Investigation Team and the Operations Commander should be notified immediately on all serious injury or fatal traffic collisions.

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- (e) On serious injury collisions, where you have a question or concern, and on all fatal traffic collisions, the on-call Deputy Prosecutor should be notified.
- (f) When a fatal traffic collision occurs, the Public Works Director should be notified.

In the event the sole person seriously injured in a traffic collision is the driver/suspect, he or she shall be afforded the option of submitting to or refusing a BAC Datamaster or blood test under the circumstances and provisions specified in RCW 46.20.308.

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# Vehicle Towing and Release

## 502.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides the procedures for towing a vehicle by or at the direction of the Aberdeen Police Department.

## 502.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of those employees storing or impounding a vehicle are as follows.

### 502.2.1 REMOVAL OF VEHICLE DISABLED IN A TRAFFIC COLLISION

When a vehicle has been involved in a traffic collision and must be removed from the scene, the officer shall have the driver select a towing company, if possible, and shall relay the request for the specified towing company to the dispatcher. When there is no preferred company requested, a company will be selected from the rotational list of towing companies in Records.

If the owner is incapacitated, or for any reason it is necessary for the Department to assume responsibility for a vehicle involved in a collision, the officer shall request Records to call the official towing garage for the City of Aberdeen. The officer will then store the vehicle using the Washington Uniform Inventory Impound form.

### 502.2.2 DRIVING A NON-CITY VEHICLE

Vehicles which have been towed by or at the direction of the Department should not be driven by police personnel unless it is necessary to move a vehicle a short distance to eliminate a hazard, prevent the obstruction of a fire hydrant, or to comply with posted signs.

### 502.2.3 RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever a stolen vehicle is impounded by the Aberdeen Police Department, Records personnel will promptly attempt to notify the legal owner of the recovery (RCW 7.69.030(7)).

## 502.3 TOWING SERVICES

The City of Aberdeen periodically selects a firm to act as the official tow service and awards a contract to that firm. This firm will be used in the following situations:

- (a) When it is necessary to safeguard a vehicle due to the inability of the owner or operator to take the required action.
- (b) When a vehicle is being held as evidence in connection with an investigation.
- (c) When it is otherwise necessary to store a motor vehicle. This would include situations involving the recovery of stolen or abandoned vehicles, and the removal from the streets of vehicles obstructing traffic in violation of state or local regulations.
- (d) City police vehicle maintenance

Nothing in this policy shall require the Department to tow a vehicle.

## *Vehicle Towing and Release*

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### **502.4 STORAGE AT ARREST SCENES**

Whenever a person in charge or in control of a vehicle is arrested, it is the policy of this department to provide reasonable safekeeping for the arrestee's vehicle. The vehicle shall be stored whenever it is mandated by law, needed for the furtherance of an investigation or prosecution of the case, or when the Community Caretaker Doctrine would reasonably suggest it. For example, the vehicle would present a traffic hazard if not removed, or due to a high crime area the vehicle would be in jeopardy of theft or damage if left at the scene.

No impound should occur if other alternatives are available that would ensure the vehicle's protection. Factors that should be considered by officers in determining whether to impound a vehicle pursuant to this policy include:

- (a) Whether the offense for which the subject was arrested mandates vehicle impound (e.g., commercial sexual abuse of a minor, promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor, or promoting travel for commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9A.88.140(2))).
- (b) Whether someone is available at the scene of the arrest to whom the vehicle could be released.
- (c) Whether the vehicle is impeding the flow of traffic or is a danger to public safety.
- (d) Whether the vehicle can be secured.
- (e) Whether the detention of the arrestee will likely be of such duration as to require protection of the vehicle.
- (f) Whether there is some reasonable connection between the crime/arrest and the vehicle, or the vehicle is related to the commission of another crime (i.e., the vehicle itself has evidentiary value).
- (g) Whether the owner/operator requests that the vehicle be stored.
- (h) Whether the vehicle would be in jeopardy of theft or damage if left at the scene in a high-crime area.

In cases where a vehicle is not stored, the handling employee shall note in the report that the owner was informed that the Department will not be responsible for theft or damages to the vehicle.

### **502.5 VEHICLE INVENTORY**

All property in a stored or impounded vehicle shall be inventoried and listed on the vehicle storage form. A locked vehicle trunk shall not be opened, even if it may be opened without a key from an accessible area of the passenger compartment. Locked or closed containers located within the passenger compartment should be inventoried as a sealed unit, absent exigent circumstances.

Members conducting inventory searches should be as thorough and accurate as practical in preparing an itemized inventory. These inventory procedures are for the purpose of protecting an owner's property while in police custody, to provide for the safety of officers, and to protect the Department against fraudulent claims of lost, stolen, or damaged property.



## *Vehicle Towing and Release*

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### 502.5.1 VEHICLE IMPOUND PROCEDURE

- (a) All vehicles impounded by the department shall be routinely inventoried. The vehicle owner, if present, is free to reject the protection afforded by the inventory. If the owner of the vehicle does not want the vehicle inventoried it shall be noted on the inventory report form. A specific notation shall be made on the vehicle inventory report when an area is not inspected or inventoried.
- (b) The exterior of the vehicle shall be inspected and any damage or special equipment noted. The interior of the vehicle shall be inventoried and any damage or special equipment shall be noted. Items identified by a unique serial number should be recorded on the vehicle inventory report. Items of substantial value shall be placed into the property room for safekeeping.
- (c) If the officer has probable cause to believe contraband or evidence is located in the vehicle, the vehicle shall be secured and a search warrant obtained before the vehicle is inventoried. This does not preclude a search of a vehicle incident to arrest as established by state and case law guidelines.
- (d) Officers shall complete a vehicle inventory report at the time a vehicle is impounded, stored or seized, other than for the execution of a search warrant. The officer shall document the name of the tow operator; A copy of the vehicle inventory shall be attached to the case report; and the duplicate copy shall be given to the tow truck operator. Officers shall note on the vehicle inventory report if an investigatory hold has been placed on the vehicle.

### 502.6 SECURITY OF VEHICLES AND PROPERTY

Unless it would cause an unreasonable delay in the completion of a vehicle impound/storage or create an issue of officer safety, officers should make reasonable accommodations to permit a driver/owner to retrieve small items of value or personal need (e.g. cash, jewelry, cell phone, prescriptions) which are not considered evidence or contraband.

If a search of a vehicle leaves the vehicle or any property contained therein vulnerable to unauthorized entry, theft or damage, search personnel shall take such steps as are reasonably necessary to secure and/or preserve the vehicle or property from such hazards.

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# Vehicle Impound Hearings

## 503.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a procedure for the requirement to provide vehicle storage or impound validity hearings.

## 503.2 IMPOUND HEARING

When a vehicle is impounded by any member of the Aberdeen Police Department pursuant to AMC 10.58.050, a hearing will be conducted upon the request of the registered or legal owner of the vehicle or their agent (RCW 46.55.240).

### 503.2.1 HEARING PROCEDURES

Any person seeking to redeem a vehicle impounded under AMC 10.58.050 has a right, pursuant to the provisions of RCW 46.55.120(2)(b), to a hearing in the Grays Harbor County District Court, Department Two to contest the validity of the impoundment or the amount of the towing and storage charges. Any request for a hearing must be made in writing on the form provided by the towing company and received by the court within ten (10) days upon contestant's receipt of that form. If the hearing request is not received within that ten (10) days the right to a hearing is waived and the registered owner is liable for any towing, storage or other impoundment charges permitted under Chapter 46.55 of the Revised Code of Washington. At the time of filing the hearing request a filing fee must be paid to the District Court [RCW 46.55.120(2) (a) & (b)]

At the hearing, the person or persons requesting the hearing may produce any relevant evidence to show that the impoundment, towing and storage fees charged were not proper. At the conclusion of the hearing, the court shall determine whether the impound was proper, whether the towing or storage fees charged were in compliance with the posted rates, and who is responsible for payment of the fees. The court may not adjust fees or charges that are in compliance with the posted or contracted rates.

If the impound is found proper, the impoundment, towing and storage fees as permitted under this chapter together with the court costs may be assessed against the person or persons requesting the hearing. If the impound is determined to be in violation of this chapter, then the registered and legal owners of the vehicle or other item of personal property registered or titled with the department shall bear no impound, towing or storage fees, and any security shall be returned or discharged as appropriate, and the person or agency who authorized the Impound shall be liable for all towing, storage or other impound fees permitted under this chapter however, if an impound arising from an alleged violation of RCW 46.20.342 or 46.20.420 is determined to be in violation of this chapter, then the law enforcement officer directing the impoundment and the government employing the officer are not liable for damages if the officer relied in good faith and without gross negligence on the records of the department in assessing that the operator of the vehicle had a suspended or revoked driver license.

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If any judgment entered is not paid within fifteen (15) days of notice in writing of its entry, the court shall award reasonable attorney's fees and costs against the defendant in any action to enforce the judgment. Notice of entry of judgment may be made by registered or certified mail, and proof of mailing may be made by affidavit of the party mailing the notice [RCW 46.55.120(3)(e)]

# Impaired Driving

## 504.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to those department members who play a role in the detection and investigation of driving under the influence (DUI).

## 504.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to the safety of the roadways and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of Washington's impaired driving laws.

### 504.2.1 TESTING OF AN INJURED BUT CONSCIOUS SUSPECT

Officers may obtain a consensual blood sample per the "Implied Consent Warnings for Blood" requirements of the Washington State Patrol (WSP) DUI Packet (RCW 46.20.308(2)). When an officer has reasonable grounds to believe a person is under the influence of alcohol and/ or drugs and the person is incapable due to physical injury, physical incapacity or other physical limitations, of providing a breath sample or where the person is being treated in a hospital, clinic, doctor's office, emergency medical vehicle, ambulance, or other accepted and approved facility. A blood sample can also be obtained absent any injury or limitation where the officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person is under the influence of drug(s).

### 504.2.2 TESTING OF UNCONSCIOUS OR DECEASED SUSPECT

When there are reasonable grounds to believe that an unconscious driver is under the influence, a blood test may be obtained. This presents an exigent situation, which excuses the requirement of consent. If an individual is unconscious, a blood test may be administered without the consent of the individual per Washington State DUI Arrest Report "Special Evidence Warning" requirements. The "Special Evidence Warning" will be read to the individual prior to the blood draw (RCW 46.20.308(3)). The officer shall advise the attending health care provider of the intention to collect a sample of the suspect's blood as evidence. If the health care provider does not object based on medical reasons, the blood will be collected in the prescribed manner (RCW 46.20.308(4)).

### 504.2.3 EMERGENCY DOCTRINE

Under the emergency doctrine, the level of influence of an intoxicant can be important evidence. Since it is not of a permanent nature, it will be lost if not seized immediately. Policy Manual §§ 514.2.2 and 514.2.3 of this chapter come within the guidelines of the emergency doctrine.

### 504.2.4 COLLECTING BLOOD EVIDENCE

Only a physician, a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, a nursing assistant, a physician assistant, a first responder or an emergency medical technician as defined in RCW Chapter 18.73, a health care assistant as defined in RCW Chapter 18.135, any technician trained in withdrawing blood may withdraw a blood sample. Whether such evidence is collected at the Department or

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the jail, the withdrawal of the blood sample shall be witnessed by the assigned officer (RCW 46.61.506(5)).

### 504.2.5 FORCED WITHDRAWAL OF BLOOD

Blood may be taken by force only in specific impaired driving investigations when the suspect, after having been advised of his/her rights, and of the Special Evidence Rights warnings as described in the Washington State Patrol (WSP) DUI Packet, refuses to take a chemical test. If the suspect makes a timely and reasonable request to undergo a different and viable form of testing, such request shall be considered. Blood may only be taken by force when the following circumstances have been met:

- The suspect must be under arrest for the crime of vehicular homicide as provided in RCW 46.61.520 or vehicular assault as provided in RCW 46.61.522, or if an individual is under arrest for the crime of driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs as provided in RCW 46.61.502, which arrest results from an accident in which there has been serious bodily injury to another person, a breath or blood test may be administered without the consent of the individual so arrested (RCW 46.20.308(3)), or,
- After a suspect refuses a voluntary breath test, an officer may apply for a search warrant to obtain a sample of the suspect's blood.
- The officer must have reason to believe the suspect is intoxicated.
- The blood is taken in a medically approved manner.
- Only reasonable force may be used to restrain the arrestee.

The Shift Supervisor shall be notified, if possible, when blood is to be forcibly extracted from a suspect who is uncooperative or has refused a chemical test. The amount of force used to accomplish the collection of this evidence will be controlled by the officer who should ensure that only force which reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood being withdrawn will be permitted.

The Department Evidence Specialist shall retain and transport all blood samples to the State Toxicology Lab for analysis.

When a suspect cannot submit to a blood test because he/she is a hemophiliac or is using an anticoagulant under the direction of a physician, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prevent the withdrawal of blood based on a valid search warrant.

### 504.2.6 COLLECTING BREATH AS EVIDENCE

If the arrested person chooses a breath test and it can be accomplished without undue delay, the arrested person shall first be transported to the jail for booking preparatory to the collection of breath samples. At the jail, an officer trained in the use of the alcohol breath machine will record the blood alcohol level by obtaining samples of the suspect's breath.

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### **504.2.7 COLLECTING URINE SAMPLE AS EVIDENCE**

If there is significant delay between the incident and blood collection (greater than two hours) a urine specimen may also be useful. In general, blood provides better evidence of drug influence than urine, but drugs will be detected for a longer time in urine than in blood. For cases in which psilocybin (magic mushrooms) is an expected drug you must also collect urine as current methods do not permit the analysis of psilocybin in whole blood.

### **504.3 INVESTIGATIONS**

Officers should not enforce DUI laws to the exclusion of their other duties unless specifically assigned to DUI enforcement. All officers are expected to enforce these laws with due diligence.

The Patrol Lieutenant will develop and maintain, in consultation with the prosecuting attorney, report forms with appropriate checklists to assist investigating officers in documenting relevant information and maximizing efficiency. Any DUI investigation will be documented using these forms. Information documented elsewhere on the form does not need to be duplicated in the report narrative. Information that should be documented includes, at a minimum:

- (a) The field sobriety tests (FSTs) administered and the results.
- (b) The officer's observations that indicate impairment on the part of the individual, and the officer's health-related inquiries that may help to identify any serious health concerns (e.g., diabetic shock).
- (c) Sources of additional information (e.g., reporting party, witnesses) and their observations.
- (d) Information about any audio and/or video recording of the individual's driving or subsequent actions.
- (e) The location and time frame of the individual's vehicle operation and how this was determined.
- (f) Any prior related convictions in Washington or another jurisdiction.
- (g) Whether a child under the age of 16 was present in the vehicle (RCW 46.61.507).

### **504.4 FIELD TESTS**

The Patrol Lieutenant should identify standardized FSTs and any approved alternate tests for officers to use when investigating violations of DUI laws.

### **504.5 CHEMICAL TESTS**

A person implies consent under Washington law to a chemical test or tests of the person's breath and to providing the associated chemical sample under any of the following (RCW 46.20.308):

- (a) The arresting officer has reasonable grounds to believe the person was driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug.

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- (b) The arresting officer has reasonable grounds to believe a person under the age of 21 was driving or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while having a blood alcohol concentration of at least 0.02 (RCW 46.61.503).
- (c) The officer has stopped a person operating a commercial motor vehicle license (CDL) and has reasonable grounds to believe that the person was driving while having alcohol in the person's system (RCW 46.25.120).

If a person withdraws this implied consent, or is unable to withdraw consent (e.g., the person is unconscious), the officer should consider implied consent revoked and proceed as though the person has refused to provide a chemical sample.

### 504.5.1 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS

An officer requesting that a person submit to a chemical test shall provide the person, prior to administering the test, with the mandatory warnings pursuant to RCW 46.20.308(2) or if driving a commercial vehicle the warnings pursuant to RCW 46.25.120(3).

### 504.5.2 BREATH SAMPLES

The Patrol Lieutenant should ensure that all devices used for the collection and analysis of breath samples are properly serviced and tested, and that a record of such service and testing is properly maintained.

Officers obtaining a breath sample should monitor the device for any sign of malfunction. Any anomalies or equipment failures should be noted in the appropriate report and promptly reported to the Patrol Lieutenant.

Generally, chemical tests to determine alcohol concentration shall be of the breath only (RCW 46.20.308; RCW 46.25.120).

### 504.5.3 BLOOD SAMPLES

Only persons authorized by law to draw blood shall collect blood samples (RCW 46.61.506). The blood draw should be witnessed by the assigned officer. No officer, even if properly certified, should perform this task.

Officers should inform an arrestee that if he/she chooses to provide a blood sample, a separate sample can be collected for alternate testing. Unless medical personnel object, two samples should be drawn and retained as evidence, so long as only one puncture is required.

The blood sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

If an arrestee cannot submit to a blood draw because he/she has a bleeding disorder or has taken medication that inhibits coagulation, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test. Such inability to take a blood test should not be considered a refusal. However, that arrestee may be required to complete another available and viable test.

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A blood sample may be obtained only with the consent of the individual or as otherwise provided in this policy (RCW 46.20.308; RCW 46.25.120).

### **504.6 REFUSALS**

When an arrestee refuses to provide a chemical sample, officers shall:

- (a) Advise the arrestee of the requirement to provide a sample.
- (b) Audio- and/or video-record the admonishment and the response when it is practicable.
- (c) Document the refusal in the appropriate report.

#### **504.6.1 BLOOD SAMPLE WITHOUT CONSENT**

A blood sample may be obtained from a person who has been arrested and does not consent to a blood test when any of the following conditions exist (RCW 46.20.308; RCW 46.25.120):

- (a) A search warrant has been obtained.
- (b) The officer can articulate that exigent circumstances exist.

Exigency does not exist solely because of the short time period associated with the natural dissipation of alcohol or controlled or prohibited substances in the person's bloodstream. Exigency can be established by the existence of special facts, such as a lengthy time delay in obtaining a blood sample due to an accident investigation or medical treatment of the person.

#### **504.6.2 FORCED BLOOD SAMPLE**

If an arrestee indicates by word or action that he/she will physically resist a blood draw, the officer should request a supervisor to respond.

The responding supervisor should:

- (a) Evaluate whether using force to obtain a blood sample is appropriate under the circumstances.
- (b) Ensure that all attempts to obtain a blood sample through force cease if the person agrees to, and completes a viable form of testing in a timely manner.
- (c) Advise the person of his/her duty to provide a sample (even if this advisement was previously done by another officer) and attempt to persuade the individual to submit to such a sample without physical resistance. This dialogue should be recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
- (d) Ensure that the blood sample is taken in a medically approved manner.
- (e) Ensure the forced blood draw is recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
- (f) Monitor and ensure that the type and level of force applied appears reasonable under the circumstances.
  - 1. Unless otherwise provided in a warrant, force should generally be limited to handcuffing or similar restraint methods.



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2. In misdemeanor cases, if the arrestee becomes violent or more resistant, no additional force will be used and a refusal should be noted in the report.
  3. In felony cases, force which reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood draw may be permitted.
- (g) Ensure the use of force and methods used to accomplish the collection of the blood sample are documented in the related report.

If a supervisor is unavailable, officers are expected to use sound judgment and perform as a responding supervisor, as set forth above.

### **504.7 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION**

#### **504.7.1 WARRANTLESS ARREST**

An officer having probable cause to believe that a person is DUI may make a warrantless arrest of the person whether or not the officer observed the violation first hand (RCW 10.31.100).

Arrests supported by probable cause for DUI are mandatory if the person has been convicted of DUI in the past 10 years or if the officer has knowledge based on the information available to him/her that the person is charged with, or is waiting arraignment for, an offense that would qualify as a prior offense as defined by RCW 46.61.5055 if it were a conviction (RCW 10.31.100).

#### **504.7.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES**

If a person refuses to submit to a chemical test, or the results from the test render a prohibited alcohol or THC concentration in the person's breath or blood, the officer shall (RCW 46.20.308(5)):

- (a) Serve the notice of intention to suspend, revoke, or deny the person's license or permit to drive.
- (b) Provide the person with a written notice of his/her right to a hearing before the Department of Licensing (DOL).
- (c) Advise the person that his/her license or permit is a temporary license.
- (d) Immediately notify the DOL of the arrest and within 72 hours transmit to the DOL a sworn report that states:
  1. The officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person was DUI.
  2. After having received the required statutory warnings, the person either refused to submit to a test of his/her blood or breath or submitted to a test that rendered a prohibited alcohol or THC concentration of the person's breath or blood.
- (e) Submit a sworn report to the DOL when the person has a CDL and either refused or had a test administered that disclosed a prohibited amount of alcohol or any amount of THC concentration (RCW 46.25.120(5)).

When a person is arrested for a violation of RCW 46.61.502 (DUI) or RCW 46.61.504 (Physical control of vehicle while DUI), the officer shall make a clear notation on the report if there is a child

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under the age of 16 present in the vehicle and promptly notify child protective services as required in the Child Abuse Policy (RCW 46.61.507).

### **504.7.3 ADDITIONAL TESTING**

A person submitting to a chemical test pursuant to this policy may have a qualified person of his/her own choosing administer one or more tests in addition to any administered at the direction of an officer (RCW 46.20.308(2); RCW 46.61.506).

### **504.8 RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Special Assignments Officer will ensure that all case-related records are transmitted according to current records procedures and as required by the prosecuting attorney's office.

### **504.9 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

The Special Assignments Officer will ensure that all appropriate reports and documents related to administrative license suspensions are reviewed and forwarded to the DOL.

Any officer who receive notice of required attendance to an administrative license suspension hearing should promptly notify the prosecuting attorney.

An officer called to testify at an administrative hearing should document the hearing date and the DOL file number in a supplemental report. Specific details of the hearing generally should not be included in the report unless errors, additional evidence or witnesses are identified.

### **504.10 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator should ensure that officers participating in the enforcement of DUI laws receive regular training. Training should include, at minimum, current laws on impaired driving, investigative techniques and rules of evidence pertaining to DUI investigations. The Training Coordinator should confer with the prosecuting attorney's office and update training topics as needed.

# **Traffic Citations & Infractions**

## **505.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy outlines the responsibility for traffic citations and notice of infractions, including the procedure for dismissal, correction, and voiding of traffic citations and notice of infractions.

## **505.2 RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Records shall be responsible for the supply and accounting of all traffic citations and infractions issued to employees of this department.

## **505.3 DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

Employees of this department do not have the authority to dismiss a citation/infraction once it has been issued. Only the court has the authority to dismiss a citation/infraction that has been issued. Any request from a recipient to dismiss a citation/infraction shall be referred to the Deputy Chief of Police. Upon a review of the circumstances involving the issuance of the traffic citation/infraction, the Deputy Chief of Police may request the City Attorney to consider dismissal of the traffic citation/infraction. If approved, the citation/infraction will be forwarded to the appropriate court with a request for dismissal. All recipients of traffic citations/infractions whose request for the dismissal of a traffic citation/infraction has been denied shall be referred to the appropriate court.

Should an officer determine during a court proceeding that a traffic citation/infraction should be dismissed in the interest of justice or where prosecution is deemed inappropriate the officer may request the City Attorney's office to dismiss the citation/infraction. Upon dismissal of the traffic citation by the court, the officer shall notify his/her immediate supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the dismissal and shall complete any paperwork as directed or required. The citation/infraction dismissal shall then be forwarded to the officer's Section Commander for review.

## **505.4 VOIDING TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

See policy § 500.3.8

## **505.5 DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

The court and file copies of all traffic citations/infractions issued by members of this department shall be forwarded to the Records for filing and distribution.

Traffic Citations and Infractions issued by members of this department using SECTOR will be promptly forwarded to the Records for filing and distribution.

Upon separation from employment with this department, all employees issued traffic citations/infraction books shall return any unused citations/infractions to the Records.

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### **505.6 JUVENILE CITATIONS**

Completion of traffic citation/infraction forms for juveniles may vary slightly from the procedure for adults. The juvenile's age, place of residency, and the type of offense should be considered before issuing the juvenile a citation/infraction.

## TRAFFIC WARNING NOTICES

### 506.1 TRAFFIC WARNING NOTICES

Traffic Warning Notices may be issued to all vehicle operator's, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians that have violated a traffic law, and have not been issued a traffic Infraction or Citation.

Traffic Warning Notices will include the CAD reference number and be filled out to the extent the information is available and relevant. The issuance and routing of a Traffic Warning Notice will be the same as the traffic Infraction / Citation.

## Disabled Vehicles

### 507.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This department has adopted the following policy on assisting motorists in disabled vehicles within this jurisdiction.

### 507.2 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITY

When an on-duty officer observes a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the officer should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that officer is assigned to a call of higher priority, the dispatcher should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. Members should take appropriate action to mitigate potential problems when a vehicle constitutes a traffic hazard or the safety of the motorist is a concern.

### 507.3 EXTENT OF ASSISTANCE

In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department personnel will be contingent on the time of day, the location, the availability of department resources, and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

#### 507.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Department personnel shall not make mechanical repairs to a disabled vehicle. The use of push bumpers to relocate vehicles to a position of safety is not considered a mechanical repair.

#### 507.3.2 VEHICLE LOCK OUTS

Department personnel should not unlock private vehicles where the driver has locked the keys inside the vehicle unless exigent circumstances exist. Officers should provide reasonable assistance to the locked out citizen as needed. A locksmith, taxi or tow truck company should be called to unlock the vehicle at the owner's expense.

#### 507.3.3 JUMP-STARTING VEHICLES

Department members shall not use department vehicles to jump start disabled vehicles. If a jump start is needed and the member is not assigned to a higher priority call, a jump pack shall be used. A taxi or tow company can be called to jumpstart the vehicle at the owner's expense.

#### 507.3.4 RELOCATION OF DISABLED VEHICLES

The relocation of disabled vehicles by members of this department by pushing or pulling a vehicle should only occur when the conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to reduce a hazard presented by the disabled vehicle.

#### 507.3.5 RELOCATION OF MOTORIST

The relocation of a motorist with a disabled vehicle should only occur with the person's consent and should be suggested when conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to mitigate a potential hazard. The department member may stay with the disabled motorist or transport him/her to a safe area to await further assistance.

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### **507.4 USE OF PUSH BARS**

Vehicles equipped with push bars may be utilized to remove a disabled vehicle from the traveled portion of the roadway when such vehicle is creating an undo hazard to the safe flow of traffic. The use of the push bar will restore normal traffic flow and reduce the threat of injury and/or accidents. Pushing disabled vehicles shall only be for the distance necessary to clear the traveled portion of the roadway.

#### **507.4.1 INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURE**

1. Inspect the disabled vehicle for any previous damage and make sure the bumper is secured to the disabled vehicle.
2. If there is previous damage to the disabled vehicle bumper, point out the damage to the driver prior to pushing the vehicle, and if possible, photograph the damage prior to pushing the vehicle.
3. Instruct the driver on proper pushing procedures.
  - a. Advise the driver where you intend to push them.
  - b. The disabled vehicle should be in neutral with the ignition in the on position.
  - c. Advise the driver of the disabled vehicle the power steering and power brakes will not be functional.
  - d. All occupants shall wear their seatbelts.
  - e. If the department member feels the driver is not capable of safely operating the vehicle, then the vehicle should not be pushed.
4. Pushing procedure
  - a. Pushing should only be done in a straight line manner.
  - b. Emergency lights will be activated during the pushing maneuver.
  - c. Slowly pull up behind the disabled vehicle and make contact with the disabled vehicle making sure the push bars align with the disabled vehicle.
  - d. Accelerate slowly to allow the disabled vehicle to be moved into the designated parking area.
  - e. Do not keep in contact with the bumper of the disabled vehicle while negotiating a corner or going up an incline or down a decline in the roadway. Contact can be reestablished after the disabled vehicle completes the maneuver.
5. Recheck both vehicles for any damage caused by pushing the disabled vehicle.
  - a. If any damage was caused by the pushing of the disabled vehicle, the department member shall notify the OIC and photograph the damage.
  - b. All uses of the push bars shall be noted in the CAD call notes.

#### **6. Prohibited Use**

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- a. Do not use the push bars to push start vehicles.
- b. Do not push vehicles with extended trailer hitches that extend past the depth of the push bar.
- c. Do not push disabled vehicles whose size or weight will cause damage to either vehicle.
- d. Do not push vehicles with previous extensive damage.



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# Unauthorized 24/72 Hour Vehicle Violations

## 508.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides procedures for the marking, recording, and impounding of unauthorized vehicles parked in violation of 72 hour time limitations on highways, streets or alley. See Aberdeen City Ordinance 10.58.015.

## 508.2 MARKING VEHICLES

Vehicles suspected of being subject to removal from a highway, street or alley after being left unattended for 72 hours shall be marked and noted on the Aberdeen Police Department Impound Notice. No case number is required at this time (RCW 46.55.010(14)).

A notification sticker, as per RCW, shall be applied in a visible location and a visible chalk mark should be placed on the left rear tire tread at the fender level unless missing tires or other vehicle conditions prevent marking. Any deviation in markings shall be noted on the Impound Notice.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 72-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be re-marked for another 72-hour period and a Impound Notice completed. If a patrol officer completes the impound notice it shall be forwarded to the Parking Enforcement Officer.

### 508.2.1 MARKED VEHICLE FILE

The Parking Enforcement Officer shall be responsible for maintaining a file for all impound notices.

Parking Enforcement Officer shall be responsible for the follow up investigation of all 72-hour unauthorized vehicle violations noted on the impound notice. If a marked vehicle has current Washington registration plates, the Parking Enforcement Officer shall check the records to learn the identity of the last owner of record. The Parking Enforcement Officer shall make a reasonable effort to contact the owner by telephone and provide notice that if the vehicle is not removed within seventy-two hours from the time the sticker was attached, the vehicle may be impounded and stored at the owner's expense (RCW 46.55.085(2)).

### 508.2.2 VEHICLE STORAGE

An officer may impound any vehicle not removed 72 hours after marking (RCW 46.55.085(3)).

The officer or Parking Enforcement Officer authorizing the impound of the vehicle shall complete a uniform impound authorization and inventory form. The completed form shall be submitted to the Records immediately following the impound of the vehicle (RCW 46.55.075(2)).

# Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture

## 509.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the authority and procedure for the seizure and forfeiture of vehicles associated with the arrest of subjects for driving under the influence (RCW 46.61.502) or physical control of a vehicle while under the influence (RCW 46.61.504).

## 509.2 SUSPENSION OF WASHINGTON DRIVER LICENSES

RCW 46.61.5058 provides for the forfeiture of any vehicle when the driver of such vehicle has been arrested for driving under the influence or physical control of a vehicle while under the influence, if such person has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055.

## 509.3 VEHICLE SEIZURE PROCEDURES

When an officer arrests a subject for driving under the influence (RCW 46.61.502) or physical control of a vehicle while under the influence (RCW 46.61.504), the officer may initiate steps to seize the arrestee's vehicle under the following circumstances:

- (a) The arrestee has a prior offense within seven years as defined in RCW 46.61.5055,
- (b) The arrestee must be provided with a department form to notify the arrestee, in writing, that it is unlawful to transfer, sell or encumber in any way the subject's interest in the vehicle in which they were driving or had physical control when the violation occurred, and
- (c) The vehicle is not a rental (RCW 46.61.5058(1)(b)).

The vehicle should be impounded as provided under the authority of RCW 46.55.113(1).

## 509.4 VEHICLE FORFEITURE

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to initiate forfeiture proceedings on all vehicles seized pursuant to RCW 46.61.5058.

Within fifteen days after vehicle seizure, the legal owner of the seized vehicle shall be notified of the seizure and intended forfeiture. Such notification shall be accomplished in writing to the last known address of the legal owner by certified mail with a return of service requested, or any other form of notification required by court order (RCW 46.61.5058(4)).

### 509.4.1 FORFEITURE HEARING

Persons notified of seizure have forty-five days to respond. Upon written response, such persons shall have the opportunity to be heard as to the claim or right (RCW 46.61.5058(6)).

- (a) The following procedure shall apply in such cases:
  - 1. Persons requesting a forfeiture hearing must complete and sign an Aberdeen Police Department Forfeiture Request Form;

## *Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture*

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2. All hearings shall be scheduled and conducted in a timely fashion.
  3. The hearing officer(s) shall be designated by the Chief of Police.
  4. The decision of the hearing officer shall be considered final.
- (b) The owner of the seized vehicle may, through his/her initiation and legal process, choose to remove the hearing to court.
- (c) The vehicle shall be considered forfeited under the following circumstances:
1. If, forty-five days after the seizure, no person has notified the Aberdeen Police Department of a claim of ownership or right to the vehicle.
  2. After a hearing officer has determined that the vehicle was lawfully seized and is subject to forfeit.
  3. A court of local jurisdiction has determined that the vehicle was lawfully seized and is subject to forfeit.
- (d) In any case where it is determined that the vehicle is not subject to forfeit, it shall be immediately returned to the legal owner.

### **509.5 PROCEDURES FOLLOWING FORFEITURE**

Vehicles that have been lawfully seized and through forfeit the ownership is transferred to the Aberdeen Police Department may be sold or retained for official use provided that all bona fide security interests to the vehicle are first satisfied (RCW 46.61.5058(7)). The following procedure shall apply after vehicles are legally forfeited to the Aberdeen Police Department:

- (a) The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall determine the disposition of all vehicles legally forfeited to the Aberdeen Police Department. Such disposition shall be determined based on vehicle value, existing security interest, and the needs of the Department.
- (b) The value of the vehicle is the sale price, or if retained, the fair market value of the vehicle at the time of the seizure (RCW 46.61.5058(14)).
- (c) A record of the forfeited vehicle shall be maintained. The record shall indicate the prior owner's information, if known, a description of the vehicle, the disposition of the vehicle, its value at time of seizure and the amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the vehicle (RCW 46.61.5058(8)).
  1. Such records shall be maintained for at least seven years (RCW 46.61.5058(9)).
- (d) A copy of the records of all forfeited vehicles shall be filed with the state treasurer each calendar quarter (RCW 46.61.5058(10)).
- (e) By January 31st of each year, ten percent of the net proceeds of vehicles forfeited during the preceding calendar year shall be remitted to the state treasurer (RCW 46.61.5058(12)(13)).

## **Chapter 6 - Investigation Operations**

# Investigation and Prosecution

## 600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines and requirements pertaining to the handling and disposition of criminal investigations.

## 600.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to investigate crimes thoroughly and with due diligence, and to evaluate and prepare criminal cases for appropriate clearance or submission to a prosecutor.

## 600.3 INITIAL INVESTIGATION

### 600.3.1 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

An officer responsible for an initial investigation shall complete no less than the following:

- (a) Make a preliminary determination of whether a crime has been committed by completing, at a minimum:
  - 1. An initial statement from any witnesses or complainants.
  - 2. A cursory examination for evidence.
- (b) If information indicates a crime has occurred, the officer shall:
  - 1. Preserve the scene and any evidence as required to complete the initial and follow-up investigation.
  - 2. Determine if additional investigative resources (e.g., investigators or scene processing) are necessary and request assistance as required.
  - 3. If assistance is warranted, or if the incident is not routine, notify a supervisor or the Patrol Lieutenant.
  - 4. Make reasonable attempts to locate, identify and interview all available victims, complainants, witnesses and suspects.
  - 5. Collect any evidence.
  - 6. Take any appropriate law enforcement action.
  - 7. Complete and submit the appropriate reports and documentation.
- (c) If the preliminary determination is that no crime occurred, determine what other action may be necessary, what other resources may be available, and advise the informant or complainant of this information.

## 600.4 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATION REQUIREMENTS

Suspects who are in custody and subjected to an interrogation shall be given the *Miranda* warning, unless an exception applies. See the Temporary Custody of Juveniles Policy for juvenile requirements.

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### 600.4.1 AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS

Any custodial interrogation of a juvenile or an adult suspected of a felony conducted at a place of detention (as defined by RCW 10.122.020) shall be electronically recorded (audio and video). This includes any required warnings, advice of the rights of the individual being questioned, and waiver of rights. Consent to the electronic recording is not required, but the officer shall inform the suspect that they are being recorded (RCW 10.122.030).

A custodial interrogation at any place other than a place of detention shall be recorded by audio means at a minimum (RCW 10.122.030).

Regardless of where the interrogation occurs, every reasonable effort should be made to secure functional recording equipment to accomplish such recordings.

Consideration should also be given to recording a custodial interrogation, or any investigative interview, for any other offense when it is reasonable to believe it would be appropriate and beneficial to the investigation and is otherwise allowed by law.

No recording of a custodial interrogation should be destroyed or altered without written authorization from the prosecuting attorney and the Investigation Unit supervisor. Copies of recorded interrogations or interviews may be made in the same or a different format as the original recording, provided the copies are true, accurate, and complete and are made only for authorized and legitimate law enforcement purposes.

Recordings should not take the place of a thorough report and investigative interviews. Written statements from suspects should continue to be obtained when applicable.

### 600.4.2 DOCUMENTATION

If a custodial interrogation at a place of detention occurs without electronically recording it in its entirety, the officer shall prepare a written or electronic report explaining the reason and summarize the custodial interrogation process and the individual's statements. This report shall be completed as soon as practicable after completing the interrogation (RCW 10.122.030).

If the custodial interrogation occurs outside a place of detention, the officer shall complete a report as soon as practicable explaining the decision and summarize the custodial interrogation process and the individual's statements (RCW 10.122.030).

### 600.4.3 EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the recording requirements apply in the following circumstances:

- (a) When spontaneous utterances or statements are made outside the course of a custodial interrogation, or a statement made in response to a question asked routinely during the processing of the arrest of an individual (RCW 10.122.030).
- (b) Exigent circumstances exist that prevent an officer from electronically recording an interrogation. In those cases, the officer shall record electronically an explanation of the exigent circumstances before conducting the interrogation, if feasible, or as soon as practicable after the interrogation is completed (RCW 10.122.040).

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- (c) The individual indicates a refusal to participate or further participate in the electronic recording. When feasible, the agreement of the individual to participate in the interrogation without recording or further participate should be recorded electronically (RCW 10.122.060).
- (d) The officer conducting an interrogation has no reason to believe the individual being interrogated committed an act that requires electronic recording of the interrogation (RCW 10.122.080).
  - 1. If during the interrogation, the individual being interviewed reveals facts and circumstances that give the officer conducting the interview a reason to believe that an act was committed that requires an electronic recording, the continued interrogation shall be recorded.
- (e) The officer or the officer's supervisor reasonably believes the electronic recording would disclose the identity of a confidential informant or jeopardize the safety of the officer, the individual being interrogated, or another person (RCW 10.122.090).
  - 1. If feasible and consistent with the safety of a confidential informant, an explanation of the basis for the belief that electronic recording would disclose the informant's identity must be electronically recorded at the time of the interrogation or if not feasible as soon as practicable after the interrogation is completed.
- (f) The equipment malfunctions (RCW 10.122.100).

### **600.4.4 RECORDING PROCEDURES**

The Chief of Police should designate a member of the Department to be responsible for electronic recordings. Responsibilities should include but are not limited to (RCW 10.122.150):

- (a) Developing protocols on how a recording is made, including the following:
  - 1. Standards for angles, focus, and field of vision to promote accurate recording.
- (b) Developing procedures for the collection and review of recordings or absence of recordings by supervisors.
- (c) Assigning a specific supervisor responsibility to promote accountability, including but not limited to:
  - 1. Adequate staffing.
  - 2. Training.
  - 3. Material resources.
- (d) Developing procedures for preservation of chain of custody of recordings.
- (e) Developing a process for explaining noncompliance with procedures.

### **600.5 POTENTIALLY EXCULPATORY EVIDENCE OR FACTS**

Officers must include in their reports adequate reference to all material evidence and facts which are reasonably believed to be exculpatory to any individual in the case. If an officer learns of

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potentially exculpatory information anytime after submission of the case, the officer must notify the prosecutor as soon as practical.

Evidence or facts are considered material if there is a reasonable probability that they may impact the result of a criminal proceeding or trial. Determining whether evidence or facts are material often requires legal or even judicial review. An officer who is uncertain whether evidence or facts are material should address the issue with a supervisor.

Supervisors uncertain about the materiality of evidence or facts should address the issue in a written memo to an appropriate prosecutor. A copy of the memo should be retained in the department case file.

### **600.6 DISCONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATIONS**

The investigation of a criminal case or efforts to seek prosecution should only be discontinued if one of the following applies:

- (a) All reasonable investigative efforts have been exhausted, no reasonable belief that the person who committed the crime can be identified, and the incident has been documented appropriately.
- (b) The perpetrator of a misdemeanor has been identified and a warning is the most appropriate disposition.
  - 1. In these cases, the investigator shall document that the person was warned and why prosecution was not sought.
  - 2. Warnings shall not be given for felony offenses or other offenses identified in this policy or by law that require an arrest or submission of a case to a prosecutor.
- (c) The case has been submitted to the appropriate prosecutor but no charges have been filed. Further investigation is not reasonable nor has the prosecutor requested further investigation.
- (d) The case has been submitted to the appropriate prosecutor, charges have been filed, and further investigation is not reasonable, warranted or requested, and there is no need to take the suspect into custody.
- (e) Suspects have been arrested, there are no other suspects, and further investigation is either not warranted or requested.
- (f) Investigation has proven that a crime was not committed (see the Sexual Assault Investigations Policy for special considerations in these cases).

The Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Sexual Assault Investigations and Adult Abuse policies may also require an arrest or submittal of a case to a prosecutor.

### **600.7 COMPUTERS AND DIGITAL EVIDENCE**

The collection, preservation, transportation and storage of computers, cell phones and other digital devices may require specialized handling to preserve the value of the related evidence. If it is anticipated that computers or similar equipment will be seized, officers should request that



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computer forensic examiners assist with seizing computers and related evidence. If a forensic examiner is unavailable, officers should take reasonable steps to prepare for such seizure and use the resources that are available.

### **600.8 INVESTIGATIVE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET SOURCES**

Use of social media and any other internet source to access information for the purpose of criminal investigation shall comply with applicable laws and policies regarding privacy, civil rights and civil liberties. Information gathered via the internet should only be accessed by members while on-duty and for purposes related to the mission of this department. If a member encounters information relevant to a criminal investigation while off-duty or while using his/her own equipment, the member should note the dates, times and locations of the information and report the discovery to his/her supervisor as soon as practicable. The member, or others who have been assigned to do so, should attempt to replicate the finding when on-duty and using department equipment.

Information obtained via the internet should not be archived or stored in any manner other than department-established record keeping systems (see the Records Maintenance and Release and Criminal Organizations policies).

#### **600.8.1 ACCESS RESTRICTIONS**

Information that can be accessed from any department computer, without the need of an account, password, email address, alias or other identifier (unrestricted websites), may be accessed and used for legitimate investigative purposes without supervisory approval.

Accessing information from any internet source that requires the use or creation of an account, password, email address, alias or other identifier, or the use of nongovernment IP addresses, requires supervisor approval prior to access. The supervisor will review the justification for accessing the information and consult with legal counsel as necessary to identify any policy or legal restrictions. Any such access and the supervisor approval shall be documented in the related investigative report.

Accessing information that requires the use of a third party's account or online identifier requires supervisor approval and the consent of the third party. The consent must be voluntary and shall be documented in the related investigative report.

Information gathered from any internet source should be evaluated for its validity, authenticity, accuracy and reliability. Corroborative evidence should be sought and documented in the related investigative report.

Any information collected in furtherance of an investigation through an internet source should be documented in the related report. Documentation should include the source of information and the dates and times that the information was gathered.

#### **600.8.2 INTERCEPTING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION**

Intercepting social media communications in real time may be subject to federal and state wiretap laws. Officers should seek legal counsel before any such interception.

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### **600.9 MODIFICATION OF CHARGES FILED**

Members are not authorized to recommend to the prosecutor or to any other official of the court that charges on a pending case be amended or dismissed without the authorization of a Division Commander or the Chief of Police. Any authorized request to modify the charges or to recommend dismissal of charges shall be made to the prosecutor.

### **600.10 USE OF FACIAL RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY**

The Chief of Police should designate a member of the Department to be responsible for the management of the facial recognition technology (FRT) program.

Responsibilities should include but are not limited to (RCW 43.386.020):

- (a) Ensuring that department protocols and procedures conform to the department accountability report, current laws, regulations, and best practices.
- (b) Maintaining and updating the department accountability report.

#### **600.10.1 AUTHORIZATION FOR FRT**

Members seeking the use of FRT should make a request to the Division Commander or authorized designee.

Upon approval, FRT may be used in accordance with the approved department accountability report (RCW 43.386.020).

#### **600.10.2 USE OF FRT IN SURVEILLANCE**

Members shall not use FRT in ongoing surveillance (i.e., the tracking of the movement of a recognized individual through one or more public places over time), to conduct real-time or near real-time identification, or for persistent tracking (i.e., the tracking of the movement of an unrecognized individual if the facial template data is maintained for more than 48 hours or the identification of the individual is possible through links to other databases), unless (RCW 43.386.010; RCW 43.386.080):

- (a) A warrant is obtained that authorizes use.
- (b) Exigent circumstances exist.
- (c) A court order authorizing the use of FRT to locate or identify a missing person or to identify a deceased person has been issued.

#### **600.10.3 RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF FRT**

Facial recognition service may not be applied (RCW 43.386.080):

- (a) To any individual based on their religious, political, or social views or activities, participation in a particular noncriminal organization or lawful event, or actual or perceived race, ethnicity, citizenship, place of origin, immigration status, age, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other characteristic protected by law. Profiling is not condoned, including but not limited to predictive law enforcement tools.

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- (b) To create a record describing any individual's exercise of rights guaranteed by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and by Article I, section 5 of the state Constitution.
- (c) As the sole basis to establish probable cause in a criminal investigation.
  - 1. The results of a facial recognition service may be used in conjunction with other information and evidence lawfully obtained by an officer to establish probable cause in a criminal investigation.
- (d) To identify an individual based on a sketch or other manually produced image.
- (e) To a substantively manipulated image in a manner not consistent with the facial recognition service provider's intended use and training.

### 600.10.4 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA REPORTING

The Special Assignments Officer is responsible for ensuring that demographic data regarding individuals named in surveillance warrant applications is collected, summarized in a report, and submitted to the appropriate legislative authority in January of each year (RCW 43.386.010; RCW 43.386.070).

### 600.10.5 COORDINATION WITH PROSECUTING OFFICE

When a case is submitted for prosecution, officers shall disclose to the prosecutor in writing whether or not FRT was utilized in the investigation (RCW 43.386.070).

### 600.10.6 DOCUMENTATION

All pertinent records regarding the use of a facial recognition service shall be maintained to facilitate public reporting and auditing of compliance with the Aberdeen Police Department facial recognition policies (RCW 43.386.070).

### 600.10.7 TRAINING

The Training Coordinator should ensure that those members responsible for using FRT or data produced from the use of FRT receive periodic training regarding the Aberdeen Police Department's policy and FRT-related procedures.

Training shall include the following but not be limited to (RCW 43.386.060):

- (a) The capabilities and limitations of the facial recognition service.
- (b) Procedures to interpret and act on the output of the facial recognition service.
- (c) To the extent applicable to the deployment context, the meaningful human review requirement for decisions that produce legal effects concerning individuals or similarly significant effects concerning individuals.

# Asset Forfeiture

## 601.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the authority and procedure for the seizure, forfeiture and liquidation of property associated with designated offenses.

### 601.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Fiscal agent** - The person designated by the Chief of Police to be responsible for securing and maintaining seized assets and distributing any proceeds realized from any forfeiture proceedings. This includes any time the Aberdeen Police Department seizes property for forfeiture or when the Aberdeen Police Department is acting as the fiscal agent pursuant to a multi-agency agreement.

**Forfeiture** - The process by which legal ownership of an asset is transferred to a government or other authority.

**Forfeiture reviewer** - The department member assigned by the Chief of Police who is responsible for reviewing all forfeiture cases and for acting as the liaison between the Department and the assigned attorney.

**Property subject to forfeiture** - Generally includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Firearms that were carried, possessed or sold illegally (RCW 9.41.098).
- (b) Devices, profits, proceeds, associated equipment and conveyances related to illegal gambling (RCW 9.46.231).
- (c) Interests, proceeds, etc. related to organized crime (RCW 9A.82.060), criminal profiteering (RCW 9A.82.080), human trafficking (RCW 9A.40.100), commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.100) or promoting prostitution (RCW 9A.88.070) (RCW 9A.82.100).
- (d) Proceeds traceable to or derived from money laundering (RCW 9A.83.020; RCW 9A.83.030).
- (e) Property acquired or maintained in relation to commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.100), promoting commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9.68A.101) or promoting prostitution in the first degree (RCW 9A.88.070), and conveyances used to facilitate these offenses (RCW 9A.88.150).
- (f) Personal property, money, a vehicle, etc. that was used to commit a felony or was acquired through the commission of a felony not covered under another forfeiture statute (RCW 10.105.010).
- (g) Personal property, money, a vehicle, etc. that was acquired through the commission of a crime involving theft, trafficking or unlawful possession of commercial metal property, or facilitating such crimes (RCW 19.290.230).

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- (h) Conveyances, including aircraft, vehicles or vessels, used for the violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and proceeds from these violations (money, real property, etc.) (RCW 69.50.505).
- (i) Boats, vehicles, gear, etc. used for poaching/wildlife crimes (RCW 77.15.070).

**Seizure** - The act of law enforcement officials taking property, cash or assets that have been used in connection with or acquired by specified illegal activities.

### 601.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes that appropriately applied forfeiture laws are helpful to enforce the law, deter crime and reduce the economic incentive of crime. However, the potential for revenue should never compromise the effective investigation of criminal offenses, officer safety or any person's due process rights.

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that all members, including those assigned to internal or external law enforcement task force operations, shall comply with all state and federal laws pertaining to forfeiture.

#### 601.2.1 SPECIAL GUIDELINES APPLICABLE TO CONVEYANCES

Special guidelines apply regarding the forfeiture of conveyances (aircraft, vehicles and vessels) in order for it to be seized as a conveyance that has been used to facilitate narcotic activity. All conveyances are subject to seizure and forfeiture, except (RCW 69.50.505(1)(d)):

- When the conveyance is used by any person as a common carrier in the transaction of business as a common carrier, unless it appears that the owner or other person in charge of the conveyance is a consenting party or has knowledge of the narcotics violations.
- When violations have been committed or omitted without the owner's actual knowledge or consent.
- When the conveyance is used in the receipt of an amount of marijuana for which possession constitutes a misdemeanor under RCW 69.50.4014.
- When the conveyance is secured by a loan and the lender had no knowledge of, nor consented to, the act or omission.
- When the owner of a conveyance has been arrested for narcotics violations, the conveyance in which the person was arrested is not subject to forfeiture unless it is either seized or a court order has been issued for its seizure within 10 days of the owner's arrest.

### 601.3 ASSET SEIZURE

Property may be seized for forfeiture as provided in this policy.

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### 601.3.1 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO SEIZURE

The following may be seized upon review and approval of a supervisor and in coordination with the forfeiture reviewer:

- (a) Real or personal property subject to forfeiture identified in a court order authorizing seizure.
- (b) Property subject to forfeiture without a court order when the property is lawfully seized incident to an arrest, the service of a search warrant, or the service of an administrative inspection warrant.
- (c) Property subject to forfeiture can also be seized without a court order when:
  - 1. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used for illegal gambling (RCW 9A.46.231).
  - 2. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used for the commercial sexual abuse of a minor (RCW 9A.68A.100; RCW 9A.68A.101) or promoting prostitution in the first degree (RCW 9A.88.070; RCW 9A.88.150).
  - 3. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in the commission of any felony (RCW 10.105.010). See also separate statutes regarding seizures for felonies involving commercial metal, "bootlegging," criminal profiteering, or money laundering (RCW 19.290.230; RCW 66.32.020; RCW 9A.82.100; RCW 9A.83.030).
  - 4. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (RCW 69.50.505).
  - 5. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used for poaching/wildlife crimes (RCW 77.15.070).

A large amount of money standing alone is insufficient to establish the probable cause required to make a seizure.

Whenever practicable, a court order for seizure prior to making a seizure is the preferred method.

### 601.3.2 PROPERTY NOT SUBJECT TO SEIZURE

The following property should not be seized for forfeiture:

- (a) Cash and property that does not meet the forfeiture counsel's current minimum forfeiture thresholds should not be seized.
- (b) Property from an "innocent owner," or a person who had no knowledge of the offense or who did not consent to the property's use.
- (c) No vehicle or other conveyance based on a misdemeanor involving marijuana (RCW 69.50.505).
- (d) Vehicles/conveyances that would be subject to forfeiture if more than 10 days have elapsed since the owner's arrest and no court order has been issued (RCW 9A.46.231; RCW 9A.88.150; RCW 69.50.505).

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### 601.3.3 SEIZED VEHICLES

Vehicles seized subject to forfeiture will be taken to a designated secure storage facility. A seized vehicle should not be impounded. The officer seizing the vehicle shall notify the detective supervisor of the seizure of the vehicle and circumstances of the seizure.

If the vehicle cannot be driven, a tow truck will be used to tow the vehicle to the storage facility using the current citywide towing services contract provider.

### 601.4 PROCESSING SEIZED PROPERTY FOR FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS

When property or cash subject to this policy is seized, the officer making the seizure should ensure compliance with the following:

- (a) Complete applicable seizure forms and present the appropriate copy to the person from whom the property is seized. If cash or property is seized from more than one person, a separate copy must be provided to each person, specifying the items seized. When property is seized and no one claims an interest in the property, the officer must leave the copy in the place where the property was found, if it is reasonable to do so.
- (b) Complete and submit a report and original seizure forms within 24 hours of the seizure, if practicable.
- (c) Forward the original seizure forms and related reports to the forfeiture reviewer within two days of seizure.

The officer will book seized property as evidence with the notation in the comment section of the property form, "Seized Subject to Forfeiture." Property seized subject to forfeiture should be booked on a separate property form. No other evidence from the case should be booked on this form.

Photographs should be taken of items seized, particularly cash, jewelry and other valuable items.

Officers who suspect property may be subject to seizure but are not able to seize the property (e.g., the property is located elsewhere, the whereabouts of the property is unknown, it is real estate, bank accounts, non-tangible assets) should document and forward the information in the appropriate report to the forfeiture reviewer.

#### 601.4.1 FORFEITED PROPERTY (DRUG RELATED)

When property is seized by the Aberdeen Police Department and subsequently forfeited in accordance with RCW 69.50, the Operations Division Commander will ensure that the following records are maintained and reports submitted.

- (a) A record will be kept including:
  - 1. The identity of the prior owner if known.
  - 2. A description of the property.
  - 3. The disposition of the property.
  - 4. The value of the property at the time of seizure.

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5. The amount of proceeds realized from disposition of the property.
6. Records of forfeited property shall be retained for at least seven years.
- (b) A report including a copy of records of forfeited property shall be filled with the state treasurer each calendar quarter, with a copy forwarded to the Chief of Police.
- (c) By January 31st of each year, an amount equal to ten percent of the net proceeds of any property forfeited during the proceeding calendar year, shall be remitted to the state treasurer in accordance with RCW 69.50.505 (h) (1) (2) and (3).

### **601.5 MAINTAINING SEIZED PROPERTY**

The Evidence Room Supervisor is responsible for ensuring compliance with the following:

- (a) All property received for forfeiture is reasonably secured and properly stored to prevent waste and preserve its condition.
- (b) All property received for forfeiture is checked to determine if the property has been stolen.
- (c) All property received for forfeiture is retained in the same manner as evidence until forfeiture is finalized or the property is returned to the claimant or the person with an ownership interest.
- (d) Property received for forfeiture is not used unless the forfeiture action has been completed.

### **601.6 FORFEITURE REVIEWER**

The Chief of Police will appoint a forfeiture reviewer. Prior to assuming duties, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the forfeiture reviewer should attend a course approved by the Department on asset forfeiture.

The responsibilities of the forfeiture reviewer include:

- (a) Remaining familiar with forfeiture laws, particularly those cited in this policy and the forfeiture policies of the forfeiture counsel.
- (b) Serving as the liaison between the Department and the forfeiture counsel and ensuring prompt legal review of all seizures.
- (c) Making reasonable efforts to obtain annual training that includes best practices in pursuing, seizing and tracking forfeitures.
- (d) Reviewing each seizure-related case and deciding whether the seizure is more appropriately made under state or federal seizure laws. The forfeiture reviewer should contact federal authorities when appropriate.
- (e) Ensuring that responsibilities, including the designation of a fiscal agent, are clearly established whenever multiple agencies are cooperating in a forfeiture case.



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- (f) Ensuring that seizure forms are available and appropriate for department use. These should include notice forms, a receipt form and a checklist that provides relevant guidance to officers. The forms should be available in languages appropriate for the region and should contain spaces for:
  - 1. Names and contact information for all relevant persons and law enforcement officers involved.
  - 2. Information as to how ownership or other property interests may have been determined (e.g., verbal claims of ownership, titles, public records).
  - 3. A space for the signature of the person from whom cash or property is being seized.
  - 4. A tear-off portion or copy, which should be given to the person from whom cash or property is being seized, that includes the legal authority for the seizure, information regarding the process to contest the seizure and a detailed description of the items seized.
- (g) Ensuring that officers who may be involved in asset forfeiture receive training in the proper use of the seizure forms and the forfeiture process. The training should be developed in consultation with the appropriate legal counsel and may be accomplished through traditional classroom education, electronic media, Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) or Departmental Directives. The training should cover this policy and address any relevant statutory changes and court decisions.
- (h) Reviewing each asset forfeiture case to ensure that:
  - 1. Written documentation of the seizure and the items seized is in the case file.
  - 2. Independent legal review of the circumstances and propriety of the seizure is made in a timely manner.
  - 3. Notice of seizure has been given in a timely manner to those who hold an interest in the seized property.
    - (a) Generally, 15 days' notice. (Gambling RCW 9A.46.231; Money laundering RCW 9A.83.030; Child prostitution RCW 9A.88.150; Felonies RCW 10.105.010; Commercial metal RCW 19.290.230; Controlled substances RCW 69.50.505; Fish and wildlife enforcement RCW 77.15.070).
    - (b) Generally, 10 days' notice for conveyances. (Gambling RCW 9A.46.231; Child prostitution RCW 9A.88.150; Controlled substances RCW 69.50.505).
  - 4. Property is promptly released to those entitled to its return.
  - 5. All changes to forfeiture status are forwarded to any supervisor who initiates a forfeiture case.

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6. Any cash received is deposited with the fiscal agent.
  7. Assistance with the resolution of ownership claims and the release of property to those entitled is provided.
  8. Current minimum forfeiture thresholds are communicated appropriately to officers.
  9. This policy and any related policies are periodically reviewed and updated to reflect current federal and state statutes and case law.
- (i) Ensuring that a written plan is available that enables the Chief of Police to address any extended absence of the forfeiture reviewer, thereby ensuring that contact information for other law enforcement officers and attorneys who may assist in these matters is available.
  - (j) Ensuring that the process of selling or adding forfeited property to the department's regular inventory is in accordance with all applicable laws and consistent with the department's use and disposition of similar property.
  - (k) Upon completion of any forfeiture process, ensuring that no property is retained by the Aberdeen Police Department unless the Chief of Police authorizes in writing the retention of the property for official use.
  - (l) Addressing any landlord claims for reimbursement through forfeited assets or damage to property (RCW 9.46.231; RCW 69.50.505).
  - (m) Compensating victims of commercial metal crimes within 120 days (RCW 19.290.230).

Forfeiture proceeds should be maintained in a separate fund or account subject to appropriate accounting control, with regular reviews or audits of all deposits and expenditures.

Forfeiture reporting and expenditures should be completed in the manner prescribed by the law and City financial directives.

### **601.7 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

No member of this department may use property that has been seized for forfeiture until the forfeiture action has been completed and the Chief of Police has given written authorization to retain the property for official use. No department member involved in the decision to seize property should be involved in any decision regarding the disposition of the property.

# Confidential Informants

## 602.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In many instances, a successful investigation cannot be conducted without the use of confidential informants. To protect the integrity of the Aberdeen Police Department and the officers using informants, it shall be the policy of this department to take appropriate precautions by developing sound informant policies.

## 602.2 INFORMANT FILE SYSTEM

The Operations Commander or his/her designee shall be responsible for maintaining informant files. A separate file shall be maintained on each confidential informant.

### 602.2.1 FILE SYSTEM PROCEDURE

Each file shall be coded with an assigned informant control number. An informant history shall be prepared to correspond to each informant file and include the following information:

- (a) Informant's name and/or aliases.
- (b) Date of birth.
- (c) Physical description: height, weight, hair color, eye color, race, sex, scars, tattoos or other distinguishing features.
- (d) Current home address and telephone numbers.
- (e) Current employer(s), position, address(es) and telephone numbers.
- (f) Vehicles owned and registration information.
- (g) Places frequented.
- (h) Informant's photograph.
- (i) Briefs of information provided by the informant and his/her subsequent reliability. If an informant is determined to be unreliable, the informant's file is marked as "Unreliable".
- (j) Name of officer initiating use of the informant.
- (k) Signed informant agreement.
- (l) Update on active or inactive status of informant.

The informant files shall be maintained in a secure area within the Operations Commander's Office. These files shall be used to provide a source of background information about the informant, enable review and evaluation of information given by the informant, and minimize incidents that could be used to question the integrity of detectives or the reliability of the confidential informant.

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Access to the informant files shall be restricted to the Chief of Police, the Deputy Chief, the Operations Commander, or their designees.

### **602.3 USE OF INFORMANTS**

Before using an individual as a confidential informant, an officer must receive approval from the Operations Division Commander or his/her designee. The officer shall compile sufficient information through a background investigation in order to determine the reliability, credibility and suitability, of the individual, including age, maturity and risk of physical harm.

#### **602.3.1 JUVENILE INFORMANTS**

The use of juvenile informants under the age of 13-years is prohibited.

For purposes of this policy, a juvenile informant means any juvenile who participates, on behalf of this department, in a prearranged transaction or series of prearranged transactions with direct face-to-face contact with any party, when the juvenile's participation in the transaction is for the purpose of obtaining or attempting to obtain evidence of illegal activity by a third party and where the juvenile is participating in the transaction for the purpose of reducing or dismissing a pending juvenile petition against the juvenile.

### **602.4 GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS**

All confidential informants are required to sign and abide by the provisions of the departmental Informant Agreement. The officer using the confidential informant shall discuss each of the provisions of the agreement with the confidential informant.

Details of the agreement are to be approved in writing by the Operations Division Commander or his/her designee before being finalized with the confidential informant.

#### **602.4.1 RELATIONSHIPS WITH CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS**

No member of the Aberdeen Police Department shall knowingly maintain a social relationship with a confidential informant while off duty, or otherwise become intimately involved with a confidential informant. Members of the Aberdeen Police Department shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities nor engage in any private business transaction with a confidential informant.

To maintain officer/informant integrity, the following must be adhered to:

- (a) Officers shall not withhold the identity of an informant from their superiors.
- (b) Identities of informants shall otherwise be kept confidential.
- (c) Criminal activity by informants shall not be condoned.
- (d) Informants shall be told they are not acting as police officers, employees or agents of the Aberdeen Police Department, and that they shall not represent themselves as such.
- (e) The relationship between officers and informants shall always be ethical and professional.

## *Confidential Informants*

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- (f) Social contact shall be avoided unless necessary to conduct an official investigation, and only with prior approval of the Operations Division Commander or his/her designee.
- (g) Officers shall not meet with informants of the opposite sex in a private place unless accompanied by at least one additional officer. Officers may meet informants of the opposite sex alone in an occupied public place such as a restaurant. When contacting informants of either sex for the purpose of making payments officers shall arrange for the presence of another officer.
- (h) In all instances when department funds are paid to informants, a voucher shall be completed in advance, itemizing the expenses.

### **602.5 NARCOTICS INFORMANT PAYMENT PROCEDURES**

The potential payment of large sums of money to any confidential informant must be done in a manner respecting public opinion and scrutiny. Additionally, to maintain a good accounting of such funds requires a strict procedure for disbursements.

#### **602.5.1 PAYMENT PROCEDURE**

The amount of funds to be paid to any confidential informant will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The extent of the informant's personal involvement in the case.
- The quality of the violator arrested.
- The amount of assets seized.
- The quantity of the drugs seized.
- The informant's previous criminal activity.
- The level of risk taken by the informant.

The officer working a confidential informant will discuss the above factors with the Operations Division Commander or his/her designee and arrive at a recommended level of payment that will be subject to the approval of the Chief of Police. The amount of payment will be based on a percentage of the current market price for the drugs or other contraband being sought, not to exceed 15-percent.

#### **602.5.2 CASH DISBURSEMENT POLICY**

The following establishes a cash disbursement policy for confidential informants. No informant will be told in advance or given an exact amount or percentage for services rendered.

## *Confidential Informants*

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- (a) When both assets and drugs have been seized, the confidential informant shall receive payment unless working under an agreement between the informant and prosecutors office in exchange for a plea bargain.
- (b) A confidential informant may receive a cash amount for each quantity of drugs seized whether or not assets are also seized.

### 602.5.3 PAYMENT PROCESS

The case number shall be recorded justifying the payment. Payments shall be paid in cash out of the Investigative Imprest Fund (§ 603).

To complete the transaction with the confidential informant the case agent shall have the confidential informant initial the receipt. The confidential informant will sign the form indicating the amount received, the date, and that the confidential informant is receiving funds in payment for information voluntarily rendered in the case. The Aberdeen Police Department case number shall be recorded on the receipt. The form will be kept in the confidential informant's file.

Each confidential informant receiving a cash payment shall be informed of his/her responsibility to report the cash to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as income.

### 602.5.4 REPORTING OF PAYMENTS

Each confidential informant receiving a cash payment shall be informed of his/her responsibility to report the cash to the IRS as income. If funds distributed exceed \$600 in any reporting year, the confidential informant should be provided IRS Form 1099 (26 CFR § 1.6041-1). If such documentation or reporting may reveal the identity of the confidential informant and by doing so jeopardize any investigation, the safety of peace officers or the safety of the confidential informant (26 CFR § 1.6041-3), then IRS Form 1099 should not be issued.

In such cases, the confidential informant shall be provided a letter identifying the amount he/she must report on a tax return as "other income" and shall be required to provide a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the letter. The completed acknowledgement form and a copy of the letter shall be retained in the confidential informant's file.

## Investigative Imprest Fund

### **603.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The Investigative Imprest Fund is created and operated in accordance with City Resolution 1993-28. The amount designated for this fund is \$2,000, which upon expenditure, is reimbursable up to the amount set by the current police budget.

The Operations Division Commander or his/her designee is delegated the authority and responsibility for the safekeeping of this fund, and all accounting and records keeping in accordance with the enabling Resolution. Reimbursement will be handled by the voucher process, signed by the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief, with corresponding receipts attached. (Reimbursement checks are issued by the Finance Department in the name of and endorsed by the Chief of Police.) An internal audit shall be conducted by the Operations Division Commander each time the fund is replenished and at least quarterly. The status of such fund will be reported to the finance director's office annually, as directed by Resolution 1993-28, no later than January 31st.

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# Eyewitness Identification

## 604.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy sets forth guidelines to be used when members of this department employ eyewitness identification techniques.

### 604.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to the policy include:

**Eyewitness identification process** - Any field identification, live lineup or photographic identification.

**Field identification** - A live presentation of a single individual to a witness following the commission of a criminal offense for the purpose of identifying or eliminating the person as the suspect.

**Live lineup** - A live presentation of individuals to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

**Photographic lineup** - Presentation of photographs to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

## 604.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will strive to use eyewitness identification techniques, when appropriate, to enhance the investigative process and will emphasize identifying persons responsible for crime and exonerating the innocent.

## 604.3 INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Members should make a reasonable effort to arrange for an interpreter before proceeding with eyewitness identification if communication with a witness is impeded due to language or hearing barriers.

Before the interpreter is permitted to discuss any matter with the witness, the investigating member should explain the identification process to the interpreter. Once it is determined that the interpreter comprehends the process and can explain it to the witness, the eyewitness identification may proceed as provided for within this policy.

## 604.4 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AND FORM

The Investigation Unit supervisor shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of an eyewitness identification process for use by members when they are conducting eyewitness identifications.

The process should include appropriate forms or reports that provide:

- (a) The date, time and location of the eyewitness identification procedure.
- (b) The name and identifying information of the witness.



## *Eyewitness Identification*

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- (c) The name of the person administering the identification procedure.
- (d) If applicable, the names of all of the individuals present during the identification procedure.
- (e) An instruction to the witness that it is as important to exclude innocent persons as it is to identify a perpetrator.
- (f) An instruction to the witness that the perpetrator may or may not be among those presented and that the witness is not obligated to make an identification.
- (g) If the identification process is a photographic or live lineup, an instruction to the witness that the perpetrator may not appear exactly as he/she did on the date of the incident.
- (h) An instruction to the witness that the investigation will continue regardless of whether an identification is made by the witness.
- (i) A signature line where the witness acknowledges that he/she understands the identification procedures and instructions.
- (j) A statement from the witness in the witness's own words describing how certain he/she is of the identification or non-identification. This statement should be taken at the time of the identification procedure.

### **604.5 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION**

Members are cautioned not to, in any way influence a witness as to whether any subject or photo presented in a lineup is in any way connected to the case. Members should avoid mentioning that:

- The individual was apprehended near the crime scene.
- The evidence points to the individual as the suspect.
- Other witnesses have identified or failed to identify the individual as the suspect.

In order to avoid undue influence, witnesses should view suspects or a lineup individually and outside the presence of other witnesses. Witnesses should be instructed to avoid discussing details of the incident or of the identification process with other witnesses.

Whenever feasible, the eyewitness identification procedure should be audio and/or video recorded and the recording should be retained according to current evidence procedures.

### **604.6 DOCUMENTATION**

A thorough description of the eyewitness process and the results of any eyewitness identification should be documented in the case report.

If a photographic lineup is utilized, a copy of the photographic lineup presented to the witness should be included in the case report. In addition, the order in which the photographs were presented to the witness should be documented in the case report.

## *Eyewitness Identification*

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### **604.7 PHOTOGRAPHIC AND LIVE LINEUP CONSIDERATIONS**

Individuals in the lineup should reasonably match the description of the perpetrator provided by the witness and should bear similar characteristics to avoid causing any person to unreasonably stand out. In cases involving multiple suspects, a separate lineup should be conducted for each suspect. The suspects should be placed in a different order within each lineup.

The member presenting the lineup to a witness should do so sequentially (i.e., show the witness one person at a time) and not simultaneously. The witness should view all persons in the lineup.

A live lineup should only be used before criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspect. If there is any question as to whether any criminal proceedings have begun, the investigating member should contact the appropriate prosecuting attorney before proceeding.

### **604.8 FIELD IDENTIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS**

Field identifications, also known as field elimination show-ups or one-on-one identifications, may be helpful in certain cases, where exigent circumstances make it impracticable to conduct a photo or live lineup identifications. A field elimination show-up or one-on-one identification should not be used when independent probable cause exists to arrest a suspect. In such cases a live or photo lineup is the preferred course of action if eyewitness identification is contemplated.

When initiating a field identification, the member should observe the following guidelines:

- (a) Obtain a complete description of the suspect from the witness.
- (b) Assess whether a witness should be included in a field identification process by considering:
  - 1. The length of time the witness observed the suspect.
  - 2. The distance between the witness and the suspect.
  - 3. Whether the witness could view the suspect's face.
  - 4. The quality of the lighting when the suspect was observed by the witness.
  - 5. Whether there were distracting noises or activity during the observation.
  - 6. Any other circumstances affecting the witness's opportunity to observe the suspect.
  - 7. The length of time that has elapsed since the witness observed the suspect.
- (c) If safe and practicable, the person who is the subject of the show-up should not be handcuffed or in a patrol vehicle.
- (d) When feasible, members should bring the witness to the location of the subject of the show-up, rather than bring the subject of the show-up to the witness.

## *Eyewitness Identification*

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- (e) The person who is the subject of the show-up should not be shown to the same witness more than once.
- (f) In cases involving multiple suspects, witnesses should only be permitted to view the subjects of the show-up one at a time.
- (g) The person who is the subject of the show-up should not be required to put on clothing worn by the suspect, to speak words uttered by the suspect or to perform other actions mimicking those of the suspect.
- (h) If a witness positively identifies a subject of the show-up as the suspect, members should not conduct any further field identifications with other witnesses for that suspect. In such instances members should document the contact information for any additional witnesses for follow up, if necessary.

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# Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations

## 605.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of an unmanned aerial system (UAS) and for the storage, retrieval and dissemination of images and data captured by the UAS.

### 605.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Unmanned Aerial System (UAS)** - An unmanned aircraft of any type that is capable of sustaining directed flight, whether preprogrammed or remotely controlled (commonly referred to as an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)), and all of the supporting or attached systems designed for gathering information through imaging, recording or any other means.

## 605.2 POLICY

Unmanned aerial systems may be utilized to enhance the department's mission of protecting lives and property when other means and resources are not available or are less effective. Any use of a UAS will be in strict accordance with constitutional and privacy rights and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations.

## 605.3 PRIVACY

The use of the UAS potentially involves privacy considerations. Absent a warrant or exigent circumstances, operators and observers shall adhere to FAA altitude regulations and shall not intentionally record or transmit images of any location where a person would have a reasonable expectation of privacy (e.g., residence, yard, enclosure). Operators and observers shall take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertently recording or transmitting images of areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Reasonable precautions can include, for example, deactivating or turning imaging devices away from such areas or persons during UAS operations.

## 605.4 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police will appoint a program coordinator who will be responsible for the management of the UAS program. The program coordinator will ensure that policies and procedures conform to current laws, regulations and best practices and will have the following additional responsibilities:

- Coordinating the FAA Certificate of Waiver or Authorization (COA) application process and ensuring that the COA is current.
- Ensuring that all authorized operators and required observers have completed all required FAA and department-approved training in the operation, applicable laws, policies and procedures regarding use of the UAS.
- Developing uniform protocol for submission and evaluation of requests to deploy a UAS, including urgent requests made during ongoing or emerging incidents. Deployment of a UAS shall require written authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, depending on the type of mission.

## *Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations*

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- Developing protocol for conducting criminal investigations involving a UAS, including documentation of time spent monitoring a subject.
- Implementing a system for public notification of UAS deployment.
- Developing an operational protocol governing the deployment and operation of a UAS including, but not limited to, safety oversight, use of visual observers, establishment of lost link procedures and secure communication with air traffic control facilities.
- Developing a protocol for fully documenting all missions.
- Developing a UAS inspection, maintenance and record-keeping protocol to ensure continuing airworthiness of a UAS, up to and including its overhaul or life limits.
- Developing protocols to ensure that all data intended to be used as evidence are accessed, maintained, stored and retrieved in a manner that ensures its integrity as evidence, including strict adherence to chain of custody requirements. Electronic trails, including encryption, authenticity certificates and date and time stamping, shall be used as appropriate to preserve individual rights and to ensure the authenticity and maintenance of a secure evidentiary chain of custody.
- Developing protocols that ensure retention and purge periods are maintained in accordance with established records retention schedules.
- Facilitating law enforcement access to images and data captured by the UAS.
- Recommending program enhancements, particularly regarding safety and information security.
- Ensuring that established protocols are followed by monitoring and providing periodic reports on the program to the Chief of Police.

### **605.5 USE OF UAS**

Only authorized operators who have completed the required training shall be permitted to operate the UAS.

Use of vision enhancement technology (e.g., thermal and other imaging equipment not generally available to the public) is permissible in viewing areas only where there is no protectable privacy interest or when in compliance with a search warrant or court order. In all other instances, legal counsel should be consulted.

UAS operations should only be conducted during daylight hours and a UAS should not be flown over populated areas without FAA approval.

### **605.6 PROHIBITED USE**

The UAS video surveillance equipment shall not be used:

- To conduct random surveillance activities.
- To target a person based solely on actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability.

## *Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations*

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- To harass, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual or group.
- To conduct personal business of any type.

The UAS shall not be weaponized.

### **605.7 RETENTION OF UAS DATA**

Data collected by the UAS shall be retained as provided in the established records retention schedule.

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# Sexual Assault Investigations

## 606.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the investigation of sexual assaults. These guidelines will address some of the unique aspects of such cases and the effects that these crimes have on the victims.

Mandatory notification requirements are addressed in the Child Abuse and Adult Abuse policies.

### 606.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Sexual assault** - Any crime or attempted crime of a sexual nature, to include, but not limited to, offenses defined in RCW 9A.44.010 et seq. and RCW 9A.64.020.

**Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)** - A multidisciplinary team generally comprised of advocates; law enforcement officers; forensic medical examiners, including sexual assault forensic examiners (SAFEs) or sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) if possible; forensic laboratory personnel; and prosecutors. The team is designed to coordinate a broad response to sexual assault victims.

## 606.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that its members, when responding to reports of sexual assaults, will strive to minimize the trauma experienced by the victims, and will aggressively investigate sexual assaults, pursue expeditious apprehension and conviction of perpetrators, and protect the safety of the victims and the community.

## 606.3 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS

Qualified investigators should be available for assignment of sexual assault investigations. These investigators should:

- (a) Have specialized training in, and be familiar with, interview techniques and the medical and legal issues that are specific to sexual assault investigations.
- (b) Conduct follow-up interviews and investigation.
- (c) Present appropriate cases of alleged sexual assault to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and medical personnel as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates and support for the victim.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with the SART or other multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable.

## *Sexual Assault Investigations*

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### **606.4 REPORTING**

In all reported or suspected cases of sexual assault, a report should be written and assigned for follow-up investigation. This includes incidents in which the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

### **606.5 VICTIM INTERVIEWS**

The primary considerations in sexual assault investigations, which begin with the initial call to Grays Harbor Communications, should be the health and safety of the victim, the preservation of evidence, and preliminary interviews to determine if a crime has been committed and to attempt to identify the suspect.

Whenever possible, a member of the SART should be included in the initial victim interviews.

An in-depth follow-up interview should not be conducted until after the medical and forensic examinations are completed and the personal needs of the victim have been met (e.g., change of clothes, bathing). The follow-up interview may be delayed to the following day based upon the circumstances. Whenever practicable, the follow-up interview should be conducted by a qualified investigator.

No opinion of whether the case is unfounded should be included in a report.

Victims should be apprised of applicable victim's rights provisions, as outlined in the Victim Witness Assistance Policy.

#### **606.5.1 VICTIM PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND ADVOCATE**

A victim may choose a personal representative to accompany him/her to the hospital or other health care facility and to any proceeding concerning the alleged sexual assault, including interviews. A personal representative includes a friend, relative, attorney, or employee or volunteer from a community sexual assault program or specialized treatment service provider (RCW 70.125.030; RCW 70.125.060).

The victim may also choose to consult with a sexual assault survivor's advocate throughout the investigatory process of the case. The assigned investigator should ensure the advocate has access to the victim during the process (RCW 70.125.110).

#### **606.5.2 POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION OF VICTIM**

Victims of alleged sex offenses shall not be asked or required to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of the offense. The refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph or other truth telling device shall not by itself prevent the investigation, charging or prosecution of the offense (RCW 10.58.038; 34 USC § 10451).

### **606.6 COLLECTION AND TESTING OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

Whenever possible, a SART member should be involved in the collection of forensic evidence from the victim.



## *Sexual Assault Investigations*

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When the facts of the case indicate that collection of biological evidence is warranted, it should be collected regardless of how much time has elapsed since the reported assault.

If a drug-facilitated sexual assault is suspected, urine and blood samples should be collected from the victim as soon as practicable.

Subject to requirements set forth in this policy, biological evidence from all sexual assault cases, including cases where the suspect is known by the victim, should be submitted for testing. Victims who choose not to assist with an investigation, do not desire that the matter be investigated or wish to remain anonymous may still consent to the collection of evidence under their control. In these circumstances, the evidence should be collected and stored appropriately.

### 606.6.1 COLLECTION AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Members investigating sexual assaults or handling related evidence are required to do the following:

- (a) Sexual assault examination kits shall be submitted to an approved lab within 30 days with a request for testing prioritization when either of the following conditions are met (RCW 5.70.040):
  - 1. A related report or complaint is received by the Department alleging a sexual assault or other crime has occurred and the victim has consented to the submission.
  - 2. The victim is an unemancipated person 17 years or age or younger.
- (b) Facilitate the collection of an unreported sexual assault kit from a collecting entity when this department has jurisdiction to investigate any related criminal allegations (RCW 5.70.030).

Additional guidance regarding evidence retention and destruction is found in the Property and Evidence Policy.

### 606.6.2 STATEWIDE SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT TRACKING SYSTEM

Members investigating a sexual assault should ensure that biological evidence is tracked appropriately in the statewide sexual assault kit tracking system (RCW 35.21.195; RCW 36.28.200).

### 606.6.3 DNA TEST RESULTS

Members investigating sexual assault cases should notify victims of any DNA test results as soon as reasonably practicable.

A SART member should be consulted regarding the best way to deliver biological testing results to a victim so as to minimize victim trauma, especially in cases where there has been a significant delay in getting biological testing results (e.g., delays in testing the evidence or delayed DNA databank hits). Members should make reasonable efforts to assist the victim by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations as provided in the Victim Witness Assistance Policy.

## *Sexual Assault Investigations*

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Members investigating sexual assaults cases should ensure that DNA results are entered into databases when appropriate and as soon as practicable.

### **606.7 DISPOSITION OF CASES**

If the assigned investigator has reason to believe the case is without merit, the case may be classified as unfounded only upon review and approval of the Investigation Unit supervisor.

Classification of a sexual assault case as unfounded requires the Investigation Unit supervisor to determine that the facts have significant irregularities with reported information and that the incident could not have happened as it was reported. When a victim has recanted his/her original statement, there must be corroborating evidence that the allegations were false or baseless (i.e., no crime occurred) before the case should be determined as unfounded.

### **606.8 CASE REVIEW**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should ensure cases are reviewed on a periodic basis, at least annually, using an identified group that is independent of the investigation process. The reviews should include an analysis of:

- Case dispositions.
- Decisions to collect biological evidence.
- Submissions of biological evidence for lab testing.

The SART and/or victim advocates should be considered for involvement in this audit. Summary reports on these reviews should be forwarded through the chain of command to the Chief of Police.

#### **606.8.1 RETENTION**

The Investigation Unit supervisor should ensure evidence, investigatory reports, and records related to violent or sex offenses are appropriately marked for retention under RCW 5.70.010.

### **606.9 RELEASING INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC**

In cases where the perpetrator is not known to the victim, and especially if there are multiple crimes where more than one appear to be related, consideration should be given to releasing information to the public whenever there is a reasonable likelihood that doing so may result in developing helpful investigative leads. The Investigation Unit supervisor should weigh the risk of alerting the suspect to the investigation with the need to protect the victim and the public, and to prevent more crimes.

### **606.10 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, periodic training should be provided to:

- (a) Members who are first responders. Training should include:
  1. Initial response to sexual assaults.
  2. Legal issues.

## *Sexual Assault Investigations*

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3. Victim advocacy.
4. Victim's response to trauma.
- (b) Qualified investigators, who should receive advanced training on additional topics. Advanced training should include:
  1. Interviewing sexual assault victims.
  2. SART.
  3. Medical and legal aspects of sexual assault investigations.
  4. Serial crimes investigations.
  5. Use of community and other federal and state investigative resources, such as the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP).
  6. Techniques for communicating with victims to minimize trauma.
  7. The course provided by the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission on investigating and prosecuting sexual assault cases developed pursuant to RCW 43.101.270.
  8. Proper protocol for the use of the statewide sexual assault kit tracking system (RCW 35.21.195; RCW 36.28.200).

### **606.11 CASE STATUS NOTIFICATION**

The investigator assigned to the case should keep the victim informed of the status of the investigation in a timely manner. The victim should be informed of the expected and appropriate time frames for receiving a response to inquiries made regarding the status of the investigation (RCW 5.70.005; RCW 70.125.110).

The investigator should provide the victim with contact information for the assigned prosecutor, if available, to receive updates related to the prosecution of the case (RCW 70.125.110).

## Warrant Service

### 607.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the planning and serving of arrest and search warrants by members of this department. It is understood that this policy cannot address every variable or circumstance that can arise in the service of a search or arrest warrant, as these tasks can involve rapidly evolving and unique circumstances.

This policy is intended to be used in conjunction with the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy, which has additional guidance on planning and serving high-risk warrants.

This policy is not intended to address the service of search warrants on locations or property already secured or routine field warrant arrests by patrol officers.

### 607.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to balance the safety needs of the public, the safety of department members, privacy interests and other relevant factors when making decisions related to the service of search and arrest warrants.

### 607.3 OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The operations director (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy) shall review all risk assessment forms with the involved supervisor to determine the risk level of the warrant service.

The operations director will also have the responsibility to coordinate service of those warrants that are categorized as high risk. Deconfliction, risk assessment, operational planning, briefing and debriefing should follow guidelines in the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy.

### 607.4 SEARCH WARRANTS

Officers should receive authorization from a supervisor before preparing a search warrant application. Once authorization is received, the officer will prepare the affidavit and search warrant, consulting with the applicable prosecuting attorney as needed. He/she will also complete the risk assessment form and submit it, along with the warrant affidavit, to the appropriate supervisor and the operations director for review and classification of risk (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).

### 607.5 ARREST WARRANTS

If an officer reasonably believes that serving an arrest warrant may pose a higher risk than commonly faced on a daily basis, the officer should complete the risk assessment form and submit it to the appropriate supervisor and the Operations Division Commander for review and classification of risk (see the Operations Planning and Deconfliction Policy).

If the warrant is classified as high risk, service will be coordinated by the Operations Division Commander. If the warrant is not classified as high risk, the supervisor should weigh the risk of

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entry into a residence to make an arrest against other alternatives, such as arresting the person outside the residence where circumstances may pose a lower risk.

### **607.6 WARRANT PREPARATION**

An officer who prepares a warrant should ensure the documentation in support of the warrant contains as applicable:

- (a) Probable cause to support the search or arrest, including relevant dates and times to demonstrate timeliness and facts to support any request for nighttime execution.
- (b) A clear explanation of the affiant's training, experience and relevant education.
- (c) Adequately supported opinions, when relevant, that are not left to unsubstantiated conclusions.
- (d) A nexus between the place to be searched and the persons or items central to the investigation. The facts supporting this nexus should be clear and current. For example, the affidavit shall explain why there is probable cause to believe that a particular person is currently residing at a particular location or that the items sought are present at a particular location.
- (e) Full disclosure of known or suspected residents at the involved location and any indication of separate living spaces at the involved location. For example, it should be disclosed that several people may be renting bedrooms at a single location, even if the exact location of the rooms is not known.
- (f) A specific description of the location to be searched, including photographs of the location, if reasonably available.
- (g) A sufficient description of the items to be seized.
- (h) Full disclosure of any known exculpatory information relevant to the warrant application (refer to the Brady Material Disclosure Policy).

### **607.7 HIGH-RISK WARRANT SERVICE**

The Operations Division Commander or the authorized designee shall coordinate the service of warrants that are categorized as high risk and shall have sole authority in determining the manner in which the warrant will be served, including the number of officers deployed.

The member responsible for directing the service should ensure the following as applicable:

- (a) When practicable and when doing so does not cause unreasonable risk, video or photographic documentation is made of the condition of the location prior to execution of a search warrant. The images should include the surrounding area and persons present.
- (b) The warrant service is video-recorded when practicable and reasonable to do so. The warrant service may be audio-recorded when announcing to everyone present that the conversation is going to be recorded and said announcement is recorded except if allowed by the warrant (RCW 9.73.030).

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- (c) Evidence is handled and collected only by those members who are designated to do so. All other members involved in the service of the warrant should alert one of the designated members to the presence of potential evidence and not touch or disturb the items.
- (d) Reasonable efforts are made during the search to maintain or restore the condition of the location.
- (e) Persons who are detained as part of the warrant service are handled appropriately under the circumstances.
- (f) Reasonable care provisions are made for children and dependent adults (see the Child and Dependent Adult Safety Policy).
- (g) A list is made of all items seized and a copy provided to the person in charge of the premises if present or otherwise left in a conspicuous place.
- (h) A copy of the search warrant is left at the location.
- (i) The condition of the property is documented with video recording or photographs after the search.

### **607.8 DETENTIONS DURING WARRANT SERVICE**

Officers must be sensitive to the safety risks of all persons involved with the service of a warrant. Depending on circumstances and facts present, it may be appropriate to control movements of any or all persons present at a warrant service, including those who may not be the subject of a warrant or suspected in the case. However, officers must be mindful that only reasonable force may be used and weapons should be displayed no longer than the officer reasonably believes is necessary (see the Use of Force Policy).

As soon as it can be determined that an individual is not subject to the scope of a warrant and that no further reasonable suspicion or safety concerns exist to justify further detention, the person should be promptly released.

Officers should, when and to the extent reasonable, accommodate the privacy and personal needs of people who have been detained.

### **607.9 ACTIONS AFTER WARRANT SERVICE**

The supervisor shall ensure that all affidavits, warrants, receipts and returns, regardless of any associated cases, are filed with the issuing judge or magistrate as soon as reasonably possible, but in any event no later than any date specified on the warrant.

### **607.10 OUTSIDE AGENCIES AND CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL WARRANTS**

The Operations Division Commander will ensure that cooperative efforts with other agencies in the service of warrants conform to existing mutual aid agreements or other memorandums of understanding and will work cooperatively to mitigate risks including, but not limited to, the following:

- Identity of team members

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- Roles and responsibilities
- Familiarity with equipment
- Rules of engagement
- Asset forfeiture procedures

Any outside agency requesting assistance in the service of a warrant within this jurisdiction should be referred to the Operations Division Commander. The Commander should review and confirm the warrant, including the warrant location, and should discuss the service with the appropriate supervisor from the other agency. The Commander should ensure that members of the Aberdeen Police Department are utilized appropriately. Any concerns regarding the requested use of Aberdeen Police Department members should be brought to the attention of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. The actual service of the warrant will remain the responsibility of the agency requesting assistance.

If the Operations Division Commander is unavailable, the Patrol Lieutenant should assume this role.

If officers intend to serve a warrant outside Aberdeen Police Department jurisdiction, the Operations Division Commander should provide reasonable advance notice to the applicable agency, request assistance as needed and work cooperatively on operational planning and the mitigation of risks detailed in this policy.

Officers will remain subject to the policies of the Aberdeen Police Department when assisting outside agencies or serving a warrant outside Aberdeen Police Department jurisdiction.

### **607.11 MEDIA ACCESS**

No advance information regarding warrant service operations shall be released without the approval of the Chief of Police. Any media inquiries or press release after the fact shall be handled in accordance with the Media Relations Policy.

### **607.12 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator should ensure officers receive periodic training on this policy and associated topics, such as legal issues, warrant preparation, warrant service and reporting requirements.

# Operations Planning and Deconfliction

## 608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for planning, deconfliction and execution of high-risk operations.

Additional guidance on planning and serving high-risk warrants is provided in the Warrant Service Policy.

### 608.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**High-risk operations** - Operations, including service of search and arrest warrants and sting operations, that are likely to present higher risks than are commonly faced by officers on a daily basis, including suspected fortified locations, reasonable risk of violence or confrontation with multiple persons, or reason to suspect that persons anticipate the operation.

## 608.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to properly plan and carry out high-risk operations, including participation in a regional deconfliction system, in order to provide coordination, enhance the safety of members and the public, decrease the risk of compromising investigations and prevent duplicating efforts.

## 608.3 OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

The Chief of Police will designate a member of this department to be the Operations Division Commander.

The Operations Division Commander will develop and maintain a risk assessment form to assess, plan and coordinate operations. This form should provide a process to identify high-risk operations.

The Operations Division Commander will review risk assessment forms with involved supervisors to determine whether a particular incident qualifies as a high-risk operation. The director will also have the responsibility for coordinating operations that are categorized as high risk.

## 608.4 RISK ASSESSMENT

### 608.4.1 RISK ASSESSMENT FORM PREPARATION

Officers assigned as operational leads for any operation that may qualify as a high-risk operation shall complete a risk assessment form.

When preparing the form, the officer should query all relevant and reasonably available intelligence resources for information about the subject of investigation, others who may be present and the involved location. These sources may include regional intelligence and criminal justice databases, target deconfliction systems, firearm records, commercial databases and property records. Where appropriate, the officer should also submit information to these resources.

The officer should gather available information that includes, but is not limited to:



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- (a) Photographs, including aerial photographs, if available, of the involved location, neighboring yards and obstacles.
- (b) Maps of the location.
- (c) Diagrams of any property and the interior of any buildings that are involved.
- (d) Historical information about the subject of investigation (e.g., history of weapon possession or use, known mental illness, known drug use, threats against police, gang affiliation, criminal history).
- (e) Historical information about others who may be present at the location (e.g., other criminals, innocent third parties, dependent adults, children, animals).
- (f) Obstacles associated with the location (e.g., fortification, booby traps, reinforced doors/windows, surveillance measures, number and type of buildings, geographic and perimeter barriers, the number and types of weapons likely to be present, information that suggests the presence of explosives, chemicals or other hazardous materials, the potential for multiple dwellings or living spaces, availability of keys/door combinations).
- (g) Other environmental factors (e.g., nearby venues such as schools and day care centers, proximity of adjacent homes or other occupied buildings, anticipated pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the time of service).
- (h) Other available options that may minimize the risk to officers and others (e.g., making an off-site arrest or detention of the subject of investigation).

### 608.4.2 RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEW

Officers will present the risk assessment form and other relevant documents (such as copies of search warrants and affidavits and arrest warrants) to their supervisor and the Operations Division Commander.

The supervisor and Operations Division Commander shall confer and determine the level of risk. Supervisors should take reasonable actions if there is a change in circumstances that elevates the risks associated with the operation.

### 608.4.3 HIGH-RISK OPERATIONS

If the Operations Division Commander, after consultation with the involved supervisor, determines that the operation is high risk, the Operations Division Commander should:

- (a) Determine what resources will be needed at the location, and contact and/or place on standby any of the following appropriate and available resources:
  - 1. Crisis Response Unit (CRU)
  - 2. Additional personnel
  - 3. Outside agency assistance
  - 4. Special equipment
  - 5. Medical personnel
  - 6. Persons trained in negotiation

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7. Additional surveillance
  8. Canines
  9. Evidence Room or analytical personnel to assist with cataloguing seizures
  10. Forensic specialists
  11. Specialized mapping for larger or complex locations
- (b) Contact the appropriate department members or other agencies as warranted to begin preparation.
  - (c) Ensure that all legal documents such as search warrants are complete and have any modifications reasonably necessary to support the operation.
  - (d) Coordinate the actual operation.

### **608.5 DECONFLICTION**

Deconfliction systems are designed to identify persons and locations associated with investigations or law enforcement operations and alert participating agencies when others are planning or conducting operations in close proximity or time or are investigating the same individuals, groups or locations.

The officer who is the operations lead shall ensure the subject of investigation and operations information have been entered in an applicable deconfliction system to determine if there is reported conflicting activity. This should occur as early in the process as practicable, but no later than two hours prior to the commencement of the operation. The officer should also enter relevant updated information when it is received.

If any conflict is discovered, the supervisor will contact the involved jurisdiction and resolve the potential conflict before proceeding.

### **608.6 OPERATIONS PLAN**

The Operations Division Commander should ensure that a written operations plan is developed for all high-risk operations. Plans should also be considered for other operations that would benefit from having a formal plan.

The plan should address such issues as:

- (a) Operation goals, objectives and strategies.
- (b) Operation location and people:
  1. The subject of investigation (e.g., history of weapon possession/use, known mental illness issues, known drug use, threats against police, gang affiliation, criminal history)
  2. The location (e.g., fortification, booby traps, reinforced doors/windows, surveillance cameras and/or lookouts, number/type of buildings, geographic and perimeter barriers, the number and types of weapons likely to be present, information that suggests the presence of explosives, chemicals or other

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- hazardous materials, the potential for multiple dwellings or living spaces, availability of keys/door combinations), including aerial photos, if available, and maps of neighboring yards and obstacles, diagrams and other visual aids
3. Other environmental factors (e.g., nearby venues such as schools and day care centers, proximity of adjacent homes or other occupied buildings, anticipated pedestrian and vehicle traffic at the time of service)
  4. Identification of other people who may be present in or around the operation, such as other criminal suspects, innocent third parties and children
- (c) Information from the risk assessment form by attaching a completed copy in the operational plan.
1. The volume or complexity of the information may indicate that the plan includes a synopsis of the information contained on the risk assessment form to ensure clarity and highlighting of critical information.
- (d) Participants and their roles.
1. An adequate number of uniformed officers should be included in the operation team to provide reasonable notice of a legitimate law enforcement operation.
  2. How all participants will be identified as law enforcement.
- (e) Whether deconfliction submissions are current and all involved individuals, groups and locations have been deconflicted to the extent reasonably practicable.
- (f) Identification of all communications channels and call-signs.
- (g) Use of force issues.
- (h) Contingencies for handling medical emergencies (e.g., services available at the location, closest hospital, closest trauma center).
- (i) Plans for detaining people who are not under arrest.
- (j) Contingencies for handling children, dependent adults, animals and other people who might be at the location in accordance with the Child Abuse, Adult Abuse, Child and Dependent Adult Safety and Animal Control Procedures policies.
- (k) Communications plan
- (l) Responsibilities for writing, collecting, reviewing and approving reports.

### **608.6.1 OPERATIONS PLAN RETENTION**

Since the operations plan contains intelligence information and descriptions of law enforcement tactics, it shall not be filed with the report. The operations plan shall be stored separately and retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

### **608.7 OPERATIONS BRIEFING**

A briefing should be held prior to the commencement of any high-risk operation to allow all participants to understand the operation, see and identify each other, identify roles and responsibilities and ask questions or seek clarification as needed. Anyone who is not present at the briefing should not respond to the operation location without specific supervisory approval.

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- (a) The briefing should include a verbal review of plan elements, using visual aids, to enhance the participants' understanding of the operations plan.
- (b) All participants should be provided a copy of the operations plan and search warrant, if applicable. Participating personnel should be directed to read the search warrant and initial a copy that is retained with the operation plan. Any items to be seized should be identified at the briefing.
- (c) The Operations Division Commander shall ensure that all participants are visually identifiable as law enforcement officers.
  - (a) Exceptions may be made by the Operations Division Commander for officers who are conducting surveillance or working under cover. However, those members exempt from visual identification should be able to transition to a visible law enforcement indicator at the time of enforcement actions, such as entries or arrests, if necessary.
- (d) The briefing should include details of the communications plan.
  - (a) It is the responsibility of the Operations Division Commander to ensure that Grays Harbor Communications is notified of the time and location of the operation, and to provide a copy of the operation plan prior to officers arriving at the location.
  - (b) If the radio channel needs to be monitored by Grays Harbor Communications, the dispatcher assigned to monitor the operation should attend the briefing, if practicable, but at a minimum should receive a copy of the operation plan.
  - (c) The briefing should include a communications check to ensure that all participants are able to communicate with the available equipment on the designated radio channel.

### **608.8 CRU PARTICIPATION**

If the Operations Division Commander determines that CRU participation is appropriate, the Operations Division Commander and the CRU supervisor shall work together to develop a written plan. The CRU supervisor shall assume operational control until all persons at the scene are appropriately detained and it is safe to begin a search. When this occurs, the CRU supervisor shall transfer control of the scene to the handling supervisor. This transfer should be communicated to the officers present.

### **608.9 MEDIA ACCESS**

No advance information regarding planned operations shall be released without the approval of the Chief of Police. Any media inquiries or press release after the fact shall be handled in accordance with the Media Relations Policy.

### **608.10 OPERATIONS DEBRIEFING**

High-risk operations should be debriefed as soon as reasonably practicable. The debriefing should include as many participants as possible. This debrief may be separate from any CRU debriefing.

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### **608.11 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator should ensure officers and CRU team members who participate in operations subject to this policy should receive periodic training including, but not limited to, topics such as legal issues, deconfliction practices, operations planning concepts and reporting requirements.

# Brady Material Disclosure

## 609.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for identifying and releasing potentially exculpatory or impeachment information (so-called “*Brady* information”) to a prosecuting attorney.

### 609.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

***Brady* information** - Information known or possessed by the Aberdeen Police Department that is both favorable and material to the current prosecution or defense of a criminal defendant.

## 609.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will conduct fair and impartial criminal investigations and will provide the prosecution with both incriminating and exculpatory evidence, as well as information that may adversely affect the credibility of a witness. In addition to reporting all evidence of guilt, the Aberdeen Police Department will assist the prosecution by complying with its obligation to disclose information that is both favorable and material to the defense. The Department will identify and disclose to the prosecution potentially exculpatory information, as provided in this policy.

## 609.3 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION

Officers must include in their investigative reports adequate investigative information and reference to all material evidence and facts that are reasonably believed to be either incriminating or exculpatory to any individual in the case. If an officer learns of potentially incriminating or exculpatory information any time after submission of a case, the officer or the handling investigator must prepare and submit a supplemental report documenting such information as soon as practicable. Supplemental reports shall be promptly processed and transmitted to the prosecutor’s office.

If information is believed to be privileged or confidential (e.g., informant or attorney-client information, attorney work product), the officer should discuss the matter with a supervisor and/or prosecutor to determine the appropriate manner in which to proceed.

Evidence or facts are considered material if there is a reasonable probability that they would affect the outcome of a criminal proceeding or trial. Determining whether evidence or facts are material often requires legal or even judicial review. If an officer is unsure whether evidence or facts are material, the officer should address the issue with a supervisor.

Supervisors who are uncertain about whether evidence or facts are material should address the issue in a written memo to an appropriate prosecutor. A copy of the memo should be retained in the Department case file.

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### **609.4 DISCLOSURE OF REQUESTED INFORMATION**

If a member of this department is a material witness in a criminal case, a person or persons designated by the Chief of Police shall examine the personnel file and/or internal affairs file of the officer to determine whether they contain *Brady* information. If *Brady* information is located, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) In the event that a motion has not already been filed by the criminal defendant or other party, the prosecuting attorney and department member shall be notified of the potential presence of *Brady* material in the member's personnel file.
- (b) The prosecuting attorney or department counsel should be requested to file a motion in order to initiate an in-camera review by the court.
  - 1. If no motion is filed, the supervisor should work with counsel to determine whether the records should be disclosed to the prosecutor.
- (c) The Custodian of Records shall accompany all relevant personnel files during any in-camera inspection to address any issues or questions raised by the court.
- (d) If the court determines that there is relevant *Brady* material contained in the files, only that material ordered released will be copied and released to the parties filing the motion.
  - 1. Prior to the release of any materials pursuant to this process, the Custodian of Records should request a protective order from the court limiting the use of such materials to the involved case and requiring the return of all copies upon completion of the case.
- (e) If a court has determined that relevant *Brady* information is contained in the member's file in any case, the prosecutor should be notified of that fact in all future cases involving that member.

The person or persons designated by the Chief of Police should periodically examine the personnel files and/or internal affairs files of all officers who may be material witnesses in criminal cases to determine whether they contain *Brady* information. The obligation to provide *Brady* information is ongoing. If any new *Brady* information is identified, the prosecuting attorney should be notified.

### **609.5 INVESTIGATING BRADY ISSUES**

If the Department receives information from any source that a member may have issues of credibility, dishonesty, or has been engaged in an act of moral turpitude or criminal conduct, the information shall be investigated and processed in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy (RCW 10.93.150).

### **609.6 TRAINING**

Department personnel should receive periodic training on the requirements of this policy.

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### **609.7 BRADY PROCESS**

The Chief of Police shall select a member of the Department to coordinate requests for *Brady* information. This person shall be directly responsible to the Support Services Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the coordinator include but are not limited to:

- (a) Working with the appropriate prosecutors' offices and the City Attorney's office to establish systems and processes to determine what constitutes *Brady* information and the method for notification and disclosure (RCW 10.93.180).
- (b) Reporting to the appropriate prosecutor of any jurisdiction where an officer may testify (RCW 10.93.180):
  - 1. Any act by An officer that may be potentially exculpatory to a criminal defendant and/or misconduct that an officer engaged in that affects their credibility within 10 days of discovery of the act.
  - 2. Information about a newly hired officer with a prior potential impeachment disclosure within 10 days of hiring.
- (c) Maintaining a current list of members who have *Brady* information in their files or backgrounds.
  - 1. Updating this list whenever potential *Brady* information concerning any department member becomes known to the Department or is placed into a personnel or internal affairs file.

### **609.8 SUBPOENA PROCESSING**

The individual processing subpoenas (or the supervisor of the subpoenaed member) shall check the subpoenaed member's name against the current list of those who are known to have *Brady* information in their files or background, and shall alert the coordinator if a person on the list is subpoenaed.



## Chapter 7 - Equipment

## Department-Owned and Personal Property

### 700.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Department employees are expected to properly care for department property assigned or entrusted to them. Employees may also suffer occasional loss or damage to personal or department property while performing their assigned duty. Certain procedures are required depending on the loss and ownership of the item.

#### 700.1.1 DIVISION COMMANDERS

Division commanders shall be responsible for all equipment issued and used by their division.

#### 700.1.2 EQUIPMENT USE AUTHORIZED

Department personnel may use any and all equipment whether for general or specialized use provided said person:

- (a) Has department authority to use the equipment.
- (b) Has the legal authority to use the equipment.
- (c) Has received the department authorized training necessary to use the equipment.
- (d) Uses only department issued or otherwise authorized weapons, including less-lethal weapons.

### 700.2 CARE OF DEPARTMENTAL PROPERTY

Employees shall be responsible for the safekeeping, serviceable condition, proper care, use and replacement of department property assigned or entrusted to them. An employee's intentional or negligent abuse or misuse of department property may lead to discipline including, but not limited to the cost of repair or replacement.

- (a) Employees shall promptly report through their chain of command, any loss, damage to, or unserviceable condition of any department issued property or equipment assigned for their use.
- (b) The use of damaged or unserviceable department property should be discontinued as soon as practical and replaced with comparable department property as soon as available and following notice to a supervisor.
- (c) Except when otherwise directed by competent authority or required by exigent circumstances, department property shall only be used by those to whom it was assigned. Use should be limited to official purposes and in the capacity for which it was designed.
- (d) Department property shall not be thrown away, sold, traded, donated, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of without proper authority.
- (e) In the event that any Department property becomes damaged or unserviceable, no employee shall attempt to repair the property without prior approval of a supervisor.

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- (f) Upon termination of employment, all department owned property will be returned.
- (g) With the exception of what would generally be considered routine maintenance and cleaning, employees will not dismantle, modify or attempt to repair equipment unless authorized to do so.

### 700.2.1 DEPARTMENT KEY PROCEDURES

The security of the police facility is of utmost importance for the protection of employees, Department property, records, and property or evidence held in trust. All employees are expected to ensure that the following procedures are strictly adhered to.

- (a) Employees of this department shall not make or cause to be made any duplications of departmental keys. Employees will possess only those Police Department and City of Aberdeen keys which they are authorized to have. Loss of departmental keys will be reported immediately by the employee to their supervisor. A memo will be submitted detailing the circumstances surrounding the loss.
- (b) Security Key Locker: A security key locker is located on the north wall of the records area. The on-duty clerk will maintain the key to the locker in the Records area.
  - 1. Anyone needing a key from the security locker will contact the Special Services Supervisor or the on-duty Officer In Charge.. The removal of any key from the locker will be recorded immediately in the Key Loan Record book by the Special Services Supervisor or the O.I.C..
  - 2. Only keys with a white cloverleaf tag attached may be loaned. After the key is returned the Key Loaned Record is completed.
  - 3. The keys with the red octagonal tag may not be loaned out except with the express authorization of the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief, or Section Commanders. These keys are the permanent file key used only for making copies.
- (c) No copies of any key may be made or possessed without the authorization of the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief.
- (d) Any violation of this policy is grounds for immediate dismissal.
- (e) Employees will not possess keys to business establishments unless they have received prior permission from the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief.
- (f) Knox-Box keys are assigned to each patrol vehicle, Supervisor, Administrator and Crisis Response Unit Member. These keys are issued by the Aberdeen Fire Department and they may call for an audit of these keys at any time..

### 700.2.2 INSTALLATION OF PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Unless authorized in writing by the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police, no member shall install or have installed, either permanently or temporarily, any personal equipment, which will in any way

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alter the electrical wiring system, mechanical aspects of the vehicle, sheet metal construction on the exterior or the interior of the vehicle. Any such personal equipment authorized for installation shall be installed at the risk of the owner and the department shall not be responsible for damage or loss.

### **700.2.3 LOAN OF POLICE EQUIPMENT**

The Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty patrol supervisor may loan police equipment to other law enforcement agencies, provided the item or items with serial numbers, if any, are listed on a written form with the signature of the officer receiving the equipment. The form will be forwarded to the Division Commander responsible for the loaned equipment.

### **700.2.4 DEPARTMENT ASSIGNED EQUIPMENT**

Members and employees of the Aberdeen Police Department may be assigned departmentally owned vehicles, lockers, desks, cabinets and cases for the mutual convenience of the department and its personnel. All personnel are advised that the retention of personal items in such containers or facilities is at the risk of the employee and the department will not be responsible for any losses. Such equipment is subject to entry and inspection without notice, even if the employee has placed a personally owned lock on departmental property.

### **700.2.5 AUDIO INTELLIGENCE EQUIPMENT**

Any use of audio intelligence devices must be approved by the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief of Police prior to its use, and will only be used in accordance with state law.

### **700.2.6 FURNISH RECORD OF PERSONAL POLICE EQUIPMENT**

All members of this department shall furnish for record purposes, the serial numbers and description of all authorized firearms, handcuffs, or other personally owned police equipment, if the equipment will be used for police purpose.

- (a) This record shall be kept current by giving the above information on described equipment which is bought, sold, acquired, lost, traded, given away, or in which any degree of ownership is either acquired or given up.
- (b) This information shall be given to the Operations Division Commander in writing and will be made a part of the personnel file.
- (c) No unauthorized equipment will be used in any police operation or purpose.

## **700.3 FILING CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Claims for reimbursement for damage or loss of personal property must be made on the proper form. This form is submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The supervisor may require a separate written report of the loss or damage.

The supervisor shall direct a memo to the appropriate Section Commander through the chain of command, which shall include the results of his/her investigation and whether the employee followed proper procedures. The supervisor's report shall address whether reasonable care was taken to prevent the loss or damage.

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Upon review by staff and a finding that no misconduct or negligence was involved, repair or replacement may be recommended by the Chief of Police.

The Department will not replace or repair luxurious or overly expensive items (jewelry, exotic equipment, etc.) that are not reasonably required as a part of work.

### **700.3.1 REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

A verbal report shall be made to the employee's immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit.

A written report shall be submitted before the employee goes off duty or within the time frame directed by the supervisor to whom the verbal report is made.

### **700.4 LOSS OR DAMAGE OF PROPERTY OF ANOTHER**

Officers and other employees intentionally or unintentionally may cause damage to the real or personal property of another while performing their duties. Any employee who damages or causes to be damaged any real or personal property of another while performing any law enforcement functions, regardless of jurisdiction, shall report it as provided below.

- (a) A verbal report shall be made to the employee's immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit.
- (b) A written report shall be submitted before the employee goes off duty or within the time frame directed by the supervisor to whom the verbal report is made.

#### **700.4.1 DAMAGE BY PERSON OF ANOTHER AGENCY**

If employees of another jurisdiction cause damage to real or personal property belonging to the City, it shall be the responsibility of the employee present or the employee responsible for the property to make a verbal report to his/her immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit. The employee shall submit a written report before going off duty or as otherwise directed by the supervisor.

These written reports, accompanied by the supervisor's written report, shall promptly be forwarded to the appropriate section commander.

#### **700.4.2 DAMAGE TO PERSONALLY OWNED PROPERTY**

Department approved personal property that is damaged; through no fault or negligence of the officer, will be repaired or replaced up to \$50 per item.

- (a) Property damaged by an arrestee should be handled through court restitution, payable to the officer or to the City if the item was repaired or replaced by the City.
- (b) All requests for repair or replacement must be authorized by the Chief of Police who may, for cause, exceed the \$50 limit

# Personal Communication Devices

## 701.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the use of mobile telephones and communication devices, whether issued or funded by the Department or personally owned, while on-duty or when used for authorized work-related purposes.

This policy generically refers to all such devices as Personal Communication Devices (PCDs) but is intended to include all mobile telephones, personal digital assistants (PDAs) wireless capable tablets and similar wireless two-way communications and/or portable internet access devices. PCD use includes, but is not limited to, placing and receiving calls, text messaging, blogging and microblogging, emailing, using video or camera features, playing games and accessing sites or services on the internet.

### 701.1.1 PRIVACY POLICY

Any employee utilizing any computer, internet service, phone service or other wireless service provided by or funded by the Department expressly acknowledges and agrees that the use of such service, whether for business or personal use, shall remove any expectation of privacy the employee, sender and recipient of any communication utilizing such service might otherwise have, including as to the content of any such communication. The Department also expressly reserves the right to access and audit any and all communications (including content) sent, received and/or stored through the use of such service.

## 701.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department allows members to utilize department-issued or funded PCDs and to possess personally owned PCDs in the workplace, subject to certain limitations. Any PCD used while on-duty, or used off-duty in any manner reasonably related to the business of the Department, will be subject to monitoring and inspection consistent with the standards set forth in this policy.

The inappropriate use of a PCD while on-duty may impair officer safety. Additionally, members are advised and cautioned that the use of a personally owned PCD either on-duty or after duty hours for business-related purposes may subject the member and the member's PCD records to civil or criminal discovery or disclosure under applicable public records laws.

Members who have questions regarding the application of this policy or the guidelines contained herein are encouraged to seek clarification from supervisory staff.

### 701.2.1 OFFICIAL USE

The use of PCD may be appropriate the following situations:

- (a) Barricaded suspects.
- (b) Hostage situations.
- (c) Mobile Command Post.

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- (d) Catastrophic disasters, such as plane crashes, earthquakes, floods, etc.
- (e) Major political/community events.
- (f) Investigative stakeouts where regular phone usage is not practical.
- (g) Emergency contact with outside agency or outside agency field unit equipped with PCDs.
- (h) When immediate communication is needed and the use of the radio is not appropriate and other means are not readily available.

### **701.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION**

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to any communication accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any PCD issued or funded by the Department and shall have no expectation of privacy in their location should the device be equipped with location detection capabilities (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

### **701.4 DEPARTMENT-ISSUED PCD**

Depending on a member's assignment and the needs of the position, the Department may, at its discretion, issue or fund a PCD for the member's use to facilitate on-duty performance. Department-issued or funded PCDs may not be used for personal business either on- or off-duty unless authorized by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. Such devices and the associated telephone number, if any, shall remain the sole property of the Department and shall be subject to inspection or monitoring (including all related records and content) at any time without notice and without cause.

Unless a member is expressly authorized by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee for off-duty use of the PCD, the PCD will either be secured in the workplace at the completion of the tour of duty or will be turned off when leaving the workplace.

### **701.5 PERSONALLY OWNED PCD**

Members may carry a personally owned PCD while on-duty, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) Permission to carry a personally owned PCD may be revoked if it is used contrary to provisions of this policy.
- (b) The Department accepts no responsibility for loss of or damage to a personally owned PCD.
- (c) The PCD and any associated services shall be purchased, used and maintained solely at the member's expense.
- (d) The device should not be used for work-related purposes except in exigent circumstances (e.g., unavailability of radio communications). Members will have a reduced expectation of privacy when using a personally owned PCD in the workplace

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and have no expectation of privacy with regard to any department business-related communication.

1. Members may use personally owned PCDs on-duty for routine administrative work as authorized by the Chief of Police.
- (e) The device shall not be utilized to record or disclose any business-related information, including photographs, video or the recording or transmittal of any information or material obtained or made accessible as a result of employment with the Department, without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.
- (f) Use of a personally owned PCD while at work or for work-related business constitutes consent for the Department to access the PCD to inspect and copy data to meet the needs of the Department, which may include litigation, public records retention and release obligations and internal investigations. If the PCD is carried on-duty, members will provide the Department with the telephone number of the device.
- (g) All work-related documents, emails, photographs, recordings or other public records created or received on a member's personally owned PCD should be transferred to the Aberdeen Police Department and deleted from the member's PCD as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than the end of the member's shift.

Except with prior express authorization from their supervisors, members are not obligated or required to carry, access, monitor or respond to electronic communications using a personally owned PCD while off-duty. If a member is in an authorized status that allows for appropriate compensation consistent with policy or existing collective bargaining agreements, or if the member has prior express authorization from his/her supervisor, the member may engage in department business-related communications. Should members engage in such approved off-duty communications or work, members entitled to compensation shall promptly document the time worked and communicate the information to their supervisors to ensure appropriate compensation. Members who independently document off-duty department-related business activities in any manner shall promptly provide the Department with a copy of such records to ensure accurate record keeping.

### **701.6 USE OF PCD**

The following protocols shall apply to all PCDs that are carried while on-duty or used to conduct department business:

- (a) A PCD shall not be carried in a manner that allows it to be visible while in uniform, unless it is in an approved carrier.
- (b) All PCDs in the workplace shall be set to silent or vibrate mode.
- (c) A PCD may not be used to conduct personal business while on-duty, except for brief personal communications (e.g., informing family of extended hours). Members shall endeavor to limit their use of PCDs to authorized break times, unless an emergency exists.



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- (d) Members may use a PCD to communicate with other personnel in situations where the use of the radio is either impracticable or not feasible. PCDs should not be used as a substitute for, as a way to avoid or in lieu of regular radio communications.
- (e) Members are prohibited from taking pictures, making audio or video recordings or making copies of any such picture or recording media unless it is directly related to official department business. Disclosure of any such information to any third party through any means, without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, may result in discipline.
- (f) Members will not access social networking sites for any purpose that is not official department business.
- (g) Using PCDs to harass, threaten, coerce or otherwise engage in inappropriate conduct with any third party is prohibited. Any member having knowledge of such conduct shall promptly notify a supervisor.

### **701.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring that members under their command are provided appropriate training on the use of PCDs consistent with this policy.
- (b) Monitoring, to the extent practicable, PCD use in the workplace and take prompt corrective action if a member is observed or reported to be improperly using a PCD.
  - 1. An investigation into improper conduct should be promptly initiated when circumstances warrant.
  - 2. Before conducting any administrative search of a member's personally owned device, supervisors should consult with the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

### **701.8 USE WHILE DRIVING**

The use of a PCD while driving can adversely affect safety, cause unnecessary distractions and present a negative image to the public. Officers operating emergency vehicles should restrict the use of these devices to matters of an urgent nature and should, where practicable, stop the vehicle at an appropriate location to use the PCD.

Except in an emergency, members who are operating vehicles other than authorized emergency vehicles shall not use a PCD while driving unless the device is specifically designed and configured to allow hands-free use and the use complies with RCW 46.61.672. Hands-free use should be restricted to business-related calls or calls of an urgent nature.

### **701.9 OFFICIAL USE**

Members are reminded that PCDs are not secure devices and conversations may be intercepted or overheard. Caution should be exercised while utilizing PCDs to ensure that sensitive information

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## *Personal Communication Devices*

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is not inadvertently transmitted. As soon as reasonably possible, members shall conduct sensitive or private communications on a land-based or other department communications network.

# Vehicle Maintenance

## 702.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Employees are responsible for assisting in maintaining Department vehicles so that they are properly equipped, properly maintained, properly refueled and present a clean appearance.

### 702.1.1 VEHICLE USE

All members assigned a police vehicle, either temporarily or permanently, shall keep the interior of the vehicle free from debris and clutter. Each member shall cause the interior of his assigned vehicle to be kept as clean as practical

All weapons in vehicles will be removed and secured at the police department when the vehicle is left at the garage for repair or servicing

## 702.2 DEFECTIVE VEHICLES

When a department vehicle becomes inoperative or in need of repair that affects the safety of the vehicle, that vehicle shall be removed from service for repair. Proper documentation shall be promptly completed by the employee who first becomes aware of the defective condition, describing the correction needed. The paperwork shall be promptly forwarded to vehicle maintenance for repair.

### 702.2.1 DAMAGE OR POOR PERFORMANCE

Vehicles that may have been damaged or perform poorly shall be removed from service for inspections and repairs as soon as practicable.

### 702.2.2 SEVERE USE

Vehicles operated under severe-use conditions, which include operations for which the vehicle is not designed or that exceed the manufacturer's parameters, should be removed from service and subjected to a safety inspection as soon as practicable. Such conditions may include rough roadway or off-road driving, hard or extended braking, pursuits or prolonged high-speed operation.

### 702.2.3 REMOVAL OF WEAPONS

All firearms, weapons and control devices shall be removed from a vehicle and properly secured in the department armory or a weapon locker prior to the vehicle being released for maintenance, service or repair.

## 702.3 VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

Certain items shall be maintained in all department vehicles for emergency purposes and to perform routine duties.

## *Vehicle Maintenance*

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### **702.4 VEHICLE REFUELING**

Absent emergency conditions or supervisor approval, officers driving patrol vehicles shall not place a vehicle in service that has less than one-quarter tank of fuel. Whenever practicable, vehicles should be fully fueled when placed into service and refueled before the level falls below one-quarter tank.

Vehicles shall only be refueled at an authorized location.

### **702.5 NON-SWORN EMPLOYEE USE**

Non-sworn employees using marked vehicles shall ensure all weapons are removed from vehicles before going into service. Non-sworn employees shall also prominently display the “out of service” placards or light-bar covers at all times. Non-sworn employees shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

# Vehicle Use

## 703.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a system of accountability to ensure department vehicles are used appropriately. This policy provides guidelines for on- and off-duty use of department vehicles and shall not be construed to create or imply any contractual obligation by the City of Aberdeen to provide assigned take-home vehicles.

## 703.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department provides vehicles for department-related business and may assign patrol and unmarked vehicles based on a determination of operational efficiency, economic impact to the Department, requirements for tactical deployments and other considerations.

### 703.2.1 INSPECTIONS

The interior of any vehicle that has been used to transport any person other than an employee should be inspected prior to placing another person in the vehicle and again after the person is removed. This is to ensure that unauthorized items have not been left in the vehicle.

## 703.3 USE OF VEHICLES

### 703.3.1 SHIFT ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Personnel assigned to routine scheduled field duties shall log onto the MDT inputting the required information when going on duty. If the vehicle is not equipped with a working MDT, they shall notify Grays Harbor Communications. If the employee exchanges vehicles during the shift, the new vehicle number shall be entered.

Employees shall be responsible for inspecting the interior and exterior of any assigned vehicle before taking the vehicle into service and at the conclusion of their shift. A thorough inspection of the vehicle interior shall be completed before and after transporting any prisoner. Any previously unreported damage, mechanical problems, unauthorized contents or other problems with the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented as appropriate.

### 703.3.2 OTHER USE OF VEHICLES

Members utilizing a vehicle for any purpose other than their normally assigned duties or normal vehicle assignment (e.g., transportation to training, community event, undercover/detective car) shall first notify the Patrol Lieutenant or Supervisor.

This subsection does not apply to those who are assigned to transport vehicles to and from the maintenance yard or car wash.

### 703.3.3 INSPECTIONS

Members shall be responsible for inspecting the interior and exterior of any assigned vehicle before taking the vehicle into service and at the conclusion of their shifts. Any previously

## *Vehicle Use*

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unreported damage, mechanical problems, unauthorized contents, or other problems with the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented as appropriate.

The interior of any vehicle that has been used to transport any person other than a member of this department shall be inspected prior to placing another person in the vehicle and again after the person is removed. This is to ensure that unauthorized or personal items have not been left in the vehicle.

When transporting any suspect, prisoner, or arrestee, the transporting member shall search all areas of the vehicle that are accessible by the person before and after that person is transported.

All department vehicles are subject to inspection and/or search at any time by a supervisor without notice and without cause. No member assigned to or operating such vehicle shall be entitled to any expectation of privacy with respect to the vehicle or its contents.

### 703.3.4 SECURITY AND UNATTENDED VEHICLES

Unattended vehicles should be locked and secured at all times. No key should be left in the vehicle except when it is necessary that the vehicle be left running (e.g., continued activation of emergency lights, canine safety, equipment charging). Officers who exit a vehicle rapidly in an emergency situation or to engage in a foot pursuit must carefully balance the need to exit the vehicle quickly with the need to secure the vehicle.

Members shall ensure all weapons are secured while the vehicle is unattended.

### 703.3.5 MOBILE DATA TERMINAL

Members assigned to vehicles equipped with a Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) shall log onto the MDT with the required information when going on-duty. If the vehicle is not equipped with a working MDT, the member shall notify Grays Harbor Communications. Use of the MDT is governed by the Mobile Data Terminal Use Policy.

### 703.3.6 VEHICLE LOCATION SYSTEM

Patrol and other vehicles, at the discretion of the Chief of Police, may be equipped with a system designed to track the vehicle's location. While the system may provide vehicle location and other information, members are not relieved of their responsibility to use required communication practices to report their location and status.

Members shall not make any unauthorized modifications to the system. At the start of each shift, members shall verify that the system is on and report any malfunctions to their supervisor. If the member finds that the system is not functioning properly at any time during the shift, he/she should exchange the vehicle for one with a working system, if available.

System data may be accessed by supervisors at any time. However, access to historical data by personnel other than supervisors will require Division Commander approval.

All data captured by the system shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

## *Vehicle Use*

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### 703.3.7 KEYS

Members who are assigned a specific vehicle should be issued keys for that vehicle.

Members shall not duplicate keys. The loss of a key shall be promptly reported in writing through the member's chain of command.

### 703.3.8 AUTHORIZED PASSENGERS

Members operating department vehicles shall not permit persons other than City personnel or persons conveyed in the performance of duty, or as otherwise authorized, to ride as passengers in the vehicle, except as stated in the Ride-Along Policy.

### 703.3.9 ALCOHOL

Members who have consumed alcohol are prohibited from operating any department vehicle unless it is required by the duty assignment (e.g., task force, undercover work). Regardless of assignment, members may not violate state law regarding vehicle operation while intoxicated.

### 703.3.10 PARKING

Except when responding to an emergency or when urgent department-related business requires otherwise, members driving department vehicles should obey all parking regulations at all times.

Department vehicles should be parked in assigned stalls. Members shall not park privately owned vehicles in stalls assigned to department vehicles or in other areas of the parking lot that are not so designated unless authorized by a supervisor. Privately owned motorcycles shall be parked in designated areas.

### 703.3.11 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS

There shall be no modifications, additions or removal of any equipment or accessories without written permission from the assigned vehicle program manager.

### 703.3.12 NON-SWORN MEMBER USE

Non-sworn members using marked emergency vehicles should ensure that all weapons have been removed before going into service. Non-sworn members should prominently display the "out of service" placards or light bar covers at all times. Non-sworn members shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

## **703.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ASSIGNMENT TO VEHICLES**

Department vehicles may be assigned to individual members at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Vehicles may be assigned for on-duty and/or take-home use. Assigned vehicles may be changed at any time. Permission to take home a vehicle may be withdrawn at any time.

The assignment of vehicles may be suspended when the member is unable to perform his/her regular assignment.

### 703.4.1 ON-DUTY USE

Vehicle assignments shall be based on the nature of the member's duties, job description and essential functions, and employment or appointment status. Vehicles may be reassigned or

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## *Vehicle Use*

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utilized by other department members at the discretion of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

### 703.4.2 UNSCHEDULED TAKE-HOME USE

Circumstances may arise where department vehicles must be used by members to commute to and from a work assignment. Members may take home department vehicles only with prior approval of a supervisor and shall meet the following criteria:

- (a) The circumstances are unplanned and were created by the needs of the Department.
- (b) Other reasonable transportation options are not available.
- (c) The member lives within a reasonable distance (generally not to exceed a 60-minute drive time) of the Aberdeen City limits.
- (d) Off-street parking will be available at the member's residence.
- (e) Vehicles will be locked when not attended.
- (f) All firearms, weapons and control devices will be removed from the interior of the vehicle and properly secured in the residence when the vehicle is not attended, unless the vehicle is parked in a locked garage.

### 703.4.3 ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Assignment of take-home vehicles shall be based on the location of the member's residence; the nature of the member's duties, job description and essential functions; and the member's employment or appointment status. Residence in the City of Aberdeen is a prime consideration for assignment of a take-home vehicle. Members who reside outside the City of Aberdeen may be required to secure the vehicle at a designated location or the Department at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

Members are cautioned that under federal and local tax rules, personal use of a City vehicle may create an income tax liability for the member. Questions regarding tax rules should be directed to the member's tax adviser.

Criteria for use of take-home vehicles include the following:

- (a) Vehicles shall only be used for work-related purposes and shall not be used for personal errands or transports, unless special circumstances exist and the Chief of Police or a Division Commander gives authorization.
- (b) Vehicles may be used to transport the member to and from the member's residence for work-related purposes.
- (c) Vehicles will not be used when off-duty except:
  - 1. In circumstances when a member has been placed on call by the Chief of Police or Division Commanders and there is a high probability that the member will be called back to duty.



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## Vehicle Use

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2. When the member is performing a work-related function during what normally would be an off-duty period, including vehicle maintenance or traveling to or from a work-related activity or function.
  3. When the member has received permission from the Chief of Police or Division Commanders.
  4. When the vehicle is being used by the Chief of Police, Division Commanders or members who are in on-call administrative positions.
  5. When the vehicle is being used by on-call investigators.
- (d) While operating the vehicle, authorized members will carry and have accessible their duty firearms and be prepared to perform any function they would be expected to perform while on-duty.
- (e) The two-way communications radio, MDT and global positioning satellite device, if equipped, must be on and set to an audible volume when the vehicle is in operation.
- (f) Unattended vehicles are to be locked and secured at all times.
1. No key should be left in the vehicle except when it is necessary that the vehicle be left running (e.g., continued activation of emergency lights, canine safety, equipment charging).
  2. All weapons shall be secured while the vehicle is unattended.
  3. All department identification, portable radios and equipment should be secured.
- (g) Vehicles are to be parked off-street at the member's residence unless prior arrangements have been made with the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. If the vehicle is not secured inside a locked garage, all firearms and kinetic impact weapons shall be removed and properly secured in the residence (see the Firearms Policy regarding safe storage of firearms at home).
- (h) Vehicles are to be secured at the member's residence or the appropriate department facility, at the discretion of the Department when a member will be away (e.g., on vacation) for periods exceeding one week.
1. If the vehicle remains at the residence of the member, the Department shall have access to the vehicle.
  2. If the member is unable to provide access to the vehicle, it shall be parked at the Department.
- (i) The member is responsible for the care and maintenance of the vehicle.

### 703.4.4 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

When driving a take-home vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department or while off-duty, an officer shall not initiate enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists (see the Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions and Law Enforcement Authority policies).

Officers may render public assistance when it is deemed prudent (e.g., to a stranded motorist).

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Officers driving take-home vehicles shall be armed, appropriately attired and carry their department-issued identification. Officers should also ensure that department radio communication capabilities are maintained to the extent feasible.

### **703.4.5 MAINTENANCE**

Members are responsible for the cleanliness (exterior and interior) and overall maintenance of their assigned vehicles. Cleaning and maintenance supplies will be provided by the Department. Failure to adhere to these requirements may result in discipline and loss of vehicle assignment. The following should be performed as outlined below:

- (a) Members shall make daily inspections of their assigned vehicles for service/maintenance requirements and damage.
- (b) It is the member's responsibility to ensure that his/her assigned vehicle is maintained according to the established service and maintenance schedule.
- (c) All scheduled vehicle maintenance and car washes shall be performed as necessary at a facility approved by the department supervisor in charge of vehicle maintenance.
- (d) The Department shall be notified of problems with the vehicle and approve any major repairs before they are performed.
- (e) When leaving the vehicle at the maintenance facility, the member will complete a vehicle repair card explaining the service or repair, and leave it on the seat or dash.
- (f) All weapons shall be removed from any vehicle left for maintenance.
- (g) Supervisors shall make, at a minimum, monthly inspections of vehicles assigned to members under their command to ensure the vehicles are being maintained in accordance with this policy.

### **703.5 UNMARKED VEHICLES**

Unmarked vehicles are assigned to various divisions and their use is restricted to the respective division and the assigned member, unless otherwise approved by a supervisor. Any member operating an unmarked vehicle shall record vehicle usage on the sign-out log maintained in the division for that purpose. Any use of unmarked vehicles by those who are not assigned to the division to which the vehicle is assigned shall also be recorded with the Patrol Lieutenant on the shift assignment roster.

### **703.6 DAMAGE, ABUSE, AND MISUSE**

When any department vehicle is involved in a traffic collision or otherwise incurs damage, the involved member shall promptly notify a supervisor. Any traffic collision report shall be filed with the agency having jurisdiction (see the Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).

Damage to any department vehicle that was not caused by a traffic collision shall be immediately reported during the shift in which the damage was discovered, documented in memorandum format, and forwarded to the Patrol Lieutenant. An administrative investigation should be initiated to determine if there has been any vehicle abuse or misuse.

## *Vehicle Use*

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### **703.6.1 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS**

No modifications, additions or deletions of any equipment or accessories shall be made to the vehicle without permission from the Deputy Chief.

### **703.7 TOLL ROAD USAGE**

Authorized on-duty emergency vehicles are exempt from incurring toll road charges. An authorized emergency vehicle is an on-duty vehicle of the Department which is equipped with emergency lights and siren and used to respond to emergency calls (WAC 468-270-030; WAC 468-270-085; WAC 468-270-105).

To avoid unnecessary toll road charges, all members operating department vehicles on a toll road shall adhere to the following:

- (a) Members operating department vehicles that are not authorized emergency vehicles shall pay the appropriate toll charge or utilize the appropriate toll way transponder. Members may submit a request for reimbursement from the City for any toll fees incurred in the course of official business.
- (b) Members in unauthorized vehicles passing through a toll plaza or booth during a response to an emergency shall notify, in writing, the appropriate Division Commander within five working days explaining the circumstances.

### **703.8 ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE**

When operating any department vehicle while off-duty, members may dress in a manner appropriate for their intended activity. Whenever in view of or in contact with the public, attire and appearance, regardless of the activity, should be suitable to reflect positively upon the Department.

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# Cash Handling, Security and Management

## 704.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure department members handle cash appropriately in the performance of their duties.

This policy does not address cash-handling issues specific to the Property and Evidence and Informants policies.

## 704.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to properly handle and document cash transactions and to maintain accurate records of cash transactions in order to protect the integrity of department operations and ensure the public trust.

## 704.3 PETTY CASH FUNDS

The Chief of Police shall designate a person as the fund manager responsible for maintaining and managing the petty cash fund.

Each petty cash fund requires the creation and maintenance of an accurate and current transaction ledger and the filing of invoices, receipts, cash transfer forms and expense reports by the fund manager.

## 704.4 PETTY CASH TRANSACTIONS

The fund manager shall document all transactions on the ledger and any other appropriate forms. Each person participating in the transaction shall sign or otherwise validate the ledger, attesting to the accuracy of the entry. Transactions should include the filing of an appropriate receipt, invoice or cash transfer form. Transactions that are not documented by a receipt, invoice or cash transfer form require an expense report.

## 704.5 PETTY CASH AUDITS

The fund manager shall perform an audit no less than once every six months. This audit requires that the fund manager and at least one command staff member, selected by the Chief of Police, review the transaction ledger and verify the accuracy of the accounting. The fund manager and the participating member shall sign or otherwise validate the ledger attesting to the accuracy of all documentation and fund accounting. A discrepancy in the audit requires documentation by those performing the audit and an immediate reporting of the discrepancy to the Chief of Police.

Transference of fund management to another member shall require a separate petty cash audit and involve a command staff member.

A separate audit of each petty cash fund should be completed on a random date, approximately once each year by the Chief of Police or the City.

## *Cash Handling, Security and Management*

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### **704.6 ROUTINE CASH HANDLING**

Those who handle cash as part of their property or supervisory duties shall discharge those duties in accordance with the Property and Evidence and Informants policies.

Members who routinely accept payment for department services shall discharge those duties in accordance with the procedures established for those tasks.

### **704.7 OTHER CASH HANDLING**

Members of the Department who, within the course of their duties, are in possession of cash that is not their property or that is outside their defined cash-handling responsibilities shall, as soon as practicable, verify the amount, summon another member to verify their accounting, and process the cash for safekeeping or as evidence or found property, in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

Cash in excess of \$1,000 requires immediate notification of a supervisor, special handling, verification and accounting by the supervisor. Each member involved in this process shall complete an appropriate report or record entry.

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# Personal Protective Equipment

## 705.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy identifies the different types of personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the Department as well the requirements and guidelines for the use of PPE.

This policy does not address ballistic vests or protection from communicable disease, as those issues are addressed in the Body Armor and Communicable Diseases policies.

### 705.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Personal protective equipment (PPE)** - Equipment that protects a person from serious workplace injuries or illnesses resulting from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical or other workplace hazards.

**Respiratory PPE** - Any device that is worn by the user to protect from exposure to atmospheres where there is smoke, low levels of oxygen, high levels of carbon monoxide, or the presence of toxic gases or other respiratory hazards. For purposes of this policy, respiratory PPE does not include particulate-filtering masks such as N95 or N100 masks.

## 705.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department endeavors to protect members by supplying certain PPE to members as provided in this policy.

## 705.3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members are required to use PPE as provided in this policy and pursuant to their training.

Members are responsible for proper maintenance and storage of issued PPE. PPE should be stored in an appropriate location so that it is available when needed.

Any member who identifies hazards in the workplace is encouraged to utilize the procedures in the Accident, Illness and Injury Prevention Policy to recommend new or improved PPE or additional needs for PPE.

## 705.4 HEARING PROTECTION

Approved hearing protection shall be used by members during firearms training.

Hearing protection shall meet or exceed the requirements provided in WAC 296-817-200.

## 705.5 EYE PROTECTION

Approved eye protection, including side protection, shall be used by members during firearms training. Eye protection for members who wear prescription lenses shall incorporate the prescription (e.g., eye protection that can be worn over prescription lenses). Members shall ensure their eye protection does not interfere with the fit of their hearing protection.

## *Personal Protective Equipment*

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The Rangemaster shall ensure eye protection meets or exceeds the requirements provided in WAC 296-800-16050.

### **705.6 HEAD AND BODY PROTECTION**

Members who make arrests or control crowds should be provided ballistic head protection with an attachable face shield.

Padded body protection consisting of chest, arm, leg and groin protection should be provided as required by any collective bargaining agreement.

### **705.7 RESPIRATORY PROTECTION**

The Support Services Division Commander is responsible for ensuring a respiratory protection plan is developed and maintained by a trained and qualified member. The plan shall include procedures for (WAC 296-842-12005):

- (a) Selecting appropriate respiratory PPE based on hazards and risks associated with functions or positions.
- (b) Fit testing, including identification of members or contractors qualified to conduct fit testing.
- (c) Medical evaluations.
- (d) PPE inventory control.
- (e) PPE issuance and replacement.
- (f) Cleaning, disinfecting, storing, inspecting, repairing, discarding and otherwise maintaining respiratory PPE, including schedules for these activities.
- (g) Regularly reviewing the PPE plan.
- (h) Remaining current with applicable National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) and state PPE standards and guidelines.

#### **705.7.1 RESPIRATORY PROTECTION USE**

Designated members may be issued respiratory PPE based on the member's assignment (e.g., a narcotics investigator who is involved in clandestine lab investigations).

Respiratory PPE may be worn when authorized by a scene commander who will determine the type and level of protection appropriate at a scene based upon an evaluation of the hazards present.

Scene commanders are responsible for monitoring members using respiratory PPE and their degree of exposure or stress. When there is a change in work area conditions or when a member's degree of exposure or stress may affect respirator effectiveness, the scene commander shall reevaluate the continued effectiveness of the respirator and direct the member to leave the respirator use area when the scene commander reasonably believes (WAC 296-842-18010):

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- (a) It is necessary for the member to wash his/her face and the respirator facepiece to prevent eye or skin irritation associated with respirator use.
- (b) The member detects vapor or gas breakthrough, or there is a change in breathing resistance or leakage of the facepiece.
- (c) The member needs to replace the respirator, filter, cartridge or canister.
- (d) The member needs to readjust his/her respirator.
- (e) The member becomes ill.
- (f) The member experiences sensations of dizziness, nausea, weakness, breathing difficulty, coughing, sneezing, vomiting, fever or chills.

### 705.7.2 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Members shall not use self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), full-face respirators or cartridge respirators unless they have completed training requirements for the equipment.

Members exposed to environments that are reasonably known to be harmful due to gases, smoke or vapors shall use respiratory PPE.

Members using respiratory PPE shall (WAC 296-842-18005):

- (a) Ensure that they have no facial hair between the sealing surface of the facepiece and the face that could interfere with the seal or the valve function. Members also shall ensure that they have no other condition that will interfere with the face-to-facepiece seal or the valve function.
- (b) Not wear corrective glasses, goggles or other PPE that interferes with the seal of the facepiece to the face, or that has not been previously tested for use with that respiratory equipment.
- (c) Perform a user seal check per department-approved procedures recommended by the respirator manufacturer each time they put on a tight-fitting respirator.
- (d) Leave a respiratory use area whenever they detect vapor or gas breakthrough, changes in breathing resistance or leakage of their facepiece and ensure that the respirator is replaced or repaired before returning to the affected area.

### 705.7.3 GAS MASK

Full-face air-purifying respirators, commonly referred to as gas masks, may be fitted with mechanical pre-filters or combination cartridge/filter assemblies for use in areas where gases, vapors, dusts, fumes or mists are present. Members must identify and use the correct cartridge based on the circumstances:

A scene commander may order the use of gas masks in situations where the use of a SCBA is not necessary. These incidents may include areas where tear gas has or will be used or where a vegetation fire is burning. Gas masks shall not be used if there is a potential for an oxygen-deficient atmosphere.

Members shall ensure their gas mask filters are replaced whenever:



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- (a) They smell, taste or are irritated by a contaminant.
- (b) They experience difficulty breathing due to filter loading.
- (c) The cartridges or filters become wet.
- (d) The expiration date on the cartridges or canisters has been reached.

### **705.7.4 SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS**

Scene commanders may direct members to use SCBA when entering an atmosphere that may pose an immediate threat to life, would cause irreversible adverse health effects or would impair an individual's ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere. These situations may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Entering the hot zone of a hazardous materials incident.
- (b) Entering any area where contaminant levels may become unsafe without warning, or any situation where exposures cannot be identified or reasonably estimated.
- (c) Entering a smoke- or chemical-filled area.

The use of SCBA should not cease until approved by a scene commander.

### **705.7.5 RESPIRATOR FIT TESTING**

No member shall be issued respiratory PPE until a proper fit testing has been completed by a designated member or contractor (WAC 296-842-15005).

After initial testing, fit testing for respiratory PPE shall be repeated (WAC 296-842-15005):

- (a) At least once every 12 months.
- (b) Whenever there are changes in the type of SCBA or facepiece used.
- (c) Whenever there are significant physical changes in the user (e.g., obvious change in body weight, scarring of the face seal area, dental changes, cosmetic surgery or any other condition that may affect the fit of the facepiece seal).
- (d) Whenever there is an indication that the respirator fit is unacceptable.

All respirator fit testing shall be conducted in negative-pressure mode.

### **705.7.6 RESPIRATORY MEDICAL EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

No member shall be issued respiratory protection that forms a complete seal around the face until (WAC 296-842-14005; WAC 296-842-22005):

- (a) The member has completed a medical evaluation that includes a medical evaluation questionnaire.
- (b) A physician or other licensed health care professional has reviewed the questionnaire.
- (c) The member has completed any physical examination recommended by the reviewing physician or health care professional.

## **705.8 RECORDS**

The Training Coordinator is responsible for maintaining records of all:

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- (a) PPE training.
- (b) Initial fit testing for respiratory protection equipment.
- (c) Annual fit testing.
- (d) Respirator medical evaluation questionnaires and any subsequent physical examination results.
- (e) These records shall be maintained in a separate confidential medical file.

The records shall be maintained in accordance with the department records retention schedule and WAC 296-842-12010.

### **705.9 TRAINING**

Members should be trained in the respiratory and other hazards to which they may be potentially exposed during routine and emergency situations.

All members shall be trained in the proper use and maintenance of PPE issued to them, including when the use is appropriate; how to put on, remove and adjust PPE; how to care for the PPE; and the limitations (WAC 296-800-16025).

Members issued respiratory PPE shall attend annual training on the proper use of respiratory protection devices (WAC 296-842-16005).

## **Chapter 8 - Support Services**

# Crime Analysis

## 800.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Crime analysis should provide currently useful information to aid operational personnel in meeting their tactical crime control and prevention objectives by identifying and analyzing methods of operation of individual criminals, providing crime pattern recognition, and providing analysis of data from field interrogations and arrests. Crime analysis can be useful to the Department's long range planning efforts by providing estimates of future crime trends and assisting in the identification of enforcement priorities.

## 800.2 DATA SOURCES

Crime analysis data is extracted from many sources including, but not limited to:

- Crime reports
- Field Interview cards
- Parole and Probation records
- Computer Aided Dispatch data
- Electronic Traffic Information Processing (eTRIP) data

## 800.3 CRIME ANALYSIS FACTORS

The following minimum criteria should be used in collecting data for Crime Analysis:

- Frequency by type of crime
- Geographic factors
- Temporal factors
- Victim and target descriptors
- Suspect descriptors
- Suspect vehicle descriptors
- Modus operandi factors
- Physical evidence information

## 800.4 CRIME ANALYSIS DISSEMINATION

For a crime analysis system to function effectively, information should be disseminated to the appropriate units or persons on a timely basis. Information that is relevant to the operational and tactical plans of specific line units should be sent directly to them. Information relevant to the development of the Department's strategic plans should be provided to the appropriate staff units. When information pertains to tactical and strategic plans, it should be provided to all affected units.

# Property and Evidence

## 801.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides for the proper collection, storage, and security of evidence and other property. Additionally, this policy provides for the protection of the chain of evidence and those persons authorized to remove and/or destroy property.

## 801.2 DEFINITIONS

**Property** - Includes all items of evidence, items taken for safekeeping and found property.

**Evidence** - Includes items taken or recovered in the course of an investigation that may be used in the prosecution of a case. This includes photographs and latent fingerprints.

**Safekeeping** - Includes the following types of property:

- Property obtained by the Department for safekeeping, such as a firearm
- Personal property of an arrestee not taken as evidence
- Property taken for safekeeping under authority of a law

**Found Property** - Includes property found by an employee or citizen that has no apparent evidentiary value and where the owner cannot be readily identified or contacted.

**Master Evidence Record / M.E.R.** - Itemized list of items submitted to the evidence/property room.

## 801.3 PROPERTY HANDLING

Any employee who first comes into possession of any property, shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly tagged and placed in the designated property locker or storage room along with the property form. Care shall be taken to maintain the chain of custody for all evidence.

Where ownership can be established as to found property with no apparent evidentiary value, such property may be released to the owner without the need for booking. The property form must be completed to document the release of property not booked and the owner shall sign the form acknowledging receipt of the item.

### 801.3.1 PROPERTY BOOKING PROCEDURE

All property must be booked prior to the employee going off-duty. Employees booking property shall observe the following guidelines:

- (a) Complete the property form describing each item of property separately, listing all serial numbers, owner's name, finder's name, and other identifying information or markings.
- (b) Mark each item of evidence with the booking employee's initials and the date booked using the appropriate method so as not to deface or damage the value of the property.
- (c) Complete an evidence/property tag and attach it to each package or envelope in which the property is stored.

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- (d) Place the case number in the upper right-hand corner of the bag.
- (e) The original property form shall be submitted with the case report. A copy shall be placed with the property in the temporary property locker or with the property if property is stored somewhere other than a property locker.
- (f) When the property is too large to be placed in a locker, the item may be retained in the supply room. Submit the completed property record into a numbered locker indicating the location of the property.

### 801.3.2 NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

All narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be packaged separately.

The officer seizing the narcotics and dangerous drugs shall place them in the designated locker accompanied by a copy of the M.E.R. The remaining copy will be detached and submitted with the case report.

### 801.3.3 EXPLOSIVES

Officers who encounter a suspected explosive device shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor or the Patrol Lieutenant. The Bomb Squad will be called to handle explosive-related incidents and will be responsible for the handling, storage, sampling, and disposal of all suspected explosives.

Explosives will not be retained in the police facility. Only fireworks that are considered stable and safe and road flares or similar signaling devices may be booked into property. All such items shall be stored in proper containers and in an area designated for the storage of flammable materials. The Evidence Specialist is responsible for transporting to the Fire Department, on a regular basis, any fireworks or signaling devices that are not retained as evidence.

### 801.3.4 EXCEPTIONAL HANDLING

Certain property items require a separate process. The following items shall be processed in the described manner:

- (a) Bodily fluids such as blood or semen stains shall be air dried prior to booking.
- (b) License plates found not to be stolen or connected with a known crime, should be released directly to the Evidence Specialist, or placed in the designated container for return to the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- (c) All bicycles and bicycle frames require a property record. Property tags will be securely attached to each bicycle or bicycle frame. The property may be released directly to the Evidence Specialist, or placed in the bicycle storage area until a Evidence Specialist can log the property.
- (d) All cash shall be counted in the presence of a supervisor and the envelope initialed by the booking officer and the supervisor.

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City property, unless connected to a known criminal case, should be released directly to the appropriate City department. No formal booking is required. In cases where no responsible person can be located, the property should be booked for safekeeping in the normal manner.

### 801.3.5 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO FORFEITURE

Whenever property seized by the Department is subject to forfeiture, specific notification procedures must be followed. It shall be the responsibility of the assigned officer, detective, or the Evidence Specialist to ensure that the following notifications are completed.

The owner of the property will be notified of the seizure and intended forfeiture of the seized property within 15 days following the seizure. Notification includes any person having any known right or legal interest in the seized property, including any community property interest. The notice of the seizure may be made by any method authorized by law (RCW 10.105.010).

The notification will include the legal reason for the seizure and information regarding how to appeal the pending forfeiture.

Notification procedures for property seized under Asset Forfeiture (RCW 69.50.505) are detailed in the Asset Forfeiture Policy.

### 801.3.6 EVIDENCE REQUIRING ADDITIONAL PROCESSING

- (a) The evidence processing room contains 2 temporary-sue transfer lockers with individual keyed locks.
- (b) These lockers will be used to store low value items of evidence requiring fingerprinting or other processing beyond the capability or time resource of the seizing officer.
- (c) Only items seized by the same officer for a single case may be placed together in a locker.
- (d) High value items, including but not limited to, guns, narcotics, money, jewelry and other valuables, requiring further processing shall not be placed in these lockers. They will be placed in a regular evidence locker along with an evidence tag and a red "evidence processing" tag.
- (e) Low value items such as broken pieces of glass, bottles, bags and items that will be discarded after they no longer have evidentiary value, may be placed into an empty evidence processing locker. An evidence tag and a red "Evidence Processing Required" tag must be placed in the locker.
- (f) Place the locker key and the top copy of the evidence tag in one of the regular evidence transfer lockers.

### 801.3.7 EVIDENCE PROCEDURE MANUAL

The Aberdeen Police Department has created and adopted an Evidence Room Standard Operating Procedures/Evidence Processing Manual which contains detailed instructions on the operation of the Evidence Room. The manual additionally addresses the proper methods for

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collection, handling, and security of all evidence and property, in order to maintain the integrity of the chain of custody. The manual will remain consistent with the guidelines established by the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab. The manual will be maintained by the Evidence Technician.

### **801.3.8 STORAGE OF SURRENDERED FIREARMS**

Officers shall accept and store a firearm from any individual who has surrendered firearms under RCW 9.41.800 (Surrender of weapons), the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act, or after being detained under RCW 71.05.150 or RCW 71.05.153. The officer receiving the firearm shall:

- (a) Record the individual's name, address, and telephone number.
- (b) Record the firearm's serial number.
- (c) Record the date that the firearm was accepted for storage.
- (d) Prepare a property receipt form and provide a copy to the individual who surrendered the firearm.
  - 1. If the firearm was surrendered pursuant to the Extreme Risk Protection Order Act, the original receipt should be forwarded promptly to the Special Assignments Officer for timely filing with the court (RCW 7.94.090).

The Evidence Specialist shall store a firearm accepted pursuant to this policy.

### **801.3.9 FOUND PROPERTY**

Found property surrendered to the Department shall be handled as required by RCW 63.21.050.

## **801.4 PACKAGING OF PROPERTY**

Certain items require special consideration and shall be booked separately as follows:

- (a) Narcotics and dangerous drugs.
- (b) Firearms (ensure they are unloaded and booked separately from ammunition).
- (c) Property with more than one known owner.
- (d) Fireworks.
- (e) Contraband.

### **801.4.1 PACKAGING CONTAINER**

Employees shall package all property, except narcotics and dangerous drugs in a suitable container available for its size. Knife boxes should be used to package knives, and syringe tubes should be used to package syringes and needles, if needed, otherwise the contents of syringes shall be placed into a vial for submission and the empty syringe discarded in a proper receptacle.

A property tag shall be securely attached to the outside of all items or group of items packaged together.



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### **801.4.2 PACKAGING NARCOTICS**

The officer seizing narcotics and dangerous drugs shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly, packaged, tagged, and placed in the evidence locker, accompanied by a copy of the property record.

Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be appropriately packaged. The booking officer shall initial the sealed package with the initials covering the cellophane tape. Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall not be packaged with other property.

A completed property tag shall be attached to the outside of the container.

### **801.4.3 FIREARMS**

All firearms shall be individually tagged with a property record/receipt. All firearms shall be unloaded prior to placement into a temporary storage locker. If it becomes necessary to leave a firearm loaded (for evidence purpose, unable to open due to malfunction) a warning note shall be placed on the firearm and the outside of the temporary storage locker door.

Magazines should be placed empty with the handgun unless needed in a separate package for specific evidentiary reasons. Ammunition should be removed from magazines and packaged in its own evidence container.

## **RELEASE**

- (a) Prior to releasing any firearm the evidence clerk shall run the following checks on the claimant before releasing the firearm.
  - 1. Criminal history check
  - 2. WCIC/NCIC warrant check
  - 3. DSHS (local mental health)

Although the weapon(s) are checked in the DOL database for stolen and registration upon receipt into the property room, they should be checked in the DOL database again prior to release.

### **801.5 RECORDING OF PROPERTY**

The evidence clerk receiving custody of evidence or property shall record his/her signature, the date and time the property was received and where the property will be stored on the property control card.

A property number shall be obtained for each item or group of items. This number shall be recorded on property tag and the property control card.

Any changes in the location of property held by the Aberdeen Police Department shall be noted on the evidence item and in the property log within the Spillman computer system. The Spillman system will create a unique property number for each evidence item entered.

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### **801.6 PROPERTY CONTROL**

Each time the Evidence Specialist receives property or releases property to another person, he/she shall enter this information on the property control card. Officers desiring property for court shall contact the Evidence Specialist at least one day prior to the court day.

#### **801.6.1 RESPONSIBILITY OF OTHER PERSONNEL**

Every time property is released or received, an appropriate entry on the evidence package shall be completed to maintain the chain of possession. No property or evidence is to be released without first receiving written authorization from a supervisor or detective.

Request for analysis for items other than narcotics or drugs shall be completed on the appropriate forms and submitted to the Evidence Specialist. This request may be filled out any time after booking of the property or evidence.

#### **801.6.2 TRANSFER OF EVIDENCE TO CRIME LABORATORY**

The transporting employee will check the evidence out of property, indicating the date and time on the property control card and the request for laboratory analysis.

The Evidence Specialist releasing the evidence must complete the required information on the property control card and the evidence. The lab forms will be transported with the property to the examining laboratory. Upon delivering the item involved, the officer will record the delivery time on both copies, and indicate the locker in which the item was placed or the employee to whom it was delivered. The original copy of the lab form will remain with the evidence and the copy will be returned to the Records for filing with the case.

#### **801.6.3 STATUS OF PROPERTY**

Each person receiving property will make the appropriate entry to document the chain of evidence. Temporary release of property to officers for investigative purposes, or for court, shall be noted on the property control card, stating the date, time, and to whom released.

The Evidence Specialist shall obtain the signature of the person to whom property is released, and the reason for release. Any employee receiving property shall be responsible for such property until it is properly returned to property or properly released to another authorized person or entity.

The return of the property should be recorded on the property control card, indicating date, time, and the person who returned the property.

#### **801.6.4 AUTHORITY TO RELEASE PROPERTY**

The Administrative Officer assigned to evidenceshall authorize the disposition or release of all evidence and property coming into the care and custody of the Department.

#### **801.6.5 RELEASE OF PROPERTY**

The Aberdeen Police Department shall make every effort to return personal property that is in the possession of this department when such property is not considered evidence of a crime or is no longer needed as evidence. In such cases, the Evidence Specialist shall make a reasonable

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attempt to identify the lawful owner and provide written notice via US Mail within 15 days after the property is authorized to be released.

If the property remains unclaimed beyond sixty days after the initial written notice to the property owner, or, in the case of property held as evidence, sixty days from the date when the case has been finally adjudicated and the property has been released as evidence by order of the court, the Department may (RCW 63.32.010; RCW 63.40.010):

- (a) At any time thereafter sell the property at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash. The disposition of all proceeds from such auctions shall be accounted for and recorded according to law (RCW 63.32.030).
- (b) Retain the property for the use of the Department subject to giving notice in the manner prescribed in RCW 63.32.020 (or RCW 63.40.020) and the right of the owner, or the owner's legal representative, to reclaim the property within one year after receipt of notice, without compensation for ordinary wear and tear if, in the opinion of the Chief of Police, the property consists of firearms or other items specifically usable in law enforcement work, provided that at the end of each calendar year during which there has been such a retention, the Department shall provide the City's elected body and retain for public inspection a list of such retained items and an estimation of each item's replacement value. At the end of the one-year period any unclaimed firearm shall be disposed of pursuant to RCW 9.41.098(2).
- (c) Destroy an item of personal property at the discretion of the Chief of Police if he/she determines that the following circumstances have occurred:
  - 1. The property has no substantial commercial value, or the probable cost of sale exceeds the value of the property; and
  - 2. The item has been unclaimed by any person after notice procedures have been met, as prescribed in this section; and
  - 3. The Chief of Police has determined that the item is unsafe and unable to be made safe for use by any member of the general public.

If the item is not unsafe or illegal to possess or sell, it may, after satisfying the notice requirements as prescribed in RCW 63.32.020, be offered by the Chief of Police to bona fide dealers, in trade for law enforcement equipment. Such equipment shall be treated as retained property for purpose of annual listing requirements of the RCW. Such items may be destroyed at the discretion of the Chief of Police if he/she believes that it has been, or may be used in a manner that is illegal (RCW 63.32.010).

The Evidence Specialist shall release the property upon proper identification being presented by the owner for which an authorized release has been received. A signature of the person receiving the property shall be recorded on the original property form. After release of all property entered on the property control card, the card shall be forwarded to the Records for filing with the case. If some items of property have not been released the property card will remain with the Evidence Room. Upon release, the proper entry shall be documented in the Property Log.

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### **801.6.6 DISPUTED CLAIMS TO PROPERTY**

Occasionally more than one party may claim an interest in property being held by the Department, and the legal rights of the parties cannot be clearly established. Such property shall not be released until one party has obtained a valid court order or other undisputed right to the involved property.

All parties should be advised that their claims are civil and in extreme situations, legal counsel for the Department may wish to file an interpleader to resolve the disputed claim.

### **801.6.7 CONTROL OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS**

The Investigation Unit will be responsible for the storage, control, and destruction of all narcotics and dangerous drugs coming into the custody of this department.

### **801.6.8 PROPERTY DEPICTING A MINOR ENGAGED IN SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONDUCT**

No property or material that depicts a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct shall be copied, photographed, or duplicated. Such material shall remain under the control of this department or the court and shall be made reasonably available for inspection by the parties to a criminal proceeding involving the material. The defendant may only view these materials while in the presence of his/her attorney or an individual appointed by the court either at this department or a neutral facility as approved by the court (RCW 9.68A.170). Any request for inspecting such material should be brought to the attention of the assigned investigator or an investigation supervisor.

## **801.7 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

All personal property, other than vehicles governed by Chapter 46.52 RCW, not held for evidence in a pending criminal investigation or proceeding, and held for 60 days or longer where the owner has not been located or fails to claim the property, may be disposed of in compliance with existing laws upon receipt of proper authorization for disposal. The Evidence Specialist should request a disposition or status on all property which has been held in excess of 60 days, and for which no disposition has been received from a supervisor or detective (RCW 63.32.010; RCW 63.40.010).

### **801.7.1 BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

The Evidence Specialist shall ensure that no biological evidence held by the Department is destroyed without adequate notification to the following persons, when applicable:

- (a) The defendant
- (b) The defendant's attorney
- (c) The appropriate prosecutor and Attorney General
- (d) Any sexual assault victim
- (e) The Operations Division Commander

Biological evidence shall be retained for a minimum period established by Washington law (RCW 5.70.010) or the expiration of any sentence imposed related to the evidence, whichever time period is greater. Following the retention period, notifications should be made by certified mail and should inform the recipient that the evidence will be destroyed after a date specified in the

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notice unless a motion seeking an order to retain the sample is filed and served on the Department within 90 days of the date of the notification. A record of all certified mail receipts shall be retained in the appropriate file. Any objection to, or motion regarding, the destruction of the biological evidence should be retained in the appropriate file and a copy forwarded to the Operations Division Commander.

Biological evidence related to a homicide shall be retained indefinitely and may only be destroyed with the written approval of the Chief of Police and the head of the applicable prosecutor's office.

Biological evidence from an unsolved crime shall not be disposed of prior to expiration of the statute of limitations (RCW 5.70.010). Even after expiration of the applicable statute of limitations, the Operations Division Commander should be consulted.

### 801.7.2 RETURN OF FIREARMS

Prior to the return of a privately owned firearm, the Evidence Specialist shall ensure confirmation of the following (RCW 9.41.345):

- (a) The individual to whom the firearm is to be returned is the individual from whom the firearm was obtained, an authorized representative of the individual, or other person identified by a court order.
  - (b) The individual is eligible to possess a firearm pursuant to RCW 9.41.080.
  - (c) The firearm is not required to be held in custody or prohibited from release.
  - (d) Twenty-four hours has elapsed from the time the firearm was obtained by law enforcement or five business days if the firearm was seized in connection with a domestic violence call under RCW 10.99.030.
  - (e) Notification is made to those family or household members, or an intimate partner, who have requested notification pursuant to established department protocol (RCW 9.41.340).
1. Firearms shall be held in custody for 72 hours from the time notification is provided.

If a firearm or dangerous weapon was surrendered or lawfully seized pursuant to a protection order issued under RCW 9.41.800 and is to be returned to a person other than the individual from whom the firearm or dangerous weapon was obtained, the Evidence Specialist shall determine that the person is the lawful owner and obtain a written agreement, signed by the lawful owner under the penalty of perjury, that the firearm or dangerous weapon will be stored in a manner to prevent the individual from whom the firearm or dangerous weapon was obtained, from accessing, controlling, or possessing the firearm or dangerous weapon (RCW 9.41.801).

Upon confirmation that the individual is eligible to possess a firearm and any applicable notifications are complete, the firearm shall be released to the individual or authorized representative upon request without unnecessary delay.

If a firearm cannot be returned because it is required to be held in custody or is otherwise prohibited from release, written notice shall be provided to the individual within five business days of the

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date the individual requested return of the firearm. The written notice shall include the reason the firearm must remain in custody.

### **801.7.3 RELEASE OF FIREARMS IN EXTREME RISK PROTECTION ORDER MATTERS**

If an extreme risk protection order is terminated or expires without renewal, a firearm taken or surrendered pursuant to the order shall be returned to the person after (RCW 7.94.100):

- (a) Confirming through a background check that the person is currently eligible to possess the firearm under federal and state law.
- (b) Confirming with the court that the extreme risk protection order is no longer in effect.
- (c) Notice has been provided to a family or household member who requested notification.

If an individual other than the restrained person claims title to any firearms surrendered or taken into custody, and that individual is determined to be the lawful owner and a lawful possessor of the firearm, the firearm shall be returned to that individual provided that he/she agrees to store the firearm in a manner that prevents the restrained person from access (RCW 7.94.090).

### **801.7.4 SEXUAL ASSAULT KITS**

Unreported sexual assault kits shall be stored and preserved for 20 years from the date of collection (RCW 5.70.030).

### **801.7.5 RELEASE OF FIREARMS AFTER EMERGENCY DETENTION**

Firearms surrendered pursuant to RCW 71.05.182 (surrender of firearms after emergency detention) shall be returned in compliance with the provisions of RCW 9.41.345 as long as the six-month suspension period has expired or the person's right to possess firearms has been restored, whichever is sooner (RCW 71.05.182).

## **801.8 INSPECTIONS OF THE EVIDENCE ROOM**

- (a) On a quarterly basis, the supervisor of the evidence custodian shall make an inspection of the evidence storage facilities and practices to ensure adherence to appropriate policies and procedures.
- (b) Unannounced inspections of evidence storage areas shall be conducted annually as directed by the Chief of Police.
- (c) An annual audit of evidence held by the department shall be conducted by a Division Commander (as appointed by the Chief of Police) or his designee not routinely or directly connected with evidence control.
- (d) Whenever a change is made in personnel who have access to the evidence room, an inventory of all evidence/property shall be made by an individual not associated to the property room or function to ensure that records are correct and all evidence property is accounted for.

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### 801.8.1 EVIDENCE ROOM SECURITY

Access to the Aberdeen Police Department Evidence Room is restricted to authorized department personnel only. It shall be the responsibility of the Evidence Specialist to control all access to the Evidence Room.

The Evidence Specialist shall maintain a log of all persons entering the secured area of the Evidence Room. Personnel, other than those assigned to the Evidence Room, who have legitimate business in the secured area will be required to record their name, the date, time, and purpose for entry.

### 801.9 PROPERTY ROOM ALARM PROCEDURE

When the alarm has been turned on and someone enters the Property Room without authorization, a light will come on and a buzzer will sound in the Records. The records clerks will follow the below procedures in the event the Property Room alarm sounds.

- (a) Determine if one of the following persons, who have keys to the Property Room, are working: Evidence Specialist, assigned Investigations Detective (back-up Evidence Specialist).
  - 1. If one of the above persons is working, make contact and advise them of the alarm.
- (b) If unable to contact one of the above-listed persons, make contact with the Division Commander or Detective, in this order. If these employees are unavailable then the Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty Patrol supervisor shall be contacted and advised of the problem.
  - 1. Obtain the key to the Property Room from the Investigation Unit Commander's office.
  - 2. The Investigation Unit Commander, Patrol Lieutenant, or on-duty Patrol Supervisor will advise a second officer to accompany him into the Property Room.
  - 3. The officers will then check out the Property Room and upon completion will return the key to the Division Commander's office.
- (c) The Shift OIC will then make a complete report of the alarm occurrence and forward the report directly to the Investigation Unit Commander.
- (d) Whenever the Property Room alarm sounds, the Records Clerk on duty at the time of the occurrence shall notify the Investigation Unit Commander, or in his/her absence, Patrol Lieutenant or on-duty Patrol supervisor of the alarm. The Records Clerk shall make a brief narrative report including; the time and date of the alarm; the circumstances of the alarm (if known); and any other relevant information. Notification to the Investigation Unit Commander shall be made by the next business day.
- (e) Whenever a Shift OIC checks out the Property Room keys from the Investigation Unit Commander's office, the OIC shall notify the Investigation Unit Commander and Evidence Specialist by the next business day.

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# Records

## 802.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Special Assignments Officer shall maintain the Department Records Procedures Manual on a current basis to reflect the procedures being followed within the Records. Policies and procedures that apply to all employees of this department are contained in this chapter.

### 802.1.1 NUMERICAL FILING SYSTEM

Case reports are filed numerically within the Records by Records personnel.

Reports are numbered commencing with the last two digits of the current year followed by a sequential number beginning with 00001 starting at midnight on the first day of January of each year. As an example, case number 18-A00001 would be the first new case beginning January 1, 2018.

### 802.1.2 UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

The Aberdeen Police Department participates in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) and/or the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The Special Assignments Officer is responsible for ensuring that UCR/NIBRS reports are provided to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) on a regular basis.

## 802.2 FILE ACCESS AND SECURITY

Aberdeen Police Department employees shall not access, view or distribute, or allow anyone else to access, view or distribute any record, file or report, whether hard copy or electronic file format, except in accordance with department policy and with a legitimate law enforcement or business purpose or as otherwise permissible by law.

### 802.2.1 REQUESTING ORIGINAL REPORTS

Generally, original reports shall not be removed from the Records. Should an original report be needed for any reason, the requesting employee shall first obtain authorization from the Special Assignments Officer. All original reports removed from the Records shall be recorded on the Report Check-Out Log, which shall constitute the only authorized manner by which an original report may be removed from the Records.

### 802.2.2 RECORDS CONCERNING JUVENILES

The Special Assignments Officer shall be responsible for the destruction of juvenile records in accordance with RCW 13.50.270, including the following circumstances:

- Upon receiving notification from the juvenile court that specific records should be destroyed.
- Upon receiving notification from the Office of the Governor that a specific juvenile has received a full and unconditional pardon, the Special Assignments Officer shall ensure that all records pertaining to that juvenile are destroyed within 30 days.

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### **802.3 USE OF A CENTRAL COMPUTERIZED ENFORCEMENT SERVICE SYSTEM (ACCESS)**

ACCESS is a computer-controlled communications system located at the WSP Information Technology Division. ACCESS provides service to all the state and national information systems. The Chief of the WSP is vested with the authority to administer all operating phases of ACCESS and the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC). There are specific requirements for agencies accessing the information in the group of computer systems in ACCESS.

#### **802.3.1 ACCESS REQUIREMENTS**

As an authorized ACCESS user, the Aberdeen Police Department complies with all of the following ACCESS requirements:

- Warrant entry
- Receiving information from outside agencies
- Recording information
- Verifying information
- Canceling information
- Providing 24-hour access to agency warrants

It is the responsibility of the Special Assignments Officer to ensure that all ACCESS computer and network security requirements are in place and operational.

### **802.4 OFFICER SAFETY ADVISORIES**

A Violent Person File (VPF) database is maintained by the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and is intended to provide protection to police, corrections, or other criminal justice officers. Individuals who represent a potential threat to officers may be entered into the WACIC when they have previously exhibited assaultive or threatening behavior during contacts by law enforcement.

To qualify for entry, one or more of the following conditions must be met (WACIC Manual Chapter 29.01 II, A):

- (a) The offender has been convicted for assault or murder/homicide of a law enforcement officer, fleeing, resisting arrest or any such statute that involves violence against law enforcement.
- (b) The offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person to include homicide and attempted homicide.
- (c) The offender has been convicted of a violent offense against a person where a firearm or weapon was used.
- (d) A law enforcement agency, based on its official investigatory duties, reasonably believes that the individual has seriously expressed his/her intent to commit an act of unlawful violence against a member of the law enforcement or criminal justice community.

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Officers who encounter a person who they believe is a threat to officer safety should submit a report detailing the circumstances of the contact and nature of the threat for entry as an Officer Safety Advisory.

All Officer Safety Advisories are subject to approval by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

Once approved, the Records is responsible for making the appropriate entry into the WACIC.

Whenever an Officer Safety Advisory is initiated by the Aberdeen Police Department, it is the responsibility of the Special Assignments Officer to ensure that a copy of the supporting documentation and the authorized statement signed by the Chief of Police are maintained in a separate file. Supporting documentation may include the crime report, officer's supplemental report, mental health report or other similar documentation.

### **802.5 COURT ORDERS**

The Special Assignments Officer shall see that no-contact orders received from the court are entered into the WACIC or other applicable criminal intelligence information system for one year or until the expiration date specified on the order. Upon receipt of notice that an order has been terminated, the Special Assignments Officer shall see that the order is removed from the applicable system (RCW 9A.40.102; RCW 9A.40.104; RCW 9A.40.106).

## Records Maintenance and Release

### 803.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on the maintenance and release of department records. Protected information is separately covered in the Protected Information Policy.

### 803.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to providing public access to records in a manner that is consistent with the Washington Public Records Act (RCW 42.56.001 et seq.).

### 803.3 PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICER

The Chief of Police shall designate a Public Records Officer (RCW 42.56.580). The responsibilities of the Public Records Officer include but are not limited to:

- (a) Managing the records management system for the Department, including the retention, archiving, release and destruction of department public records.
- (b) Establishing rules regarding the inspection and copying of department public records as reasonably necessary for the protection of such records.
  - 1. Rules and procedures for public inspection and copying shall be prominently displayed and made available to the public for inspection and copying (RCW 42.56.040).
- (c) See Aberdeen Municipal Code 2.112.070 for records index.
- (d) Maintaining and updating the department records retention schedule including:
  - 1. Identifying the minimum length of time the Department must keep records.
  - 2. Identifying the department division responsible for the original record.
- (e) Identifying records or portions of records that are confidential under state or federal law and not open for inspection or copying.
- (f) Ensuring a current list containing every law that exempts or prohibits disclosure of specific information or records of the Department is available to the public (RCW 42.56.070).
- (g) Establishing rules regarding the processing of subpoenas for the production of records.
- (h) Ensuring the availability of a current schedule of fees for public records as allowed by law (RCW 42.56.070; RCW 42.56.120; RCW 42.56.130).
- (i) Ensuring that the business hours for record inspection or copying are posted on the department's website and made known by other means designed to provide the public with notice (RCW 42.56.090).
- (j) Ensuring that the name and contact information of the Public Records Officer is visible to the public, including the department website and appropriate department publications (RCW 42.56.580).

## *Records Maintenance and Release*

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### **803.4 PROCESSING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS**

Any department member who receives a request for any record shall route the request to the Public Records Officer or the authorized designee.

#### **803.4.1 REQUESTS FOR RECORDS**

The processing of requests for any record is subject to the following:

- (a) The Department is not required to create records that do not exist.
- (b) When a record contains material with release restrictions and material that is not subject to release restrictions, the restricted material shall be redacted and the unrestricted material released.
  - 1. A copy of the redacted release should be maintained in the case file for proof of what was actually released and as a place to document the reasons for the redactions. If the record is audio or video, a copy of the redacted audio/video release should be maintained in the department-approved media storage system and a notation should be made in the case file to document the release and the reasons for the redacted portions.
- (c) Requests to inspect or copy records shall be responded to promptly. Within five business days of receiving the request, one of the following responses shall be made (RCW 42.56.520):
  - 1. Providing the record.
  - 2. Providing the internet address and link of the department website to the specific records requested.
    - (a) If the requester notifies the Department that access cannot be obtained through the internet, then copies of the record shall be provided or the requester may view the records on the department computer.
  - 3. Acknowledging the receipt of the request and providing a reasonable estimate of time the Department will require to respond to the request. Additional time may be required to respond based upon:
    - (a) The need to clarify the intent of the request.
    - (b) The need to locate and assemble the information requested.
    - (c) Notification to third persons or agencies affected by the request.
    - (d) Determination whether any of the information requested is exempt.
  - 4. Acknowledging the receipt of the request and asking the requester for clarification if the request is not clear and providing the requester a reasonable estimate of the time that will be needed to respond if the request is not clarified. If the requester does not respond, and the entire request is unclear, the Department need not respond. If only part of the request is unclear, the Department shall respond to those portions of the request that are clear.

## *Records Maintenance and Release*

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### 803.4.2 DENIALS

- (a) The denial shall be accompanied by a written statement that includes the specific exemption and a brief explanation of how the exemption applies to the withheld record (RCW 42.56.210).
- (b) Requests that are denied are subject to judicial review and the burden of proof is on the Department to show that the records requested are exempt or prohibited in whole or part by statute (RCW 42.56.550).

### 803.5 RELEASE RESTRICTIONS

Examples of release restrictions include:

- (a) Personal identifying information, including an individual's photograph; Social Security and driver identification numbers; name, address, and telephone number; and medical or disability information that is contained in any driver license record, motor vehicle record, or any department record, including traffic collision reports, are restricted except as authorized by the Department, and only when such use or disclosure is permitted or required by law to carry out a legitimate law enforcement purpose (18 USC § 2721; 18 USC § 2722).
- (b) Personnel records that contain personal information to the extent that disclosure would violate privacy rights (RCW 42.56.230; RCW 42.56.250).
- (c) Specific intelligence and specific investigative records regarding the discipline of a member of any profession where nondisclosure is essential for effective law enforcement or for the protection of any person's right to privacy (RCW 42.56.240).
- (d) Victim and witness information revealing the identity of persons who file complaints if disclosure would endanger the person's life, physical safety, or property (RCW 42.56.240).
- (e) Child victim and witness identity information including name, address, recordings, and photographs (RCW 7.69A.030; RCW 42.56.240).
- (f) Concealed pistol license applications or information on the applications unless release is to law enforcement or corrections agencies under RCW 9.41.070.
- (g) Information revealing the specific details of the alleged assault, identity, or contact information of a child victim of sexual assault who is under age 18. Identifying information means the child victim's name, address, location, photograph, and in cases in which the child victim is a relative, stepchild, or stepsibling of the alleged perpetrator, identification of the relationship between the child and the alleged perpetrator. Contact information includes phone numbers, email addresses, social media profiles, and usernames and passwords (RCW 10.97.130; RCW 42.56.240).
- (h) Personal identifying information collected relating to local security alarm system programs and vacation crime watch programs (RCW 42.56.240).
- (i) Certain criminal history record information as restricted by the Criminal Records Privacy Act (RCW 10.97.040 et seq.).
- (j) Traffic collision reports except for what is authorized by RCW 46.52.080 and RCW 46.52.083.

## *Records Maintenance and Release*

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- (k) Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, or intra-agency memorandums in which opinions are expressed, or policies formulated, or recommended (RCW 42.56.280).
- (l) Records that are relevant to a controversy (threatened, actual, or completed litigation) to which the Department is a party but which records would not be available to another party under the rules of pretrial discovery for causes pending in the superior courts (RCW 42.56.290).
- (m) Security records including but not limited to records relating to preparing and responding to criminal terrorist acts; vulnerability assessments and emergency and escape plans of secured facilities; information regarding infrastructure and security of computer and telecommunications networks; system security and emergency preparedness plans; and as further defined in RCW 42.56.420.
- (n) Global positioning system data that indicates the location of a member's residence or of a public employee or volunteer (RCW 42.56.240; RCW 42.56.250).
- (o) Information contained in a local, regional, or statewide gang database (RCW 42.56.240).
- (p) Body worn camera recordings that violate a person's right to privacy (RCW 42.56.240)
- (q) Personal identifying information, or information regarding citizenship or immigration status, of any victim of criminal activity or trafficking who is requesting certification for a U or T visa, except where allowed by law (RCW 7.98.020).
- (r) Personal identifying information about an individual's religious beliefs, practices, or affiliation (RCW 42.56.235).
- (s) Investigative records compiled by the Department regarding possible unfair practices of discrimination under RCW 49.60.010 et seq. or possible violation of other federal, state, or local laws or Aberdeen Police Department internal policies during an active and ongoing investigation (RCW 42.56.250).
  - 1. Records may be released upon completion of the investigation as allowed under RCW 42.56.250.
- (t) Any other information that may be appropriately denied by Washington law.

### **803.6 SUBPOENAS AND DISCOVERY REQUESTS**

Any member who receives a subpoena duces tecum or discovery request for records should promptly contact a supervisor and the Public Records Officer for review and processing. While a subpoena duces tecum may ultimately be subject to compliance, it is not an order from the court that will automatically require the release of the requested information.

Generally, discovery requests and subpoenas from criminal defendants and their authorized representatives (including attorneys) should be referred to the Prosecuting Attorney, City Attorney or the courts.

All questions regarding compliance with any subpoena duces tecum or discovery request should be promptly referred to legal counsel for the Department so that a timely response can be prepared.

## *Records Maintenance and Release*

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### **803.7 EXPUNGEMENT**

Expungement orders received by the Department shall be reviewed for appropriate action by the Public Records Officer. The Public Records Officer shall expunge such records as ordered by the court. Records may include, but are not limited to, a record of arrest, investigation, detention or conviction. Once a record is expunged, members shall respond to any inquiry as though the record did not exist.

### **803.8 SECURITY BREACHES**

Members who become aware that any Aberdeen Police Department system containing personal information may have been breached should notify the Public Records Officer as soon as practicable.

The Public Records Officer shall ensure the required notice is given to any resident of this state whose unsecured personal information is reasonably believed to have been acquired by an unauthorized person (RCW 42.56.590).

Notice shall be given as soon as reasonably practicable but may be delayed if notification will impede a criminal investigation.

For the purposes of the notice requirement, personal information includes:

- (a) An individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of the following:
  - 1. Social Security number or the last four digits of the Social Security number
  - 2. Driver license number or Washington identification card number
  - 3. Full account number, credit or debit card number, or any required security code, access code, or password that would permit access to an individual's financial account
  - 4. Any data elements listed in RCW 42.56.590 (e.g., date of birth, health insurance policy number, biometric data, email address, password)
- (b) Any of the data elements listed above without the individual's first and last name if the data elements would enable a person to commit identity theft or if encryption, redaction, or other methods have not safeguarded the data element (RCW 42.56.590).

If the breach reasonably appears to have been made to protected information covered in the Protected Information Policy, the Public Records Officer should promptly notify the appropriate member designated to oversee the security of protected information (see the Protected Information Policy).

### **803.9 TRAINING**

The Public Records Officer shall complete a training program consistent with the Attorney General's model rules within 90 days of assuming responsibilities for public records and complete refresher training as required (RCW 42.56.152).



# Protected Information

## 804.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the access, transmission, release and security of protected information by members of the Aberdeen Police Department. This policy addresses the protected information that is used in the day-to-day operation of the Department and not the public records information covered in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

### 804.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Protected information** - Any information or data that is collected, stored or accessed by members of the Aberdeen Police Department and is subject to any access or release restrictions imposed by law, regulation, order or use agreement. This includes all information contained in federal, state or local law enforcement databases that is not accessible to the public.

## 804.2 POLICY

Members of the Aberdeen Police Department will adhere to all applicable laws, orders, regulations, use agreements and training related to the access, use, dissemination and release of protected information.

## 804.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief of Police shall select a member of the Department to coordinate the use of protected information.

The responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring member compliance with this policy and with requirements applicable to protected information, including requirements for the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system, National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), Department of Licensing (DOL) records and the Washington Crime Information Center (WACIC).
- (b) Developing, disseminating and maintaining procedures that adopt or comply with the U.S. Department of Justice's current Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy.
- (c) Developing, disseminating and maintaining any other procedures necessary to comply with any other requirements for the access, use, dissemination, release and security of protected information.
- (d) Developing procedures to ensure training and certification requirements are met.
- (e) Resolving specific questions that arise regarding authorized recipients of protected information.

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- (f) Ensuring security practices and procedures are in place to comply with requirements applicable to protected information.

### **804.4 ACCESS TO PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information shall not be accessed in violation of any law, order, regulation, user agreement, Aberdeen Police Department policy or training. Only those members who have completed applicable training and met any applicable requirements, such as a background check, may access protected information, and only when the member has a legitimate work-related reason for such access.

Unauthorized access, including access for other than a legitimate work-related purpose, is prohibited and may subject a member to administrative action pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy and/or criminal prosecution.

#### **804.4.1 PENALTIES FOR MISUSE OF RECORDS**

It is a misdemeanor to furnish, buy, receive or possess criminal history record information without authorization by Washington law (RCW 10.97.120).

Divulging the content of any criminal record to anyone other than authorized personnel is a violation of the Standards of Conduct Policy.

Employees who obtain, or attempt to obtain, information from the department files other than that to which they are entitled in accordance with their official duties is a violation of the Standards of Conduct Policy.

### **804.5 RELEASE OR DISSEMINATION OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information may be released only to authorized recipients who have both a right to know and a need to know (RCW 10.97.050).

A member who is asked to release protected information that should not be released should refer the requesting person to a supervisor or to the Special Assignments Officer for information regarding a formal request.

Unless otherwise ordered or when an investigation would be jeopardized, protected information maintained by the Department may generally be shared with authorized persons from other law enforcement agencies who are assisting in the investigation or conducting a related investigation. Any such information should be released through the Records to ensure proper documentation of the release (see the Records Maintenance and Release Policy).

Protected information, such as Criminal Justice Information (CJI), which includes Criminal History Record Information (CHRI), should generally not be transmitted by radio, cellular telephone or any other type of wireless transmission to members in the field or in vehicles through any computer or electronic device, except in cases where there is an immediate need for the information to further an investigation or where circumstances reasonably indicate that the immediate safety of officers, other department members or the public is at risk.

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Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit broadcasting warrant information.

### **804.5.1 REVIEW OF CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD**

An individual may review his/her criminal history record information held by this department after complying with established department requirements as authorized by RCW 10.97.080.

### **804.6 SECURITY OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

The Chief of Police will select a member of the Department to oversee the security of protected information.

The responsibilities of this position include but are not limited to:

- (a) Developing and maintaining security practices, procedures, and training.
- (b) Ensuring federal and state compliance with the CJIS Security Policy and the requirements of any state or local criminal history records systems.
- (c) Establishing procedures to provide for the preparation, prevention, detection, analysis, and containment of security incidents, including computer attacks.
- (d) Tracking, documenting, and reporting all breach of security incidents to the Chief of Police and appropriate authorities (RCW 19.255.010; RCW 42.56.590).

#### **804.6.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Members accessing or receiving protected information shall ensure the information is not accessed or received by persons who are not authorized to access or receive it. This includes leaving protected information, such as documents or computer databases, accessible to others when it is reasonably foreseeable that unauthorized access may occur (e.g., on an unattended table or desk, in or on an unattended vehicle, in an unlocked desk drawer or file cabinet, on an unattended computer terminal).

### **804.7 TRAINING**

All members authorized to access or release protected information shall complete a training program that complies with any protected information system requirements and identifies authorized access and use of protected information, as well as its proper handling and dissemination.

#### **804.7.1 COMPUTER TERMINAL SECURITY**

Computer terminal equipment capable of providing Criminal Justice Information will be safeguarded by complying with the Physical Protection Policy found in the Records Policy and Procedures Manual.

No employee shall be authorized to operate computer terminal equipment with access to CHRI until the operator has completed the appropriate training.

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### **804.7.2 DESTRUCTION OF CHRI**

When any document providing CHRI has served the purpose for which it was obtained, it shall be destroyed by shredding. See Disposal of Media Policy found in the Records Section Policy and Procedures Manual.

Each employee shall be responsible for destroying the CHRI documents they receive.

### **804.8 TRAINING PROGRAM**

All personnel authorized to process or release CHRI shall be required to complete a training program prescribed by the assigned T.A.C.

### **804.9 RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION DISCLOSURE**

Members shall not release personal information from any agency database for the purpose of investigation or enforcement of any government program compiling data on individuals based on religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin, or ethnicity (RCW 42.60.020).

# Computers and Digital Evidence

## 805.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for the seizure and storage of computers, personal communications devices (PCDs) digital cameras, digital recorders and other electronic devices that are capable of storing digital information; and for the preservation and storage of digital evidence. All evidence seized and/or processed pursuant to this policy shall be done so in compliance with clearly established Fourth Amendment and search and seizure provisions.

## 805.2 SEIZING COMPUTERS AND RELATED EVIDENCE

Computer equipment requires specialized training and handling to preserve its value as evidence. Officers should be aware of the potential to destroy information through careless or improper handling, and utilize the most knowledgeable available resources. When seizing a computer and accessories the following steps should be taken:

- (a) Photograph each item, front and back, specifically including cable connections to other items. Look for a phone line or cable to a modem for Internet access.
- (b) Do not overlook the possibility of the presence of physical evidence on and around the hardware relevant to the particular investigation such as fingerprints, biological or trace evidence, and/or documents.
- (c) If the computer is off, do not turn it on.
- (d) If the computer is on, do not shut it down normally and do not click on anything or examine any files.
  - 1. Photograph the screen, if possible, and note any programs or windows that appear to be open and running.
  - 2. Disconnect the power cable from the back of the computer box or if a portable notebook style, disconnect any power cable from the case and remove the battery.
- (e) Label each item with case number, evidence sheet number, and item number.
- (f) Handle and transport the computer and storage media (e.g., tape, discs, memory cards, flash memory, external drives) with care so that potential evidence is not lost.
- (g) Lodge all computer items in the Property Room. Do not store computers where normal room temperature and humidity is not maintained.
- (h) At minimum, officers should document the following in related reports:
  - 1. Where the computer was located and whether or not it was in operation.
  - 2. Who was using it at the time.
  - 3. Who claimed ownership.

## *Computers and Digital Evidence*

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4. If it can be determined, how it was being used.
- (i) In most cases when a computer is involved in criminal acts and is in the possession of the suspect, the computer itself and all storage devices (hard drives, tape drives, and disk drives) should be seized along with all media. Accessories (printers, monitors, mouse, scanner, keyboard, cables, software and manuals) should not be seized unless as a precursor to forfeiture.

### **805.2.1 BUSINESS OR NETWORKED COMPUTERS**

If the computer belongs to a business or is part of a network, it may not be feasible to seize the entire computer. Cases involving networks require specialized handling. Officers should contact a certified forensic computer examiner for instructions or a response to the scene. It may be possible to perform an on-site inspection, or to image the hard drive only of the involved computer. This should only be done by someone specifically trained in processing computers for evidence.

### **805.2.2 FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF COMPUTERS**

If an examination of the contents of the computer's hard drive, or floppy disks, compact discs, or any other storage media is required, forward the following items to a computer forensic examiner:

- (a) Copy of report(s) involving the computer, including the Evidence/Property sheet.
- (b) Copy of a consent to search form signed by the computer owner or the person in possession of the computer, or a copy of a search warrant authorizing the search of the computer hard drive for evidence relating to investigation.
- (c) A listing of the items to search for (e.g., photographs, financial records, e-mail, documents).
- (d) An exact duplicate of the hard drive or disk will be made using a forensic computer and a forensic software program by someone trained in the examination of computer storage devices for evidence.

### **805.3 SEIZING DIGITAL STORAGE MEDIA**

Digital storage media (e.g., hard discs, floppy discs, CDs, DVDs, tapes, memory cards, flash memory devices) should be seized and stored in a manner that will protect them from damage.

- (a) If the media has a write-protection tab or switch, it should be activated.
- (b) Do not review, access or open digital files prior to submission. If the information is needed for immediate investigation request the Evidence Room to copy the contents to an appropriate form of storage media.
- (c) Many kinds of storage media can be erased or damaged by magnetic fields. Keep all media away from magnetic devices, electric motors, radio transmitters or other sources of magnetic fields.

## *Computers and Digital Evidence*

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- (d) Do not leave storage media where they would be subject to excessive heat such as in a parked vehicle on a hot day.
- (e) Use plastic cases designed to protect the media, or other protective packaging, to prevent damage.

### **805.4 SEIZING PCDS**

Personal communication devices such as cell phones, PDAs or other hand-held devices connected to any communication network must be handled with care to preserve evidence that may be on the device including messages, stored data and/or images.

- (a) Officers should not attempt to access, review or search the contents of such devices prior to examination by a forensic expert. Unsent messages can be lost, data can be inadvertently deleted and incoming messages can override stored messages.
- (b) Do not turn the device on or off. The device may be wrapped in aluminum foil and placed in a solid metal container such as a paint can or in a Faraday bag, to prevent the device from sending or receiving information from its host network.
- (c) When seizing the devices, also seize the charging units and keep them plugged in to the chargers until they can be examined. If the batteries go dead all the data may be lost.

### **805.5 DIGITAL EVIDENCE RECORDED BY OFFICERS**

Officers handling and submitting recorded and digitally stored evidence from digital cameras and audio or video recorders will comply with these procedures to ensure the integrity and admissibility of such evidence.

#### **805.5.1 COLLECTION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE**

Once evidence is recorded it shall not be erased, deleted or altered in any way prior to submission. All photographs taken will be preserved regardless of quality, composition or relevance. Video and audio files will not be altered in any way.

#### **805.5.2 SUBMISSION OF DIGITAL MEDIA**

The following are required procedures for the submission of digital media used by cameras or other recorders:

- (a) Any seized recording media (smart card, compact flash card or any other media) shall be entered into the property room as soon as possible for submission as evidence using the appropriate evidence handling, packaging and submitting procedures.
- (b) Officers are not authorized to review or copy memory cards such as those contained in seized cell phones, PDA's and other digital storage equipment without the authorization of a command level officer, valid consent, or with a court order.

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### 805.5.3 DOWNLOADING OF DIGITAL FILES

Digital information such as video or audio files recorded on devices using internal memory must be downloaded to storage media. The following procedures are to be followed:

- (a) Where possible, the device should be connected to a computer and the files accessed directly from the computer directory or downloaded to a folder on the host computer for copying to the storage media.
- (b) Once photographs have been taken by a department employee and have been sent to the APD server the employee should confirm that the photographs were correctly saved to the server. Prior to using the camera again the camera's memory should be formatted.
- (c) As soon as possible following the collection of photographs, the camera operator is to send the photos to the appropriate APD server under the appropriate case number. The officer shall note in the appropriate report the following:
  - 1. Name of the officer who took the photographs.
  - 2. Date and time the photographs were taken.
  - 3. Location of where photographs were taken.
  - 4. Serial number of the camera used to take the photographs.
  - 5. Name of the officer who sent the photographs to the appropriate APD server.
  - 6. The camera operator shall not alter or erase any of the photos taken.

### 805.5.4 PRESERVATION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE

- (a) Only evidence technicians are authorized to copy original digital media that is held as evidence. The original digital media shall remain in evidence and shall remain unaltered.
- (b) Digital images that are enhanced to provide a better quality photograph for identification and investigative purposes must only be made from a copy of the original media.
- (c) If any enhancement is done to the copy of the original, it shall be noted in the corresponding incident report.



# Animal Control

## 806.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for interacting with animals and responding to calls for service that involve animals.

## 806.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to be responsive to the needs of the community regarding animal-related issues. This includes enforcing local, state and federal laws relating to animals and appropriately resolving or referring animal-related problems, as outlined in this policy.

## 806.3 ANIMAL CONTROL RESPONSIBILITIES

Animal control services are generally the primary responsibility of Animal Control and include the following:

- (a) Animal-related matters during periods when Animal Control is available.
- (b) Ongoing or persistent animal nuisance complaints. Such complaints may be scheduled, if reasonable, for handling during periods that Animal Control is available for investigation and resolution.
- (c) Follow-up on animal-related calls, such as locating owners of injured animals.

## 806.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members who respond to or assist with animal-related calls for service should evaluate the situation to determine appropriate actions to control the situation.

Due to the hazards of handling animals without proper training and equipment, responding members generally should not attempt to capture or pick up any animal, but should keep the animal under observation until the arrival of appropriate assistance.

Members may consider acting before the arrival of such assistance when:

- (a) There is a threat to public safety.
- (b) An animal has bitten someone. Members should take measures to confine the animal and prevent further injury.
- (c) An animal is creating a traffic hazard.
- (d) An animal is seriously injured.
- (e) The owner/handler of an animal has been arrested or is incapacitated. In such circumstances, the member should find appropriate placement for the animal.
  - 1. This is only necessary when the arrestee is expected to be in custody for a time period longer than would reasonably allow him/her to properly care for the animal.

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2. With the owner's consent, locating appropriate placement may require contacting relatives or neighbors to care for the animal.
3. If no person can be found or the owner does not or cannot give consent, the animal should be taken to a designated animal care facility.

### **806.5 ANIMAL CRUELTY COMPLAINTS**

Laws relating to the cruelty to animals should be enforced, including but not limited to RCW 9.08.070 (cruelty to pets), RCW 16.52.117 (animal fighting), RCW 16.52.205 (animal cruelty) and RCW 16.52.320 (cruelty to livestock).

- (a) An investigation should be conducted on all reports of animal cruelty.
- (b) Legal steps should be taken to protect an animal that is in need of immediate care or protection from acts of cruelty.

#### **806.5.1 REMOVAL OF ANIMALS**

An officer who has probable cause to believe that an animal is subject to cruelty may obtain a warrant for removal of the animal when there is no responsible person to assume care of the animal and a good faith effort to contact the animal's owner has first been attempted. If an animal is in immediate life-threatening condition, a warrant need not be obtained. The animal may be removed to a suitable place for feeding and care or placed under the custody of Animal Control (RCW 16.52.085).

When an animal is removed, written notice shall be provided to the owner regarding the circumstances of the removal and the legal remedies available to the owner. The notice shall be given by posting at the place of the seizure, by delivery to a person residing at the place of seizure or by registered mail if the owner is known (RCW 16.52.085).

The officer who removed the animal may authorize an examination by a veterinarian to determine whether neglect or abuse is sufficient to require removal of the animal (RCW 16.52.085).

#### **806.5.2 ANIMALS EXPOSED TO EXCESSIVE HEAT OR COLD, LACK OF VENTILATION OR LACK OF NECESSARY WATER**

Officers may, in exigent circumstances, enter a vehicle or enclosed space other than a residence to save the life of an animal suffering harm from exposure to excessive heat or cold or lack of necessary ventilation or water when there is no person present in the immediate area who has access to the vehicle or enclosed space and is willing to immediately remove the animal (RCW 16.52.340).

In all other cases, a court order should be obtained when necessary to enter a vehicle or structure to protect the life of an animal.

### **806.6 ANIMAL BITE REPORTS**

Members investigating an animal bite should obtain as much information as possible for follow-up with the appropriate health or animal authorities. Efforts should be made to capture or otherwise

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have the animal placed under control. Members should attempt to identify and notify the owner of the final disposition of the animal.

### **806.7 STRAY DOGS**

If the dog has a license or can otherwise be identified, the owner should be contacted, if possible. If the owner is contacted, the dog should be released to the owner and a citation may be issued, if appropriate. If a dog is taken into custody, it shall be transported to the appropriate shelter/holding pen.

Members shall provide reasonable treatment to animals in their care (e.g., food, water, shelter).

### **806.8 DANGEROUS ANIMALS**

In the event responding members cannot fulfill a request for service because an animal is difficult or dangerous to handle, the Supervisor will be contacted to determine available resources, including requesting the assistance of animal control services from an allied agency.

### **806.9 PUBLIC NUISANCE CALLS RELATING TO ANIMALS**

Members should diligently address calls related to nuisance animals (e.g., barking dogs), as such calls may involve significant quality-of-life issues.

The ACO shall obtain as much information as possible regarding the nature of the complaint, complaining person, owner information (if possible), location of problem, etc. The ACO should also document any actions taken, citation(s) issued, related report numbers, etc.

In the event responding cannot fulfill urgent requests for service because the animal is difficult or dangerous to handle, the ACO may be called to duty to handle. If the ACO is unavailable, the patrol supervisor may request the assistance of an animal control officer from an allied agency.

### **806.10 DECEASED ANIMALS**

When a member becomes aware of a deceased animal, all reasonable attempts should be made to preliminarily determine if the death of the animal is related to criminal activity.

Deceased animals on public property should be removed, sealed in a plastic bag, and properly disposed of by the responding member.

Members should not climb onto or under any privately owned structure for the purpose of removing a deceased animal.

### **806.11 INJURED ANIMALS**

When a member becomes aware of an injured domesticated animal, all reasonable attempts should be made to contact an owner or responsible handler. If an owner or responsible handler cannot be located, the animal should be taken to a designated animal care facility.

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### **806.12 DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS**

When it is necessary to use a firearm to euthanize a badly injured animal or stop an animal that poses an imminent threat to human safety, the Firearms Policy shall be followed. A badly injured animal shall only be euthanized with the approval of a supervisor and whenever possible, in consultation with a licensed veterinarian and the owner of the animal (RCW 16.52.210).

## Chapter 9 - Custody

## Jail Policies

### 900.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- (a) On December 30, 1987 the Aberdeen City Council and Mayor adopted custodial care standards mandated for the Aberdeen City Jail.
  - 1. Jail Policies: The Aberdeen jail policies are contained in a separate manual issued March 5, 2016. Copies of this manual are maintained at the booking desk, sergeant's office, and issued to the Correction Officers, Commander, Deputy Chief and others as required. The Jail Policies are available to all employees on the Department's computer network.
  - 2. Applicability: The Aberdeen Police Department Jail Policies and Procedures have the same intent and force as the contents of this manual and apply to all members of the department.

# Custodial Searches

## 901.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance regarding searches of individuals in custody. Such searches are necessary to eliminate the introduction of contraband, intoxicants or weapons into the Aberdeen Police Department facility. Such items can pose a serious risk to the safety and security of department members, individuals in custody, contractors and the public.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit the otherwise lawful collection of evidence from an individual in custody.

### 901.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Custody search** - An in-custody search of an individual and of his/her property, shoes and clothing, including pockets, cuffs and folds on the clothing, to remove all weapons, dangerous items and contraband.

**Physical body cavity search** - A search that includes a visual inspection and may include a physical intrusion into a body cavity. Body cavity means the stomach or rectal cavity of an individual, and the vagina of a female person.

**Strip search** - A search that requires an individual to remove or rearrange some or all of his/her clothing to permit a visual inspection of the underclothing, breasts, buttocks, anus or outer genitalia. This includes monitoring an individual who is changing clothes, where his/her underclothing, buttocks, genitalia or female breasts are visible.

## 901.2 POLICY

All searches shall be conducted with concern for safety, dignity, courtesy, respect for privacy and hygiene, and in compliance with policy and law to protect the rights of those who are subject to any search.

Searches shall not be used for intimidation, harassment, punishment or retaliation.

## 901.3 FIELD AND TRANSPORTATION SEARCHES

An officer should conduct a custody search of an individual immediately after his/her arrest and when receiving an individual from the custody of another. An officer shall conduct a custody search of an individual before transporting the person who is in custody in any department vehicle.

Whenever practicable, a custody search should be conducted by an officer of the same sex as the person being searched. If an officer of the same sex is not reasonably available, a witnessing officer should be present during the search.

## *Custodial Searches*

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### **901.4 SEARCHES AT POLICE FACILITIES**

Custody searches shall be conducted on all individuals in custody, upon entry to the Aberdeen Police Department facilities. Except in exigent circumstances, the search should be conducted by a member of the same sex as the individual being searched. If a member of the same sex is not available, a witnessing member must be present during the search.

Custody searches should also be conducted any time an individual in custody enters or re-enters a secure area, or any time it is reasonably believed that a search is necessary to maintain the safety and security of the facility.

#### **901.4.1 PROPERTY**

Members shall take reasonable care in handling the property of an individual in custody to avoid discrepancies or losses. Property retained for safekeeping shall be kept in a secure location until the individual is released or transferred.

Some property may not be accepted by a facility or agency that is taking custody of an individual from this department, such as weapons or large items. These items should be retained for safekeeping in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

All property shall be inventoried by objective description (this does not include an estimated value). The individual from whom it was taken shall be required to sign the completed inventory. If the individual's signature cannot be obtained, the inventory shall be witnessed by another department member. The inventory should include the case number, date, time, member's Aberdeen Police Department identification number and information regarding how and when the property may be released.

#### **901.4.2 VERIFICATION OF MONEY**

All money shall be counted in front of the individual from whom it was received. When possible, the individual shall initial the dollar amount on the inventory. Additionally, all money should be placed in a separate envelope and sealed. Negotiable checks or other instruments and foreign currency should also be sealed in an envelope with the amount indicated but not added to the cash total. All envelopes should clearly indicate the contents on the front. The department member sealing it should place his/her initials across the sealed flap. Should any money be withdrawn or added, the member making such change shall enter the amount below the original entry and initial it. The amount of money in the envelope should always be totaled and written on the outside of the envelope.

### **901.5 STRIP SEARCHES**

No individual in temporary custody at any Aberdeen Police Department facility shall be subjected to a strip search unless there is reasonable suspicion based upon specific and articulable facts to believe the individual has a health condition requiring immediate medical attention or is concealing a weapon or contraband that constitutes a threat to the facility. Probable cause is required for a strip search when there is a belief the individual is concealing on his/her body evidence not constituting a threat to the facility (RCW 10.79.130).



## *Custodial Searches*

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Factors to be considered in determining reasonable suspicion or probable cause include, but are not limited to (RCW 10.79.140):

- (a) The detection of an object during a custody search that may be a weapon or contraband and cannot be safely retrieved without a strip search.
- (b) Circumstances of a current arrest that specifically indicate the individual may be concealing a weapon or contraband.
  - 1. A felony arrest charge or being under the influence of a controlled substance should not suffice as reasonable suspicion absent other facts.
- (c) Custody history (e.g., past possession of contraband while in custody, assaults on department members, escape attempts).
- (d) The individual's actions or demeanor.
- (e) Criminal history (i.e., level of experience in a custody setting).
- (f) The nature of the offense.

No transgender or intersex individual shall be searched or examined for the sole purpose of determining the individual's genital status. If the individual's genital status is unknown, it may be determined during conversations with the person, by reviewing medical records, or as a result of a broader medical examination conducted in private by a medical practitioner (28 CFR 115.115).

### 901.5.1 STRIP SEARCH PROCEDURES

Strip searches at Aberdeen Police Department facilities shall be conducted as follows (28 CFR 115.115):

- (a) Written authorization from the Patrol Lieutenant shall be obtained prior to the strip search.
- (b) All members involved with the strip search shall be of the same sex as the individual being searched, unless the search is conducted by a medical practitioner (RCW 10.79.100).
- (c) All strip searches shall be conducted in a professional manner under sanitary conditions and in a secure area of privacy so that it cannot be observed by those not participating in the search. The search shall not be reproduced through a visual or sound recording.
- (d) Whenever possible, a second member of the same sex should also be present during the search, for security and as a witness to the finding of evidence.
- (e) Members conducting a strip search shall not touch the breasts, buttocks or genitalia of the individual being searched.
- (f) The primary member conducting the search shall prepare a written report to include (RCW 10.79.150):

## *Custodial Searches*

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1. The facts that led to the decision to perform a strip search.
  2. The reasons less intrusive methods of searching were not used or were insufficient.
  3. The written authorization for the search, obtained from the Patrol Lieutenant.
  4. The name of the individual who was searched.
  5. The name, serial number of the officer and sex of the members who conducted the search.
  6. The name, sex and role of any person present during the search.
  7. The time and date of the search.
  8. The place at which the search was conducted.
  9. A list of the items, if any, that were recovered.
  10. The facts upon which the member based his/her belief that the individual was concealing a weapon or contraband.
  11. Any health condition discovered.
- (g) No member should view an individual's private underclothing, buttocks, genitalia or female breasts while that individual is showering, performing bodily functions or changing clothes, unless he/she otherwise qualifies for a strip search. However, if serious hygiene or health issues make it reasonably necessary to assist the individual with a shower or a change of clothes, a supervisor should be contacted to ensure reasonable steps are taken to obtain the individual's consent and/or otherwise protect his/her privacy and dignity.
- (h) Except at the request of the individual, no person, other than those who are participating in the search, shall be present or able to observe the search (RCW 10.79.150).
- (i) A copy of the written authorization shall be maintained in the file of the individual who was searched (RCW 10.79.150).

### 901.5.2 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE FIELD STRIP SEARCHES

A strip search may be conducted in the field only with Patrol Lieutenant authorization and only in exceptional circumstances, such as when:

- (a) There is probable cause to believe that the individual is concealing a weapon or other dangerous item that cannot be recovered by a more limited search.
- (b) There is probable cause to believe that the individual is concealing controlled substances or evidence that cannot be recovered by a more limited search, and there

## *Custodial Searches*

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is no reasonable alternative to ensure the individual cannot destroy or ingest the substance during transportation.

These special-circumstance field strip searches shall only be authorized and conducted under the same restrictions as the strip search procedures in this policy, except that the Patrol Lieutenant authorization does not need to be in writing.

### **901.5.3 RESTRICTIONS**

Strip searches should be limited to those situations where such searches are necessary. Reasonable efforts to use less intrusive methods, such as pat-downs, electronic metal detector or clothing searches shall be made prior to any strip search (RCW 10.79.060; RCW 10.79.140).

### **901.6 PHYSICAL BODY CAVITY SEARCH**

Physical body cavity searches shall be subject to the following:

- (a) No individual shall be subjected to a physical body cavity search without written approval of the Patrol Lieutenant and only upon a search warrant. Authorization may be obtained electronically (RCW 10.79.080). A copy of any search warrant and the results of the physical body cavity search shall be included with the related reports and made available, upon request, to the individual or authorized representative (except for those portions of the warrant ordered sealed by a court).
- (b) Only a qualified physician, registered nurse or physician's assistant may conduct a physical body cavity search (RCW 10.79.100).
- (c) Except for the qualified physician, registered nurse or physician's assistant conducting the search, persons present must be of the same sex as the individual being searched. Only the necessary department members needed to maintain the safety and security of the medical personnel shall be present.
- (d) Privacy requirements, including restricted touching of body parts and sanitary condition requirements, are the same as required for a strip search.
- (e) All such searches shall be documented, including (RCW 10.79.080):
  - 1. The facts that led to the decision to perform a physical body cavity search of the individual.
  - 2. The reasons less intrusive methods of searching were not used or were insufficient.
  - 3. The Patrol Lieutenant's approval.
  - 4. A copy of the search warrant.
  - 5. The time, date, location, and description of the search.
  - 6. The medical personnel present.
  - 7. The names, sex, and roles of any department members present.
  - 8. A statement of the results of the search and a list of any contraband or weapons discovered by the search.

## *Custodial Searches*

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- (f) A copy of the written authorization shall be retained and made available to the individual who was searched or other authorized representative upon request.
- (g) Before any physical body cavity search is authorized or conducted, a thorough pat-down search, a thorough electronic metal-detector search, and a thorough clothing search, as appropriate, must be used. No physical body cavity search shall be authorized or conducted unless these other methods do not satisfy the safety, security, or evidentiary concerns of the Department (RCW 10.79.080).
- (h) The Patrol Lieutenant may allow the individual to have a readily available witness, of the individual's choosing, present at the time the search is conducted. The person chosen shall not be currently in custody or present an unreasonable security risk (RCW 10.79.100).

### **901.7 TRAINING**

The Training Coordinator shall ensure members have training that includes (28 CFR 115.115):

- (a) Conducting searches of cross-gender individuals.
- (b) Conducting searches of transgender and intersex individuals.
- (c) Conducting searches in a professional and respectful manner, and in the least intrusive manner possible, consistent with security needs. The search must be conducted by a physician, registered nurse, or physician's assistant.

### **901.8 DOCUMENTATION OF A BODY CAVITY SEARCH**

The officer requesting a body cavity search shall prepare and sign a report regarding the body cavity search, which shall include (RCW) 10.79.080(4)):

- (a) A copy of the written authorization required under Policy Manual § 902.6(b).
- (b) A copy of the warrant and any supporting documents.
- (c) The name and sex of all persons conducting or observing the search.
- (d) The time, date, place and description of the search.
- (e) A statement of the results of the search and a list of any items removed from the person as a result of the search.

### **901.9 LIABILITY**

The Revised Code of Washington expressly provides that a person who suffers damage or harm as a result of an improper search may bring a civil action to recover damages (RCW 10.79.110).

The agency and its employees are not liable for injury, death, or damage caused by a person in custody when the injury, death or damage was made possible by contraband that would have been discovered sooner but for the delay caused by having to seek a search warrant (RCW 10.79.170).

# Biological Samples

## 902.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the collection of biological samples from those individuals required to provide samples upon conviction for certain offenses. This policy does not apply to biological samples collected at a crime scene or taken from an individual in conjunction with a criminal investigation. Nor does it apply to biological samples collected from those required to register, for example, as sex offenders.

## 902.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will assist in the expeditious collection of required biological samples from offenders in accordance with the laws of this state and with as little reliance on force as practicable.

### 902.2.1 POINT OF COLLECTION

As soon as administratively practicable after confinement, persons required to provide DNA samples shall be processed for the necessary samples by the appropriate jail staff.

## 902.3 OFFENDERS SUBJECT TO BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION

The following offenders must submit a biological sample (RCW 43.43.754):

- (a) An offender convicted of any felony offense.
- (b) An offender convicted of assault in the fourth degree where domestic violence as defined in RCW 9.94A.030 was pleaded and proven (RCW 9A.36.041).
- (c) An offender convicted of assault in the fourth degree with sexual motivation (RCW 9A.36.041; RCW 9.94A.835).
- (d) An offender convicted of communication with a minor for immoral purposes (RCW 9.68A.090).
- (e) An offender convicted of custodial sexual misconduct in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.170).
- (f) An offender convicted of failure to register as a sex or kidnap offender (RCW 9A.44.040 et seq.).
- (g) An offender convicted of harassment (RCW 9A.46.020).
- (h) An offender convicted of patronizing a prostitute (RCW 9A.88.110).
- (i) An offender convicted of sexual misconduct with a minor in the second degree (RCW 9A.44.096).
- (j) An offender convicted of stalking (RCW 9A.46.110).
- (k) An offender who violates a sexual assault protection order granted under RCW 7.90.005 et seq.
- (l) An offender convicted of indecent exposure (RCW 9A.88.010).

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- (m) An offender convicted of a sex or kidnapping offense and required to register under RCW 9A.44.130.

### 902.3.1 BLOOD SAMPLES

Health care providers trained and qualified to draw blood are the only persons authorized to perform the withdrawal of blood in a medically approved manner.

### 902.3.2 BUCCAL SWABS

Buccal swab samples (taken from the inside of the mouth) may only be procured by employees who have successfully completed departmentally approved training in the collection of buccal swabs. If an individual violently resists or presents other officer safety issues, employees may omit buccal swab samples upon approval of a supervisor.

### 902.3.3 FULL PALM PRINTS

Full palm print impressions shall be obtained on appropriate forms along with all DNA samples.

### 902.3.4 OPTIONAL SUBMISSION OF BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES

The Department may submit biological samples to the forensic laboratory services of the Washington State Patrol of an offender who is deceased and who was previously convicted of a qualifying offense regardless of the date of conviction (RCW 43.43.754(1)).

## **902.4 PROCEDURE**

When an offender is required to provide a biological sample, a trained member shall attempt to obtain the sample in accordance with this policy.

### 902.4.1 COLLECTION

The following steps should be taken to collect a sample:

- (a) Verify that the offender is required to provide a sample pursuant to RCW 43.43.754.
- (b) Verify that a biological sample has not been previously collected from the offender by querying the person's Washington State criminal history records. There is no need to obtain a biological sample if one has been previously obtained (RCW 43.43.754).
- (c) Use the designated collection kit provided by the Washington State Patrol to perform the collection and take steps to avoid cross contamination.

### **902.5 USE OF FORCE TO OBTAIN SAMPLES**

If an offender refuses to cooperate with the sample collection process, members should attempt to identify the reason for refusal and seek voluntary compliance without resorting to using force. Force will not be used in the collection of samples except as authorized by court order or approval of legal counsel, and only with the approval of a supervisor.

Methods to consider when seeking voluntary compliance include contacting:

- (a) The individual's parole or probation officer, when applicable.

## *Biological Samples*

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- (b) The prosecuting attorney to seek additional charges against the individual for failure to comply or to otherwise bring the refusal before a judge.
- (c) The judge at the individual's next court appearance.
- (d) The individual's attorney.
- (e) A chaplain.
- (f) Another custody facility with additional resources, where the individual can be transferred to better facilitate sample collection.
- (g) A supervisor who may be able to authorize custodial disciplinary actions to compel compliance, if any are available. The supervisor shall review and approve any plan to use force and be present to document the process.

The supervisor shall review and approve any plan to use force and be present to document the process.

### 902.5.1 VIDEO RECORDING

A video recording should be made any time force is used to obtain a biological sample. The recording should document all persons participating in the process, in addition to the methods and all force used during the collection. The recording should be part of the investigation file, if any, or otherwise retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

## **Chapter 10 - Personnel**



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# Recruitment and Selection

## 1000.1 POLICY

In accordance with applicable federal, state, and local law, the Aberdeen Police Department provides equal opportunities for applicants and employees regardless of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, pregnancy, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, and any other classification or status protected class by law. The Department does not show partiality or grant any special status to any applicant, employee, or group of employees unless otherwise required by law.

The Department will recruit and hire only those individuals who demonstrate a commitment to service and who possess the traits and characteristics that reflect personal integrity and high ethical standards.

## 1000.2 RECRUITMENT

The Support Services Division Commander should employ a comprehensive recruitment and selection strategy to recruit and select employees from a qualified and diverse pool of candidates.

The strategy should include:

- (a) Identification of racially and culturally diverse target markets.
- (b) Use of marketing strategies to target diverse applicant pools.
- (c) Expanded use of technology and maintenance of a strong internet presence. This may include an interactive department website and the use of department-managed social networking sites, if resources permit.
- (d) Expanded outreach through partnerships with media, community groups, citizen academies, local colleges, universities and the military.
- (e) Employee referral and recruitment incentive programs.
- (f) Consideration of shared or collaborative regional testing processes.

The Support Services Division Commander shall avoid advertising, recruiting and screening practices that tend to stereotype, focus on homogeneous applicant pools or screen applicants in a discriminatory manner.

The Department should strive to facilitate and expedite the screening and testing process, and should periodically inform each candidate of his/her status in the recruiting process.

## 1000.3 SELECTION PROCESS

The Department shall actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates that have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects. Minimally, the Department should employ a comprehensive screening, background investigation, and selection process that assesses cognitive and physical abilities and includes review and verification of the following:

## *Recruitment and Selection*

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- (a) A comprehensive application for employment (including previous employment, references, current and prior addresses, education, military record)
- (b) Driving record
- (c) Reference checks
- (d) Employment eligibility, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and acceptable identity and employment authorization documents. This required documentation should not be requested until a candidate is hired. This does not prohibit obtaining documents required for other purposes.
- (e) Information obtained from public internet sites
- (f) Financial history consistent with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) (15 USC § 1681 et seq.)
- (g) Local, state, and federal criminal history record checks
- (h) Polygraph or voice stress analyzer (VSA) examination (when legally permissible) (RCW 43.101.095; WAC 139-07-040)
- (i) Medical and psychological examination (may only be given after a conditional offer of employment)
- (j) Review board or selection committee assessment

### 1000.3.1 VETERAN PREFERENCE

The Department will provide veteran preference percentages as required (RCW 41.04.010).

### **1000.4 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

This policy provides a framework for employee recruiting efforts and identifying job-related standards for the selection process. This policy supplements the rules that govern employment practices for the Aberdeen Police Department and that are promulgated and maintained by the Department of Human Resources.

### **1000.5 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**

Every candidate shall undergo a thorough background investigation to verify his/her personal integrity and high ethical standards, and to identify any past behavior that may be indicative of the candidate's unsuitability to perform duties relevant to the operation of the Aberdeen Police Department (RCW 43.101.095).

#### 1000.5.1 NOTICES

Background investigators shall ensure that investigations are conducted and notices provided in accordance with the requirements of the FCRA (15 USC § 1681d).

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### 1000.5.2 REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Due to the potential for accessing unsubstantiated, private or protected information, the Support Services Division Commander shall not require candidates to provide passwords, account information or access to password-protected social media accounts (RCW 49.44.200).

The Support Services Division Commander should consider utilizing the services of an appropriately trained and experienced third party to conduct open source, internet-based searches and/or review information from social media sites to ensure that:

- (a) The legal rights of candidates are protected.
- (b) Material and information to be considered are verified, accurate and validated.
- (c) The Department fully complies with applicable privacy protections and local, state and federal law.

Regardless of whether a third party is used, the Support Services Division Commander should ensure that potentially impermissible information is not available to any person involved in the candidate selection process.

### 1000.5.3 DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING

The background investigator shall summarize the results of the background investigation in a report that includes sufficient information to allow the reviewing authority to decide whether to extend a conditional offer of employment. The report shall not include any information that is prohibited from use, including that from social media sites, in making employment decisions. The report and all supporting documentation shall be included in the candidate's background investigation file. These files shall be stored in a secured manner and made available only to those who are authorized to participate in the selection process.

### 1000.5.4 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

### 1000.5.5 BACKGROUND CERTIFICATION

Upon completion of the background investigation of a candidate who has received a conditional offer of employment with the Aberdeen Police Department, the background investigator shall certify to the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) that the background check has been completed and there was no information found that would disqualify the candidate from certification, and that the candidate is suitable for employment as an officer (RCW 43.101.095).

## **1000.6 DISQUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

As a general rule, performance indicators and candidate information and records shall be evaluated by considering the candidate as a whole, and taking into consideration the following:

- Age at the time the behavior occurred
- Passage of time

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- Patterns of past behavior
- Severity of behavior
- Probable consequences if past behavior is repeated or made public
- Likelihood of recurrence
- Relevance of past behavior to public safety employment
- Aggravating and mitigating factors
- Other relevant considerations

A candidate's qualifications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, using a totality-of-the-circumstances framework.

### **1000.7 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

All candidates shall meet the minimum standards required by state law (RCW 43.101.095; RCW 43.101.200). Candidates will be evaluated based on merit, ability, competence and experience, in accordance with the high standards of integrity and ethics valued by the Department and the community.

Validated, job-related and nondiscriminatory employment standards shall be established for each job classification and shall minimally identify the training, abilities, knowledge and skills required to perform the position's essential duties in a satisfactory manner. Each standard should include performance indicators for candidate evaluation. The Department of Human Resources should maintain validated standards for all positions.

#### **1000.7.1 STANDARDS FOR OFFICERS**

Candidates shall meet the following minimum standards established by the CJTC (RCW 43.101.095):

- (a) Be eligible for CJTC certification
- (b) Submit to a psychological evaluation
- (c) Submit to a polygraph examination
- (d) Submit to a criminal history check
- (e) Not been convicted of a felony offense

### **1000.8 PROBATIONARY PERIODS**

The Support Services Division Commander should coordinate with the Aberdeen Department of Human Resources to identify positions subject to probationary periods and procedures for:

- (a) Appraising performance during probation.
- (b) Assessing the level of performance required to complete probation.
- (c) Extending probation.
- (d) Documenting successful or unsuccessful completion of probation.

# Aberdeen Police Department

Aberdeen PD WA Policy Manual

## *Recruitment and Selection*

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# Evaluation of Employees

## 1001.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The employee evaluation process is meant to assist management in identifying and recognizing effective employee performance, as well as assisting employees in improving and/or maintaining effective performance levels. It should also serve as a median for personnel counseling, provide a means to recognize individual performance, establish a means for proper evaluation of employees, and assist in identification of training needs. In the end, this will assist in the proper assignment of personnel to positions within the Department.

## 1001.2 POLICY

Employee performance evaluations will be written based on job related factors specific to the position occupied by the employee. Each evaluation will cover the time period of January 1st through December 31st of the evaluation year. Every employee shall complete a self-evaluation during the month of December of the year that the evaluation covers. The self-evaluation is due by December 31st of the year being evaluated and shall be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. Employee evaluations shall be completed by January 31st of the following year that the evaluation period covered. The immediate supervisor shall complete the evaluation and forward the completed evaluation through the chain of command, no later than February 1st of the following year. The employee's immediate supervisor will be responsible for the evaluation. Other supervisors directly familiar with the employee's performance during the rating period should be consulted by the immediate supervisor for their input. Once reviewed through the chain of command, the evaluation will be placed in the employee's personnel file as part of a permanent record.

The Department evaluates employees in a non-discriminatory manner based upon job-related factors specific to the employee's position, without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability or other protected classes.

## 1001.3 EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluation reports will cover a specific period of time and should be based on documented performance during that period. Evaluation reports will be completed by each employee's immediate supervisor. Other supervisors directly familiar with the employee's performance during the rating period should be consulted by the immediate supervisor for their input.

All sworn and non-sworn supervisory personnel shall attend an approved supervisory course that includes training on the completion of performance evaluations within one year of the supervisory appointment.

## *Evaluation of Employees*

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Each supervisor should discuss the tasks of the position, standards of performance expected and the evaluation criteria with each employee at the beginning of the rating period. Supervisors should document this discussion in the prescribed manner.

Assessment of an employee's job performance is an ongoing process. Continued coaching and feedback provides supervisors and employees with opportunities to correct performance issues as they arise.

Non-probationary employees demonstrating substandard performance shall be notified in writing of such performance as soon as possible in order to have an opportunity to remediate the issues. Such notification should occur at the earliest opportunity, with the goal being a minimum of 90 days written notice prior to the end of the evaluation period.

Employees who disagree with their evaluation and who desire to provide a formal response or a rebuttal may do so in writing in the prescribed format and time period.

### **1001.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

Each supervisor must counsel and comment on their employees performance. The supervisor shall evaluate training needs or corrective action required. Supervisors shall inform employees of performance through written documented performance reports as required. Supervisors shall be prepared to fully document all behavior or performance.

### **1001.5 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES**

Non-sworn probationary employees will be evaluated by their immediate supervisor every six months until they have completed their training and probationary period.

Each sworn probationary employee shall be evaluated by their FTO daily using the DOR form during Phase 1 and 2. Phase 3 probationary employees will be evaluated bi-weekly by their immediate supervisor until they complete their probationary period. These evaluations will be routed through the FTO chain of command and retained in the training file.

### **1001.6 MEASUREMENT DEFINITIONS**

The personnel evaluation report form will be used for permanent and probationary employees. The Criminal Division evaluation form measures thirteen (13) areas of performance. The Corrections and Support divisions evaluation forms each measures eleven (11) areas of performance. Each performance area will be scored with one of the following ratings: Unsatisfactory, Inconsistent, Effective, Highly Effective, and Exceptional. N/A will be used for non-applicable areas of performance. Each of the areas of performance contain measurement definitions specific to that category. The employees overall rating will be determined by the supervisor based on the employee's overall performance.

### **1001.7 RATER COMMENTS**

At the end of each evaluation form are two areas for comments by supervisors; one is specifically for goal setting and the other for general comments regarding the performance of the employee

## *Evaluation of Employees*

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over the past year. Both the employee and supervisor will set goals for the employee for the following year.

### **1001.8 INSTRUCTIONS FOR EVALUATING PERFORMANCE**

All employees involved in the evaluation and rating of personnel performance shall receive instructions on the evaluation system prior to becoming a rater. Raters will be responsible for following this employee policy during the evaluation process.

There are different evaluation forms for the three divisions: Criminal, Corrections, and Support.

Timely submission of the appropriate evaluation reports will be the responsibility of each division commander with respect to those probationary and permanent employees who are under their command.

### **1001.9 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION COUNSELING**

Supervisors will familiarize themselves with the current job description pertaining to the employee's classification. Should the employee so desire, they will be provided a copy of their job description. Supervisors will counsel each employee at the beginning of the evaluation session and shall refresh the employee as to the tasks of their assigned position, expectations of the rater on the employee's performance level, and review the rating criteria so as to leave the employee with a clear understanding of the evaluation process.

### **1001.10 EVALUATION INTERVIEW**

When the supervisor has completed the preliminary evaluation, arrangements shall be made for a private discussion of the evaluation with the employee. The supervisor should discuss the results of the just completed rating period and clarify any questions the employee may have. If the employee has valid and reasonable protests of any of the ratings, the supervisor may make appropriate changes to the evaluation. Areas needing improvement and goals for reaching the expected level of performance should be identified and discussed. The supervisor should also provide relevant counseling regarding advancement, specialty positions and training opportunities. The supervisor and employee will sign and date the evaluation. Permanent employees may also write comments in the Employee Comments section of the performance evaluation report.

### **1001.11 EVALUATION DISPUTES**

If the evaluated employee disagrees with their evaluation in part or in whole, and is unable to settle the issue(s) with the evaluating supervisor, they may submit in writing their specific disagreement(s) to the Section Commander. If the evaluated employee is still in disagreement with the evaluation after reviewing the document with the Section Commander, the evaluated employee may submit in writing an appeal to the Deputy Chief of Police. If the employee still disagrees with his or her evaluation after the review by the Deputy Chief, the employee may appeal



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the specific issues(s) of disagreement in writing to the Chief of Police who will review the appeal and issue a binding decision.

### **1001.12 REMEDIAL TRAINING**

When an employee fails to perform a job function at the level prescribed in this policy manual, remedial training may be necessary to ensure that employee has the knowledge and skills necessary to perform at an acceptable level.

Whenever an employee receives an evaluation rating of unsatisfactory or inconsistent, receives a Special Evaluation to document a performance deficiency or is receiving discipline for a performance deficiency, the supervisor should consider whether remedial training would be appropriate to assist the employee in improving their performance.

- (a) If remedial training is deemed to be appropriate, the supervisor shall document the following items in a Personnel Improvement Plan (PIP):
  - 1. The remedial training being provided.
  - 2. The timeline for providing the training.
  - 3. The timeline for evaluating the employee's subsequent performance.
  - 4. The consequences if the employee fails to perform.
  - 5. The desired outcome if the remediation is successful.
- (b) Prior to implementing the remedial training, the supervisor shall present the PIP to the employee who shall then be provided with ten days to respond with any objections or other comments.
- (c) If the employee fails to provide a timely written response or expresses no desire to respond, the employee's date and signature shall be affixed to the PIP as agreement to its terms.
- (d) If the employee provides a timely written response, any objections shall be adjudicated in accordance with the department's grievance procedure.

The remedial training process is for use with all employees. It is not limited to use with probationary employees.

### **1001.13 UTILIZATION OF EVALUATIONS**

Completed performance evaluation report forms will become a permanent part of the employee's personnel file and may be utilized to identify performance levels and training needs. The evaluation process will also assist administrative staff in decisions on assignments within the Department. Evaluation of employee performance may also be taken into consideration for promotional opportunities. All evaluations will be retained in the employees personnel file in accordance with the established retention schedule. All employees may gain access to any of their evaluation reports by making an appointment with Human Resources and requesting to review their personnel files. Employees will be provided a copy of the evaluation form if they request it.

# Special Assignments and Promotions

## 1002.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a procedure for notifying all personnel of specialized assignment openings and promotional opportunities.

Nothing in this policy should be construed to supersede city ordinance, civil service rules, or any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

### 1002.1.1 PROMOTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Promotions will be made in accordance with City Ordinance Chapter 2.48 and Civil Service rules. Notification of promotional examinations will be posted on the department bulletin board at least two weeks prior to the date of the examination. Such notification should clearly identify the position, minimum requirements for application, the date, time, location, and types of examinations.

## 1002.2 SWORN NON-SUPERVISORY SELECTION PROCESS

The following positions are considered transfers and are not considered promotions:

- (a) Special Enforcement Team member to include but not limited to.
  - 1. Crisis Response Unit/Special Tactics Team/Crisis Negotiator Team
  - 2. Collision Investigation Team
  - 3. DART
- (b) Detective.
- (c) Traffic Officer.
- (d) Field Training Officer.
- (e) Clan Lab Team.
- (f) Drug Task Force Detective
- (g) School Resource Officer.
- (h) Explorer Adviser.
- (i) Emergency Medical Technician.
- (j) Any Instructor Positions to include but not limited to:
  - 1. Force Training Unit
  - 2. Domestic Violence Instructor
  - 3. EVOC
  - 4. Radar/Lidar
  - 5. SFST Instructor

## *Special Assignments and Promotions*

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### 6. Capstun Instructor

#### 1002.2.1 DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

The following qualifications apply to consideration for transfer:

- (a) Three years experience.
- (b) Off probation.
- (c) Has demonstrated an expressed interest in the position applied for.
- (d) Education, training and demonstrated abilities in related areas; such as, enforcement activities, investigative techniques, report writing, public relations, etc.
- (e) Complete any training required by CJTC or law.

#### 1002.2.2 SPECIALIZED ASSIGNMENTS

Openings for specialized assignments will be posted on the department bulletin board in accordance with any applicable collective bargaining agreement. See policy §1003 for more information.

#### 1002.3 SELECTION PROCESS

The following criteria apply to transfers.

- (a) Administrative evaluation as determined by the Chief of Police and Command Staff. This should include a review of supervisor recommendations. Each supervisor who has supervised or otherwise been involved with the candidate may submit these recommendations.
- (b) The supervisor recommendations will be submitted to the Section Commander for whom the candidate will work for review.
- (c) Based on supervisor recommendations and those of the Command Staff, the Section Commander for whom the candidate will work for will submit his/her recommendation(s) to the Chief of Police.
- (d) Appointment by the Chief of Police

The policy and procedures for all positions may be waived for temporary assignments, emergency situations or for training.

#### 1002.4 PROMOTIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

Specifications for promotional opportunities are on file with the Aberdeen Department of Human Resources and City of Aberdeen Civil Service Commission.

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# Specialized Assignment Openings

## 1003.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

- (a) In an effort to provide effective law enforcement services to the public and provide for the continuing development of our employees it is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to identify and fill specialized part-time assignments within the department.
- (b) Nothing in this policy should be considered to supersede any effective collective bargaining agreements.
- (c) It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to establish the length of time an employee may serve in a particular position or temporary assignment within the police department. An employee may have the time extended or shortened if it is deemed advantageous by the Chief of Police. The time in a position could be of a shorter duration if the goals of the police department are not being met. Officers in these positions serve at the discretion of the Chief of Police.
- (d) Openings for specialized assignments will be posted on the department bulletin board.
  - 1. Detective Sergeant - Five years
  - 2. S.A. Supervisor - Open
  - 3. DTF Sergeant One - Six years
  - 4. DTF Detective One - Six years
  - 5. Detective (Short Term)- Five years
  - 6. Detective (Long Term)- Ten years
  - 7. Training Officer - Open
  - 8. Range Officer - Open
  - 9. K-9 Officer - Open
  - 10. Polygraph Open
  - 11. SRO - Five years
  - 12. Traffic Officer - Five years
- (e) The Chief of Police may temporarily reassign an officer to administrative duties or administrative leave with pay when such assignment is deemed to be in the best interest of the department.

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# Reporting of Arrests, Convictions, and Court Orders

## 1004.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to describe the notification requirements and procedures that members must follow when certain arrests, convictions, and court orders restrict their ability to perform the official duties and responsibilities of the Aberdeen Police Department. This policy will also describe the notification requirements and procedures that certain retired officers must follow when an arrest, conviction, or court order disqualifies them from possessing a firearm (RCW 43.101.135).

## 1004.2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONVICTIONS AND RESTRAINING ORDERS

Washington and federal law prohibit individuals convicted of certain offenses and individuals subject to certain court orders from lawfully possessing a firearm. Such convictions and court orders often involve allegations of the use or attempted use of force or threatened use of a weapon on any individual in a domestic relationship (e.g., spouse, cohabitant, parent, child) (18 USC § 922; RCW 9.41.040; RCW 9.41.801).

All members and retired officers with identification cards issued by the Department are responsible for ensuring that they have not been disqualified from possessing a firearm by any such conviction or court order and shall promptly report any such conviction or court order to a supervisor, as provided in this policy.

## 1004.3 REPORTING

All members of this department and all retired officers with an identification card issued by the Department shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor (or the Chief of Police in the case of retired officers) in writing of any recent or current criminal arrest, charge, plea, or conviction in any state or foreign country, regardless of whether the matter was dropped or rejected, is currently pending or is on appeal, and regardless of the penalty or sentence, if any.

All members and all retired officers with an identification card issued by the Department shall immediately notify their supervisors (retired officers should immediately notify the Patrol Lieutenant or the Chief of Police) in writing if they become the subject of a domestic violence-related order or any court order that prevents the member or retired officer from possessing a firearm or requires suspension or revocation of applicable Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC) certification.

Any member whose criminal arrest, conviction, or court order restricts or prohibits that member from fully and properly performing his/her duties, including carrying a firearm, may be disciplined. This includes but is not limited to being placed on administrative leave, reassignment, and/or termination. Any effort to remove such disqualification or restriction shall remain entirely the responsibility of the member, on his/her own time and at his/her own expense.

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## *Reporting of Arrests, Convictions, and Court Orders*

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Any member failing to provide prompt written notice pursuant to this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination.

Retired officers may have their identification cards rescinded or modified, as may be appropriate (see the Retiree Concealed Firearms Policy).

### **1004.3.1 NOTIFICATION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION**

The Support Services Division Commander shall ensure that notification has been made to CJTC within 15 days of learning that an officer has been charged with a crime (RCW 43.101.135).

### **1004.4 PROCEDURE FOR RELIEF**

Relief for any employee falling under the restrictions imposed by federal law may only be obtained by expungement of the conviction. Each employee shall seek relief from firearm restrictions on their own time and through their own resources.

Pending satisfactory proof of relief from any legal restriction imposed on an employee's duties, the employee may be placed on administrative leave, reassigned or disciplined. The Department may, but is not required to return an employee to any assignment, reinstate any employee or reverse any pending or imposed discipline upon presentation of satisfactory proof of relief from any legal restriction set forth in this policy.

### **1004.5 POLICY**

The Aberdeen Police Department requires disclosure of member arrests, convictions, and certain court orders to maintain the high standards, ethics, and integrity in its workforce, and to ensure compatibility with the duties and responsibilities of the Department

### **1004.6 OTHER CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND COURT ORDERS**

Washington law prohibits the possession of a firearm under the provisions of RCW 9.41.040 (unlawful possession of firearms).

While legal restrictions may or may not be imposed by statute or by the courts upon conviction of any criminal offense, criminal conduct by members of this department may be inherently in conflict with law enforcement duties and the public trust, and shall be reported as provided in this policy.

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## Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace

### 1005.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear and uniform guidelines regarding drugs and alcohol in the workplace (41 USC § 8103).

### 1005.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide a drug- and alcohol-free workplace for all members.

### 1005.3 GENERAL GUIDELINES

Alcohol and drug use in the workplace or on department time can endanger the health and safety of department members and the public.

Members who have consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any medication, or combination thereof, that would tend to adversely affect their mental or physical abilities shall not report for duty. Affected members shall notify the Patrol Lieutenant or appropriate supervisor as soon as the member is aware that the member will not be able to report to work. If the member is unable to make the notification, every effort should be made to have a representative contact the supervisor in a timely manner. If the member is adversely affected while on-duty, the member shall be immediately removed and released from work (see the Work Restrictions section in this policy).

#### 1005.3.1 USE OF MEDICATIONS

Members should not use any medications that will impair their ability to safely and completely perform their duties. Any member who is medically required or has a need to take any such medication shall report that need to the member's immediate supervisor prior to commencing any on-duty status.

No member shall be permitted to work or drive a vehicle owned or leased by the Department while taking any medication that has the potential to impair the member's abilities, without a written release from the member's physician.

#### 1005.3.2 MEDICAL CANNABIS

Possession, use, or being under the influence of medical cannabis on-duty is prohibited and may lead to disciplinary action (RCW 69.51A.060).

### 1005.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members shall report for work in an appropriate mental and physical condition. Members are prohibited from purchasing, manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing or using controlled substances or alcohol on department premises or on department time (41 USC § 8103). The lawful possession or use of prescribed medications or over-the-counter remedies is excluded from this prohibition.

Members who are authorized to consume alcohol as part of a special assignment shall not do so to the extent of impairing on-duty performance.

## *Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace*

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Members shall notify a supervisor immediately if they observe behavior or other evidence that they believe demonstrates that a fellow member poses a risk to the health and safety of the member or others due to drug or alcohol use.

Members are required to notify their immediate supervisors of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction (41 USC § 8103).

### **1005.5 EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

There may be available a voluntary employee assistance program to assist those who wish to seek help for alcohol and drug problems (41 USC § 8103). Insurance coverage that provides treatment for drug and alcohol abuse also may be available. Employees should contact the Department of Human Resources, their insurance providers or the employee assistance program for additional information. It is the responsibility of each employee to seek assistance before alcohol or drug problems lead to performance problems.

### **1005.6 WORK RESTRICTIONS**

If a member informs a supervisor that he/she has consumed any alcohol, drug or medication that could interfere with a safe and efficient job performance, the member may be required to obtain clearance from his/her physician before continuing to work.

If the supervisor reasonably believes, based on objective facts, that a member is impaired by the consumption of alcohol or other drugs, the supervisor shall prevent the member from continuing work and shall ensure that he/she is safely transported away from the Department.

### **1005.7 SCREENING TESTS**

A supervisor may require an employee to submit to a screening under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) The supervisor reasonably believes, based upon objective facts, that the employee is under the influence of alcohol or drugs that are impairing the employee's ability to perform duties safely and efficiently.
- (b) The employee discharges a firearm in the performance of the employee's duties (excluding training or authorized euthanizing of an animal).
- (c) The employee discharges a firearm issued by the Department while off-duty, resulting in injury, death, or substantial property damage.
- (d) During the performance of the employee's duties, the employee drives a motor vehicle and becomes involved in an incident that results in bodily injury, death, or substantial damage to property.

#### **1005.7.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The supervisor shall prepare a written record documenting the specific facts that led to the decision to require the test, and shall inform the employee in writing of the following:



## *Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace*

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- (a) The test will be given to detect either alcohol or drugs, or both.
- (b) The result of the test is not admissible in any criminal proceeding against the employee.
- (c) The employee may refuse the test, but refusal may result in dismissal or other disciplinary action.

### 1005.7.2 DISCIPLINE

An employee may be subject to disciplinary action if the employee:

- (a) Fails or refuses to submit to a screening test.
- (b) After taking a screening test that indicates the presence of a controlled substance, fails to provide proof, within 72 hours after being requested, that the employee took the controlled substance as directed, pursuant to a current and lawful prescription issued in the employee's name.

### 1005.8 COMPLIANCE WITH THE DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE ACT

No later than 30 days following notice of any drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace involving a member, the Department will take appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, and/or requiring the member to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program (41 USC § 8104).

### 1005.9 CONFIDENTIALITY

The Department recognizes the confidentiality and privacy due to its members. Disclosure of any information relating to substance abuse treatment, except on a need-to-know basis, shall only be with the express written consent of the member involved or pursuant to lawful process.

The written results of any screening tests and all documents generated by the employee assistance program are considered confidential medical records and shall be maintained in the member's confidential medical file in accordance with the Personnel Records Policy.

## Sick Leave

### 1006.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidance regarding the use and processing of sick leave. The accrual and terms of use of sick leave for eligible employees are detailed in the City personnel manual or applicable labor agreement.

This policy is not intended to cover all types of sick or other leaves. For example, employees may be entitled to additional paid or unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons as provided for in the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) or the Washington Paid Family and Medical Leave program (PFML) (29 USC § 2601 et seq.; RCW 50.04.010 et seq.).

### 1006.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to provide eligible employees with a sick leave benefit.

### 1006.3 USE OF SICK LEAVE

Sick leave is intended to be used for qualified absences (RCW 49.46.210). Sick leave is not considered vacation. Abuse of sick leave may result in discipline, denial of sick leave benefits, or both (WAC 296-128-750).

Employees on sick leave shall not engage in other employment or self-employment or participate in any sport, hobby, recreational activity, or other activity that may impede recovery from the injury or illness (see the Outside Employment Policy).

Qualified appointments should be scheduled during a member's non-working hours when it is reasonable to do so.

#### 1006.3.1 NOTIFICATION

All members should notify the Patrol Lieutenant or appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work and within one hour before the start of their scheduled shifts, unless it is not practicable to do so. If it is impracticable and a member is unable to contact the supervisor, every effort should be made to have a representative for the member contact the supervisor (WAC 296-128-650).

When the necessity to be absent from work is foreseeable, such as planned medical appointments or treatments, the member shall, whenever possible and practicable, provide the Department with no less than 10 days' notice of the impending absence (WAC 296-128-650).

Upon return to work, members are responsible for ensuring their time off was appropriately accounted for, and for completing and submitting the required documentation describing the type of time off used and the specific amount of time taken.

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### **1006.4 EXTENDED ABSENCE**

Members absent from duty for more than three consecutive days may be required to furnish verification supporting the need to be absent and/or the ability to return to work (RCW 49.46.210; WAC 296-128-660). Members on an extended absence shall, if possible, contact their supervisors at specified intervals to provide an update on their absence and expected date of return.

### **1006.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Monitoring and regularly reviewing the attendance of those under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave and absences is consistent with this policy.
- (b) Attempting to determine whether an absence of four or more days may qualify as family medical leave and consulting with legal counsel or the Department of Human Resources as appropriate.
- (c) When appropriate, counseling members regarding inappropriate use of sick leave.
- (d) Referring eligible members to an available employee assistance program when appropriate.

### **1006.6 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

The Human Resources Director shall ensure:

- (a) Written or electronic notice is provided to each employee regarding applicable paid sick leave provisions as required by WAC 296-128-760.
- (b) This Sick Leave Policy is readily available to all employees.
- (c) Employee records are retained and preserved regarding paid sick leave information and data as required by WAC 296-128-010.

### **1006.7 RETALIATION**

No employee shall be retaliated against for using qualifying sick leave (WAC 296-128-770).

# Communicable Diseases

## 1007.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines to assist in minimizing the risk of department members contracting and/or spreading communicable diseases.

### 1007.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Communicable disease** - A human disease caused by microorganisms that are present in and transmissible through human blood, bodily fluid, tissue, or by breathing or coughing. These diseases commonly include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), HIV and tuberculosis.

**Exposure** - When an eye, mouth, mucous membrane or non-intact skin comes into contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, or when these substances are injected or infused under the skin; when an individual is exposed to a person who has a disease that can be passed through the air by talking, sneezing or coughing (e.g., tuberculosis), or the individual is in an area that was occupied by such a person. Exposure only includes those instances that occur due to a member's position at the Aberdeen Police Department. (See the exposure control plan for further details to assist in identifying whether an exposure has occurred.)

## 1007.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to providing a safe work environment for its members. Members should be aware that they are ultimately responsible for their own health and safety.

## 1007.3 EXPOSURE CONTROL OFFICER

The Chief of Police will assign a person as the Exposure Control Officer (ECO). The ECO shall develop an exposure control plan that includes (WAC 296-823-100 et seq.):

- (a) Exposure-prevention and decontamination procedures.
- (b) Procedures for when and how to obtain medical attention in the event of an exposure or suspected exposure.
- (c) The provision that department members will have no-cost access to the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., gloves, face masks, eye protection, pocket masks) for each member's position and risk of exposure.
- (d) Evaluation of persons in custody for any exposure risk and measures to separate them.
- (e) Compliance with all relevant laws or regulations related to communicable diseases, including:
  - 1. Bloodborne pathogen mandates including but not limited to (WAC 296-823-110 et seq.):
    - (a) The identification of positions with the potential for exposure.

## *Communicable Diseases*

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- (b) Measures to eliminate or minimize occupational exposure and how members will be informed of those measures.
  - (c) A plan for the distribution and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) related to communicable diseases.
  - (d) Directions for appropriate labeling of contaminated items.
  - (e) Rules regarding worksite maintenance.
  - (f) Rules regarding waste.
  - (g) Confidentiality requirements and medical protocols.
  - (h) Maintenance of training and medical records.
2. The Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (RCW 49.17.010 et seq.; WAC 296-800-110 et seq.).
  3. Responding to requests and notifications regarding exposures covered under the Ryan White law (42 USC § 300ff-133; 42 USC § 300ff-136).

The ECO should also act as the liaison with the Washington Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) and may request voluntary compliance inspections. The ECO should annually review and update the exposure control plan and review implementation of the plan (WAC 296-823-11010).

### **1007.4 EXPOSURE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION**

#### **1007.4.1 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS**

All members are expected to use good judgment and follow training and procedures related to mitigating the risks associated with communicable disease. This includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Stocking disposable gloves, antiseptic hand cleanser, CPR masks or other specialized equipment in the work area or department vehicles, as applicable.
- (b) Wearing department-approved disposable gloves when contact with blood, other potentially infectious materials, mucous membranes and non-intact skin can be reasonably anticipated.
- (c) Washing hands immediately or as soon as feasible after removal of gloves or other PPE.
- (d) Treating all human blood and bodily fluids/tissue as if it is known to be infectious for a communicable disease.
- (e) Using an appropriate barrier device when providing CPR.
- (f) Using a face mask or shield if it is reasonable to anticipate an exposure to an airborne transmissible disease.
- (g) Decontaminating non-disposable equipment (e.g., flashlight, control devices, clothing and portable radio) as soon as possible if the equipment is a potential source of exposure.

## *Communicable Diseases*

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1. Clothing that has been contaminated by blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be removed immediately or as soon as feasible and stored/decontaminated appropriately.
- (h) Handling all sharps and items that cut or puncture (e.g., needles, broken glass, razors, knives) cautiously and using puncture-resistant containers for their storage and/or transportation.
- (i) Avoiding eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, or handling contact lenses where there is a reasonable likelihood of exposure.
- (j) Disposing of biohazardous waste appropriately or labeling biohazardous material properly when it is stored.

### 1007.4.2 IMMUNIZATIONS

Members who could be exposed to HBV due to their positions may receive the HBV vaccine and any routine booster at no cost (WAC 296-823-130).

## **1007.5 POST EXPOSURE**

### 1007.5.1 INITIAL POST-EXPOSURE STEPS

Members who experience an exposure or suspected exposure shall:

- (a) Begin decontamination procedures immediately (e.g., wash hands and any other skin with soap and water, flush mucous membranes with water).
- (b) Obtain medical attention as appropriate.
- (c) Notify a supervisor as soon as practicable.

### 1007.5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The supervisor on-duty shall investigate every exposure or suspected exposure that occurs as soon as possible following the incident. The supervisor shall ensure the following information is documented (WAC 296-823-16005):

- (a) Name and Social Security number of the member exposed
- (b) Date and time of the incident
- (c) Location of the incident
- (d) Potentially infectious materials involved and the source of exposure (e.g., identification of the person who may have been the source)
- (e) Work being done during exposure
- (f) How the incident occurred or was caused
- (g) PPE in use at the time of the incident
- (h) Actions taken post-event (e.g., clean-up, notifications)

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The supervisor shall advise the member that disclosing the identity and/or infectious status of a source to the public or to anyone who is not involved in the follow-up process is prohibited. The supervisor should complete the incident documentation in conjunction with other reporting requirements that may apply (see the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy).

### 1007.5.3 MEDICAL CONSULTATION, EVALUATION AND TREATMENT

Department members shall have the opportunity to have a confidential medical evaluation immediately after an exposure and follow-up evaluations as necessary (WAC 296-823-16005).

The ECO should request a written opinion/evaluation from the treating medical professional that contains only the following information:

- (a) Whether the member has been informed of the results of the evaluation.
- (b) Whether the member has been notified of any medical conditions resulting from exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials which require further evaluation or treatment.

No other information should be requested or accepted by the ECO.

### 1007.5.4 COUNSELING

The Department shall provide the member, and his/her family if necessary, the opportunity for counseling and consultation regarding the exposure (WAC 296-823-16005).

### 1007.5.5 SOURCE TESTING

Testing a person for communicable diseases when that person was the source of an exposure should be done when it is desired by the exposed member or when it is otherwise appropriate. Source testing is the responsibility of the ECO (WAC 296-823-16010). If the ECO is unavailable to seek timely testing of the source, it is the responsibility of the exposed member's supervisor to ensure testing is sought.

Source testing may be achieved by:

- (a) Obtaining consent from the individual.
- (b) In the event that consent cannot be obtained, by contacting the local health authority who may pursue testing of the source individual for HIV or other communicable diseases (RCW 70.24.340; WAC 246-100-205).

Since there is the potential for overlap between the different manners in which source testing may occur, the ECO is responsible for coordinating the testing to prevent unnecessary or duplicate testing.

The ECO should seek the consent of the individual for testing and consult the City Attorney to discuss other options when no statute exists for compelling the source of an exposure to undergo testing if he/she refuses.

## *Communicable Diseases*

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### **1007.6 CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTS**

Medical information shall remain in confidential files and shall not be disclosed to anyone without the member's written consent (except as required by law). Test results from persons who may have been the source of an exposure are to be kept confidential as well.

### **1007.7 TRAINING**

All members shall participate in training regarding communicable diseases commensurate with the requirements of their position. The training shall include the mandates provided in WAC 296-823-12005 et seq. and:

- (a) Shall be provided at the time of initial assignment to tasks where an occupational exposure may take place and at least annually after the initial training.
- (b) Shall be provided whenever the member is assigned new tasks or procedures affecting his/her potential exposure to communicable disease.
- (c) Shall provide guidance on what constitutes an exposure, what steps can be taken to avoid an exposure and what steps should be taken if a suspected exposure occurs.



# Smoking and Tobacco Use

## 1008.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes limitations on smoking and the use of tobacco products by members and others while on-duty or while in Aberdeen Police Department facilities or vehicles.

For the purposes of this policy, smoking and tobacco use includes, but is not limited to, any tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, tobacco pouches and chewing tobacco, as well as any device intended to simulate smoking, such as an electronic cigarette or personal vaporizer.

## 1008.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department recognizes that tobacco use is a health risk and can be offensive to others.

Smoking and tobacco use is prohibited by members and visitors in all department facilities, buildings and vehicles, and as is further outlined in this policy (RCW 70.160.030).

### 1008.2.1 COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Employees have the right to work in a smoke-free environment. Any employee who is subjected to secondary tobacco smoke in the workplace may submit a complaint in writing to their division commander. The employee may request that their name remain confidential, if so desired, and that request will be honored by the department administration. The complaint and an appropriate recommendation for resolving it will be forwarded by the division commander to the Chief of Police. All such complaints will be resolved in a manner that provides the non-smoking employee with a smoke free work environment.

## 1008.3 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoking and tobacco use by members is prohibited anytime members are in public view representing the Aberdeen Police Department.

It shall be the responsibility of each member to ensure that no person under his/her supervision smokes or uses any tobacco product inside City facilities and vehicles.

## 1008.4 ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS

No person shall smoke tobacco products within 25 feet of a main entrance, exit or operable window of any building (RCW 70.160.075).

### 1008.4.1 NOTICE

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure that proper signage prohibiting smoking is conspicuously posted at each entrance to the department facilities (RCW 70.160.050).

# Personnel Complaints

## 1009.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the reporting, investigation and disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members of the Aberdeen Police Department. This policy shall not apply to any questioning, counseling, instruction, informal verbal admonishment or other routine or unplanned contact of a member in the normal course of duty, by a supervisor or any other member, nor shall this policy apply to a criminal investigation.

## 1009.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the Department and the conduct of its members.

The Department will accept and address all complaints of misconduct in accordance with this policy and applicable federal, state and local law, municipal and county rules and the requirements of any memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreements.

It is also the policy of this department to ensure that the community can report misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation.

## 1009.3 PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS

Personnel complaints include any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance that, if true, would constitute a violation of department policy or of federal, state or local law, policy or rule. Personnel complaints may be generated internally or by the public.

Inquiries about conduct or performance that, if true, would not violate department policy or federal, state or local law, policy or rule may be handled informally by a supervisor and shall not be considered a personnel complaint. Such inquiries generally include clarification regarding policy, procedures or the response to specific incidents by the Department.

### 1009.3.1 COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATIONS

Personnel complaints shall be classified in one of the following categories:

**Informal** - A matter in which the Patrol Lieutenant is satisfied that appropriate action has been taken by a supervisor of rank greater than the accused member.

**Formal** - A matter in which a supervisor determines that further action is warranted. Such complaints may be investigated by a supervisor of rank greater than the accused member or referred to the Deputy Chief, depending on the seriousness and complexity of the investigation.

**Incomplete** - A matter in which the complaining party either refuses to cooperate or becomes unavailable after diligent follow-up investigation. At the discretion of the assigned supervisor or the Deputy Chief, such matters may be further investigated depending on the seriousness of the complaint and the availability of sufficient information.

## *Personnel Complaints*

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### 1009.3.2 SOURCES OF COMPLAINTS

The following applies to the source of complaints:

- (a) Individuals from the public may make complaints in any form, including in writing, by email, in person or by telephone.
- (b) Any department member becoming aware of alleged misconduct shall immediately notify a supervisor.
- (c) Supervisors shall initiate a complaint based upon observed misconduct or receipt from any source alleging misconduct that, if true, could result in disciplinary action.
- (d) Anonymous and third-party complaints should be accepted and investigated to the extent that sufficient information is provided.
- (e) Tort claims and lawsuits may generate a personnel complaint.

### 1009.4 AVAILABILITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF COMPLAINTS

#### 1009.4.1 COMPLAINT FORMS

Personnel complaint forms will be maintained in a clearly visible location in the public area of the police facility and be accessible through the department website.

#### 1009.4.2 ACCEPTANCE

All complaints will be courteously accepted by any department member and promptly given to the appropriate supervisor. Although written complaints are preferred, a complaint may also be filed orally, either in person or by telephone. Such complaints will be directed to a supervisor. If a supervisor is not immediately available to take an oral complaint, the receiving member shall obtain contact information sufficient for the supervisor to contact the complainant. The supervisor, upon contact with the complainant, shall complete and submit a complaint form as appropriate.

Although not required, complainants should be encouraged to file complaints in person so that proper identification, signatures, photographs or physical evidence may be obtained as necessary.

### 1009.5 DOCUMENTATION

Supervisors shall ensure that all formal and informal complaints are documented on a complaint form. The supervisor shall ensure that the nature of the complaint is defined as clearly as possible.

All complaints and inquiries should also be documented in a log that records and tracks complaints. The log shall include the nature of the complaint and the actions taken to address the complaint. On an annual basis, the Department should audit the log and send an audit report to the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

### 1009.6 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Allegations of misconduct will be administratively investigated as follows.

## *Personnel Complaints*

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### 1009.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

In general, the primary responsibility for the investigation of a personnel complaint shall rest with the member's immediate supervisor, unless the supervisor is the complainant, or the supervisor is the ultimate decision-maker regarding disciplinary action or has any personal involvement regarding the alleged misconduct. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee may direct that another supervisor investigate any complaint.

A supervisor who becomes aware of alleged misconduct shall take reasonable steps to prevent aggravation of the situation.

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring that upon receiving or initiating any formal complaint, a complaint form is completed.
  - 1. The original complaint form will be directed to the Patrol Lieutenant of the accused member, via the chain of command, who will take appropriate action and/or determine who will have responsibility for the investigation.
  - 2. In circumstances where the integrity of the investigation could be jeopardized by reducing the complaint to writing or where the confidentiality of a complainant is at issue, a supervisor shall orally report the matter to the member's Division Commander or the Chief of Police, who will initiate appropriate action.
- (b) Responding to all complaints in a courteous and professional manner.
- (c) Resolving those personnel complaints that can be resolved immediately.
  - 1. Follow-up contact with the complainant should be made within 24 hours of the Department receiving the complaint.
  - 2. If the matter is resolved and no further action is required, the supervisor will note the resolution on a complaint form and forward the form to the Patrol Lieutenant.
- (d) Ensuring that upon receipt of a complaint involving allegations of a potentially serious nature, the Patrol Lieutenant and Chief of Police are notified via the chain of command as soon as practicable.
- (e) Promptly contacting the Department of Human Resources and the Patrol Lieutenant for direction regarding their roles in addressing a complaint that relates to sexual, racial, ethnic or other forms of prohibited harassment or discrimination.
- (f) Forwarding unresolved personnel complaints to the Patrol Lieutenant, who will determine whether to contact the complainant or assign the complaint for investigation.
- (g) Informing the complainant of the investigator's name and the complaint number within three days after assignment.
- (h) Investigating a complaint as follows:
  - 1. Making reasonable efforts to obtain names, addresses and telephone numbers of witnesses.
  - 2. When appropriate, ensuring immediate medical attention is provided and photographs of alleged injuries and accessible uninjured areas are taken.

## Personnel Complaints

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- (i) Ensuring that the procedural rights of the accused member are followed.
- (j) Ensuring interviews of the complainant are generally conducted during reasonable hours.

### 1009.6.2 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Whether conducted by a supervisor or a member of the administration, the following applies to employees:

- (a) Interviews of an accused employee shall be conducted during reasonable hours and preferably when the employee is on-duty. If the employee is off-duty, he/she shall be compensated.
- (b) Unless waived by the employee, interviews of an accused employee shall be at the Aberdeen Police Department or other reasonable and appropriate place.
- (c) No more than two interviewers should ask questions of an accused employee.
- (d) Prior to any interview, an employee should be informed of the nature of the investigation.
- (e) All interviews should be for a reasonable period and the employee's personal needs should be accommodated.
- (f) No employee should be subjected to offensive or threatening language, nor shall any promises, rewards or other inducements be used to obtain answers.
- (g) Any employee refusing to answer questions directly related to the investigation may be ordered to answer questions administratively and may be subject to discipline for failing to do so.
  - 1. An employee should be given an order to answer questions in an administrative investigation that might incriminate the member in a criminal matter only after the member has been given a *Garrity* advisement. Administrative investigators should consider the impact that compelling a statement from the employee may have on any related criminal investigation and should take reasonable steps to avoid creating any foreseeable conflicts between the two related investigations. This may include conferring with the person in charge of the criminal investigation (e.g., discussion of processes, timing, implications).
  - 2. No information or evidence administratively coerced from an employee may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.
- (h) The interviewer should record all interviews of employees and witnesses. The employee may also record the interview. If the employee has been previously interviewed, a copy of that recorded interview shall be provided to the employee prior to any subsequent interview.
- (i) All employees subjected to interviews that could result in discipline have the right to have an uninvolved representative present during the interview. However, in order to maintain the integrity of each individual's statement, involved employees shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.

## *Personnel Complaints*

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- (j) All employees shall provide complete and truthful responses to questions posed during interviews.
- (k) No employee may be compelled to submit to a polygraph examination, nor shall any refusal to submit to such examination be mentioned in any investigation.
- (l) An employee covered by civil service shall be provided a written statement of all accusations with a duplicate statement filed with the civil service commission (RCW 41.12.090; RCW 41.14.120).

### 1009.6.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION FORMAT

Formal investigations of personnel complaints shall be thorough, complete and essentially follow this format:

**Introduction** - Include the identity of the members, the identity of the assigned investigators, the initial date and source of the complaint.

**Synopsis** - Provide a brief summary of the facts giving rise to the investigation.

**Summary** - List the allegations separately, including applicable policy sections, with a brief summary of the evidence relevant to each allegation. A separate recommended finding should be provided for each allegation.

**Evidence** - Each allegation should be set forth with the details of the evidence applicable to each allegation provided, including comprehensive summaries of member and witness statements. Other evidence related to each allegation should also be detailed in this section.

**Conclusion** - A recommendation regarding further action or disposition should be provided.

**Exhibits** - A separate list of exhibits (e.g., recordings, photos, documents) should be attached to the report.

### 1009.6.4 DISPOSITIONS

Each personnel complaint shall be classified with one of the following dispositions:

**Unfounded** - When the investigation discloses that the alleged acts did not occur or did not involve department members. Complaints that are determined to be frivolous will fall within the classification of unfounded.

**Exonerated** - When the investigation discloses that the alleged act occurred but that the act was justified, lawful and/or proper.

**Not sustained** - When the investigation discloses that there is insufficient evidence to sustain the complaint or fully exonerate the member.

**Sustained** - When the investigation discloses sufficient evidence to establish that the act occurred and that it constituted misconduct.

If an investigation discloses misconduct or improper job performance that was not alleged in the original complaint, the investigator shall take appropriate action with regard to any additional allegations.

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### **1009.6.5 COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATIONS**

Every investigator or supervisor assigned to investigate a personnel complaint or other alleged misconduct shall proceed with due diligence in an effort to complete the investigation within one year from the date of discovery by an individual authorized to initiate an investigation.

### **1009.6.6 NOTICE TO COMPLAINANT OF INVESTIGATION STATUS**

The member conducting the investigation should provide the complainant with periodic updates on the status of the investigation, as appropriate.

### **1009.7 ADMINISTRATIVE SEARCHES**

Assigned lockers, storage spaces and other areas, including desks, offices and vehicles, may be searched as part of an administrative investigation upon a reasonable suspicion of misconduct.

Such areas may also be searched any time by a supervisor for non-investigative purposes, such as obtaining a needed report, radio or other document or equipment.

### **1009.8 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE**

When a complaint of misconduct is of a serious nature, or when circumstances indicate that allowing the accused to continue to work would adversely affect the mission of the Department, the Chief of Police or the authorized designee may temporarily assign an accused employee to administrative leave. Any employee placed on administrative leave:

- (a) May be required to relinquish any department badge, identification, assigned weapons and any other department equipment.
- (b) Shall be required to continue to comply with all policies and lawful orders of a supervisor.
- (c) May be temporarily reassigned to a different shift, generally a normal business-hours shift, during the investigation. The employee may be required to remain available for contact at all times during such shift, and will report as ordered.

### **1009.9 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

Where a member is accused of potential criminal conduct, a separate supervisor or investigator shall be assigned to investigate the criminal allegations apart from any administrative investigation. Any separate administrative investigation may parallel a criminal investigation.

The Chief of Police shall be notified as soon as practicable when a member is accused of criminal conduct. The Chief of Police may request a criminal investigation by an outside law enforcement agency.

A member accused of criminal conduct shall be provided with all rights afforded to a civilian. The member should not be administratively ordered to provide any information in the criminal investigation.

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The Aberdeen Police Department may release information concerning the arrest or detention of any member, including an officer, that has not led to a conviction. No disciplinary action should be taken until an independent administrative investigation is conducted.

### **1009.10 POST-ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES**

Upon completion of a formal investigation, an investigation report should be forwarded to the Chief of Police through the chain of command. Each level of command should review and include their comments in writing before forwarding the report. The Chief of Police may accept or modify any classification or recommendation for disciplinary action.

#### **1009.10.1 DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any completed personnel investigation, the Division Commander of the involved member shall review the entire investigative file, the member's personnel file and any other relevant materials.

The Division Commander may make recommendations regarding the disposition of any allegations and the amount of discipline, if any, to be imposed.

Prior to forwarding recommendations to the Chief of Police, the Division Commander may return the entire investigation to the assigned investigator or supervisor for further investigation or action.

When forwarding any written recommendation to the Chief of Police, the Division Commander shall include all relevant materials supporting the recommendation. Actual copies of a member's existing personnel file need not be provided and may be incorporated by reference.

#### **1009.10.2 CHIEF OF POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any written recommendation for disciplinary action, the Chief of Police shall review the recommendation and all accompanying materials. The Chief of Police may modify any recommendation and/or may return the file to the Division Commander for further investigation or action.

Once the Chief of Police is satisfied that no further investigation or action is required by staff, the Chief of Police shall determine the amount of discipline, if any, that should be imposed. In the event disciplinary action is proposed, the Chief of Police shall provide the member with a written notice and the following:

- (a) Access to all of the materials considered by the Chief of Police in recommending the proposed discipline.
- (b) An opportunity to respond orally or in writing to the Chief of Police within five days of receiving the notice.
  - 1. Upon a showing of good cause by the member, the Chief of Police may grant a reasonable extension of time for the member to respond.
  - 2. If the member elects to respond orally, the presentation shall be recorded by the Department. Upon request, the member shall be provided with a copy of the recording.



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Once the member has completed his/her response or if the member has elected to waive any such response, the Chief of Police shall consider all information received in regard to the recommended discipline. The Chief of Police shall render a timely written decision to the member and specify the grounds and reasons for discipline and the effective date of the discipline. Once the Chief of Police has issued a written decision, the discipline shall become effective.

### **1009.10.3 NOTICE OF FINAL DISPOSITION TO THE COMPLAINANT**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall ensure that the complainant is notified of the disposition (i.e., sustained, not sustained, exonerated, unfounded) of the complaint.

### **1009.11 PRE-DISCIPLINE EMPLOYEE RESPONSE**

The pre-discipline process is intended to provide the accused employee with an opportunity to present a written or oral response to the Chief of Police after having had an opportunity to review the supporting materials and prior to imposition of any recommended discipline. The employee shall consider the following:

- (a) The response is not intended to be an adversarial or formal hearing.
- (b) Although the employee may be represented by an uninvolved representative or legal counsel, the response is not designed to accommodate the presentation of testimony or witnesses.
- (c) The employee may suggest that further investigation could be conducted or the employee may offer any additional information or mitigating factors for the Chief of Police to consider.
- (d) In the event that the Chief of Police elects to cause further investigation to be conducted, the employee shall be provided with the results prior to the imposition of any discipline.
- (e) The employee may thereafter have the opportunity to further respond orally or in writing to the Chief of Police on the limited issues of information raised in any subsequent materials.

### **1009.12 RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS PRIOR TO DISCIPLINE**

In the event that a member tenders a written resignation or notice of retirement prior to the imposition of discipline, it shall be noted in the file. The tender of a resignation or retirement by itself shall not serve as grounds for the termination of any pending investigation or discipline (RCW 43.101.135).

### **1009.13 POST-DISCIPLINE APPEAL RIGHTS**

Non-probationary employees have the right to appeal a suspension without pay, punitive transfer, demotion, reduction in pay or step, or termination from employment. The employee has the right to appeal using the procedures established by any collective bargaining agreement, memorandum of understanding and/or personnel rules.

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In the event of punitive action against an employee covered by civil service, the appeal process shall be in compliance with RCW 41.12.090 and RCW 41.14.120.

### **1009.14 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES AND OTHER MEMBERS**

At-will and probationary employees and members other than non-probationary employees may be disciplined and/or released from employment without adherence to any of the procedures set out in this policy, and without notice or cause at any time. These individuals are not entitled to any rights under this policy. However, any of these individuals released for misconduct should be afforded an opportunity solely to clear their names through a liberty interest hearing, which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Chief of Police or the authorized designee.

Any probationary period may be extended at the discretion of the Chief of Police in cases where the individual has been absent for more than a week or when additional time to review the individual is considered to be appropriate.

### **1009.15 RETENTION OF PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION FILES**

All personnel complaints shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule and as described in the Personnel Records Policy.

### **1009.16 NOTIFICATION TO CRIMINAL JUSTICE TRAINING COMMISSION (CJTC) CERTIFICATION BOARD**

Upon separation of a peace officer for any reason, the Department shall, within 15 days of the separation, notify the CJTC on a personnel action report form provided by the commission. When a resignation or retirement is accepted in lieu of termination, the reasons and rationale shall be included in the information provided to the CJTC, including the findings from any internal or external investigations into alleged misconduct (RCW 43.101.135).

The CJTC shall be notified within 15 days of an initial disciplinary decision made by the Department for alleged behavior or conduct by an officer that is noncriminal and may result in revocation of certification (RCW 43.101.135).

The CJTC shall also be notified regarding any decision to discipline an officer for failure to intervene or for failure to report an incident of excessive force or any wrongdoing by another peace officer for determination of suspension or revocation of certification (RCW 10.93.190).

The Department shall, upon request of the CJTC, provide such additional documentation or information as the commission deems necessary to determine whether the separation or event provides grounds for suspension or revocation of the peace officer's certification (RCW 43.101.135).

## Seat Belts

### 1010.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of seat belts and child restraints. This policy will apply to all members operating or riding in department vehicles.

#### 1010.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Child restraint system** - An infant or child passenger restraint system that meets Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and regulations set forth in 49 CFR 571.213 and RCW 46.61.687(6).

### 1010.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department that members use safety and child restraint systems to reduce the possibility of death or injury in a motor vehicle collision.

### 1010.3 WEARING OF SAFETY RESTRAINTS

All members shall wear properly adjusted safety restraints when operating or riding in a seat equipped with restraints, in any vehicle owned, leased or rented by this department while on- or off-duty, or in any privately owned vehicle while on-duty. The member driving such a vehicle shall ensure that all other occupants, including those who are not members of the Department, are properly restrained (RCW 46.61.688; RCW 46.61.687).

Exceptions to the requirement to wear safety restraints may be made only in exceptional situations where, due to unusual circumstances, wearing a seat belt would endanger the department member or the public. Members must be prepared to justify any deviation from this requirement.

### 1010.4 TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

A child restraint system shall be used for all children of an age, height or weight for which such restraints are required by law (RCW 46.61.687).

Rear seat passengers in a cage-equipped vehicle may have reduced clearance, which requires careful seating and positioning of seat belts. Due to this reduced clearance, and if permitted by law, children and any child restraint system may be secured in the front seat of such vehicles provided this positioning meets federal safety standards and the vehicle and child restraint system manufacturer's design and use recommendations. In the event that a child is transported in the front seat of a vehicle, the seat should be pushed back as far as possible and the passenger-side air bag should be deactivated. If this is not possible, members should arrange alternate transportation when feasible.

## *Seat Belts*

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### **1010.5 TRANSPORTING SUSPECTS, PRISONERS OR ARRESTEES**

Suspects, prisoners and arrestees should be in a seated position and secured in the rear seat of any department vehicle with a prisoner restraint system or, when a prisoner restraint system is not available, by seat belts provided by the vehicle manufacturer. The prisoner restraint system is not intended to be a substitute for handcuffs or other appendage restraints (WAC 204-41-030).

Prisoners in leg restraints shall be transported in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy.

### **1010.6 INOPERABLE SEAT BELTS**

Department vehicles shall not be operated when the seat belt in the driver's position is inoperable. Persons shall not be transported in a seat in which the seat belt is inoperable.

Department vehicle seat belts shall not be modified, removed, deactivated or altered in any way, except by the vehicle maintenance and repair staff, who shall do so only with the express authorization of the Chief of Police.

Members who discover an inoperable restraint system shall report the defect to the appropriate supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace or repair the system.

### **1010.7 VEHICLES MANUFACTURED WITHOUT SEAT BELTS**

Vehicles manufactured and certified for use without seat belts or other restraint systems are subject to the manufacturer's operator requirements for safe use.

### **1010.8 VEHICLE AIRBAGS**

In all vehicles equipped with airbag restraint systems, the system will not be tampered with or deactivated, except when transporting children as written elsewhere in this policy. All equipment installed in vehicles equipped with airbags will be installed as per the vehicle manufacturer specifications to avoid the danger of interfering with the effective deployment of the airbag device.

## Body Armor

### 1011.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide law enforcement officers with guidelines for the proper use of body armor.

### 1011.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to maximize officer safety through the use of body armor in combination with prescribed safety procedures. While body armor provides a significant level of protection, it is not a substitute for the observance of officer safety procedures.

### 1011.3 ISSUANCE OF BODY ARMOR

The Operations Division Commander shall ensure that body armor is issued to all officers when the officer begins service at the Aberdeen Police Department and that, when issued, the body armor meets or exceeds the standards of the National Institute of Justice.

The Operations Division Commander shall establish a body armor replacement schedule and ensure that replacement body armor is issued pursuant to the schedule or whenever the body armor becomes worn or damaged to the point that its effectiveness or functionality has been compromised.

#### 1011.3.1 USE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR

Generally, the use of body armor is required subject to the following:

- (a) Officers shall only wear agency-approved body armor.
- (b) Officers shall wear body armor anytime they are in a situation where they could reasonably be expected to take enforcement action.
- (c) Officers may be excused from wearing body armor when they are functioning primarily in an administrative or support capacity and could not reasonably be expected to take enforcement action.
- (d) Body armor shall be worn when an officer is working in uniform or taking part in Department range training.
- (e) An officer may be excused from wearing body armor when he/she is involved in undercover or plainclothes work that his/her supervisor determines could be compromised by wearing body armor, or when a supervisor determines that other circumstances make it inappropriate to mandate wearing body armor.

#### 1011.3.2 INSPECTIONS OF BODY ARMOR

Supervisors should ensure that body armor is worn and maintained in accordance with this policy through routine observation and periodic documented inspections. Annual inspections of body

## *Body Armor*

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armor should be conducted by an authorized designee for fit, cleanliness and signs of damage, abuse and wear.

### **1011.3.3 CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR**

Soft body armor should never be stored for any period of time in an area where environmental conditions (e.g., temperature, light, humidity) are not reasonably controlled (e.g., normal ambient room temperature/humidity conditions), such as in automobiles or automobile trunks.

Soft body armor should be cared for and cleaned pursuant to the manufacturer's care instructions provided with the soft body armor. The instructions can be found on labels located on the external surface of each ballistic panel. The carrier should also have a label that contains care instructions. Failure to follow these instructions may damage the ballistic performance capabilities of the armor. If care instructions for the soft body armor cannot be located, contact the manufacturer to request care instructions.

Soft body armor should not be exposed to any cleaning agents or methods not specifically recommended by the manufacturer, as noted on the armor panel label.

Soft body armor should be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended replacement schedule.

### **1011.4 RANGEMASTER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Rangemaster should:

- (a) Monitor technological advances in the body armor industry for any appropriate changes to Department approved body armor.
- (b) Assess weapons and ammunition currently in use and the suitability of approved body armor to protect against those threats.
- (c) Provide training that educates officers about the safety benefits of wearing body armor.

## Personnel Records

### 1012.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs maintenance and access to personnel records. Personnel records include any file maintained under an individual member's name.

### 1012.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to maintain personnel records and preserve the confidentiality of personnel records pursuant to the Constitution and the laws of Washington.

### 1012.3 DEPARTMENT FILE

The department file shall be maintained as a record of a person's employment/appointment with this department. The department file should contain, at a minimum:

- (a) Personal data, including photographs, marital status, names of family members, educational and employment history or similar information. A photograph of the member should be permanently retained.
- (b) Election of employee benefits.
- (c) Personnel action reports reflecting assignments, promotions and other changes in employment/appointment status. These should be permanently retained.
- (d) Original performance evaluations. These should be permanently maintained.
- (e) Discipline records, including copies of sustained personnel complaints.
- (f) Adverse comments such as supervisor notes or memos may be retained in the department file after the member has had the opportunity to read and initial the comment.
  - 1. Once a member has had an opportunity to read and initial any adverse comment, the member shall be given the opportunity to respond in writing to the adverse comment..
  - 2. Any member response shall be attached to and retained with the original adverse comment.
  - 3. If a member refuses to initial or sign an adverse comment, at least one supervisor should note the date and time of such refusal on the original comment. Such a refusal, however, shall not be deemed insubordination, nor shall it prohibit the entry of the adverse comment into the member's file.
- (g) Commendations and awards.
- (h) Any other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

## *Personnel Records*

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### **1012.4 DIVISION FILE**

Division files may be separately maintained internally by a member's supervisor for the purpose of completing timely performance evaluations. The Division file may contain supervisor comments, notes, notices to correct and other materials that are intended to serve as a foundation for the completion of timely performance evaluations.

### **1012.5 TRAINING FILE**

An individual training file shall be maintained by the Training Coordinator for each member. Training files will contain records of all training; original or photocopies of available certificates, transcripts, diplomas and other documentation; and education and firearms qualifications. Training records may also be created and stored remotely, either manually or automatically (e.g., Daily Training Bulletin (DTB) records).

- (a) The involved member is responsible for providing the Training Coordinator or immediate supervisor with evidence of completed training/education in a timely manner.
- (b) The Training Coordinator or supervisor shall ensure that copies of such training records are placed in the member's training file.

### **1012.6 INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILE**

Internal affairs files shall be maintained under the exclusive control of the Deputy Chief in conjunction with the office of the Chief of Police. Access to these files may only be approved by the Chief of Police.

These files shall contain the complete investigation of all formal complaints of member misconduct, regardless of disposition. Investigations of complaints that result in the following findings shall not be placed in the member's department file but will be maintained in the internal affairs file:

- (a) Not sustained
- (b) Unfounded
- (c) Exonerated

### **1012.7 MEDICAL FILE**

A medical file shall be maintained separately from all other personnel records and shall contain all documents relating to the member's medical condition and history, including but not limited to:

- (a) Materials relating to a medical leave of absence, including leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
- (b) Documents relating to workers' compensation claims or the receipt of short- or long-term disability benefits.
- (c) Fitness-for-duty examinations, psychological and physical examinations, follow-up inquiries and related documents.



## *Personnel Records*

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- (d) Medical release forms, doctor's slips and attendance records that reveal a member's medical condition.
- (e) Any other documents or materials that reveal the member's medical history or medical condition, including past, present or future anticipated mental, psychological or physical limitations.

### **1012.8 SECURITY**

Personnel records should be maintained in a secured location and locked either in a cabinet or access-controlled room. Personnel records maintained in an electronic format should have adequate password protection.

Personnel records are subject to disclosure only as provided in this policy, the Records Maintenance and Release Policy or according to applicable discovery procedures.

Nothing in this policy is intended to preclude review of personnel records by the Mayor, City Attorney or other attorneys or representatives of the City in connection with official business.

#### **1012.8.1 REQUESTS FOR DISCLOSURE**

Any member receiving a request for a personnel record shall promptly notify the Public Records Officer or other person charged with the maintenance of such records.

Upon receipt of any such request, the responsible person shall notify the affected member as soon as practicable that such a request has been made.

The responsible person shall further ensure that an appropriate response to the request is made in a timely manner, consistent with applicable law. In many cases, this may require assistance of available legal counsel.

All requests for disclosure that result in access to a member's personnel records shall be logged in the corresponding file.

#### **1012.8.2 RELEASE OF PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

The Department may release any factual information concerning a disciplinary investigation if the member who is the subject of the investigation (or the member's representative) publicly makes a statement that is published in the media and that the member (or representative) knows to be false. The disclosure of such information, if any, shall be limited to facts that refute any such false statement.

#### **1012.8.3 NOTICE TO MEMBER**

Upon receipt of a request for information located exclusively in a member's personnel record, the Public Records Officer is responsible for providing notice to the member, the union representing the member, and to the requestor, that includes the following information (RCW 42.56.250):

- (a) The date of the request
- (b) The nature of the requested record relating to the member

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- (c) That information in the record will be released if not exempt from disclosure at least 10 days from the date the notice is made
- (d) That the member may seek to enjoin release of the records under RCW 42.56.540 (court protection of public records).

### **1012.9 MEMBER ACCESS TO HIS/HER OWN PERSONNEL RECORDS**

Any member may request access to his/her own personnel records annually during the normal business hours of those responsible for maintaining such files. Any member seeking the removal of any item from his/her personnel records shall file a written request to the Chief of Police through the chain of command. The Department shall remove any such item if appropriate, or within 30 days provide the member with a written explanation of why the contested item will not be removed. If the contested item is not removed from the file, the member's request and the written response from the Department shall be retained with the contested item in the member's corresponding personnel record (RCW 49.12.250).

Members may be restricted from accessing files containing any of the following information:

- (a) An ongoing internal affairs investigation to the extent that it could jeopardize or compromise the investigation pending final disposition or notice to the member of the intent to discipline.
- (b) Confidential portions of internal affairs files that have not been sustained against the member.
- (c) Criminal investigations involving the member.
- (d) Letters of reference concerning employment/appointment, licensing or issuance of permits regarding the member.
- (e) Any portion of a test document, except the cumulative total test score for either a section of the test document or for the entire test document.
- (f) Materials used by the Department for staff management planning, including judgments or recommendations concerning future salary increases and other wage treatments, management bonus plans, promotions and job assignments or other comments or ratings used for department planning purposes.
- (g) Information of a personal nature about a person other than the member if disclosure of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the other person's privacy.
- (h) Records relevant to any other pending claim between the Department and the member that may be discovered in a judicial proceeding.

### **1012.10 RETENTION AND PURGING**

Unless provided otherwise in this policy, personnel records shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

- (a) During the preparation of each member's performance evaluation, all personnel complaints and disciplinary actions should be reviewed to determine the relevancy,

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if any, to progressive discipline, training and career development. Each supervisor responsible for completing the member's performance evaluation should determine whether any prior sustained disciplinary file should be retained beyond the required period for reasons other than pending litigation or other ongoing legal proceedings.

- (b) If a supervisor determines that records of prior discipline should be retained beyond the required period, approval for such retention should be obtained through the chain of command from the Chief of Police.
- (c) If, in the opinion of the Chief of Police, a personnel complaint or disciplinary action maintained beyond the required retention period is no longer relevant, all records of such matter may be destroyed in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

# Request for Change of Assignment

## 1013.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the intent of the Department that all requests for change of assignment are considered equally. To facilitate the selection process, the following procedure is established whereby all such requests will be reviewed on an equal basis as assignments are made.

## 1013.2 REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF ASSIGNMENT

When there is a posted opening for full-time position within the department personnel wishing a change of assignment are to complete a Request for Change of Assignment letter. The request shall be submitted to the appropriate command officer and prior to the deadline written in the posted open position notification.

Notification of any opening for a full-time position within the department shall follow all department policy, personnel and civil service rules and be in compliance with any relevant collective bargaining agreements.

### 1013.2.1 PURPOSE OF LETTER

The letter is designed to aid employees in listing their qualifications for specific assignments. All relevant experience, education and training should be included when completing this letter.

# Commendations and Awards

## 1014.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines for recognizing commendable or meritorious acts of members of the Aberdeen Police Department and individuals from the community.

## 1014.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to recognize and acknowledge exceptional individual or group achievements, performance, proficiency, heroism and service of its members and individuals from the community through commendations and awards.

## 1014.3 COMMENDATIONS

Commendations for members of the Department or for individuals from the community may be initiated by any department member or by any person from the community.

### 1014.3.1 DEPARTMENT AWARDS

It shall be the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to accept recommendations for recognition of significant acts by its members and private citizens, and to make awards to those deemed qualified.

### 1014.3.2 AWARDS PROCEDURE

(a) The command staff shall:

1. Receive and evaluate documentation leading to award of medals, citizen awards, and letters of commendation. Recommendations can originate at any level in the Department, and shall be forwarded through the Chain of Command.
2. Receive all documents, diagrams, or photos pertinent to making a decision.
3. Interview witnesses, as necessary, who would aid in the determination of the award.
4. Determine the recommended level of the award.
5. Preserve the record, and all documentation as appropriate.
6. The Chief shall make the final determination on the appropriate type of recognition to be accorded.

### 1014.3.3 MEDALS

(a) Types:

1. WASPC Medal of Honor
2. Medal of Valor
3. Purple Heart

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4. Lifesaving
- (b) Conferring of the above medals should include:
  1. A medal appropriately inscribed.
  2. A certificate specifying the type of award, suitably framed.
  3. Presentation at a public ceremony scheduled as contemporaneously with the event as convenient, or another appropriate time.
  4. A distinctive ribbon shall be included, suitable for wearing with the uniform. A distinctive lapel pin may be included for wearing on civilian clothing.
  5. An order from the Chief shall be published, read at the appropriate time/ ceremony, and the original presented to the recipient. It shall include a brief account of the occurrence.

### 1014.3.4 CRITERIA TO RECEIVE

- (a) WASPC Medal of Honor:
  1. An award presented by Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, to law enforcement officers in the State who distinguish themselves by conspicuous bravery and/or heroism involving other persons present, where hostile action or extreme personal danger is a factor, and an injury is sustained by the member as a direct result of the action to be recognized. This award is the highest law enforcement award in the State of Washington and is presented to those officers and deputies who act without regard to their personal safety to protect the safety of others. This award may be made posthumously. Recipients will be selected from nominations made by chiefs and sheriffs or by any member of WASPC who brings an act of conspicuous bravery or heroism to the attention of the Awards Committee of WASPC. The nomination will include sufficient details and supporting documentation (i.e., news clippings, department citations) to enable the committee to make a determination as to qualifications. The WASPC Medal of Honor will be presented to recipients at the Annual Spring Conference Banquet. The act for which the recipient is to be recognized must have occurred during the calendar year preceding the Spring Conference (i.e. 1993 Spring Conference would recognize acts occurring between January 1 and December 31, 1992).
- (b) Medal of Valor:
  1. The Department Medal of Valor may be awarded to those members who distinguish themselves by conspicuous bravery and/or heroism involving other persons actually present, where hostile action or extreme personal danger is involved.

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(c) Purple Heart:

1. Awarded to an officer receiving a serious or life threatening injury in the performance of his/her duties.

(d) Lifesaving:

1. An act resulting in the saving of human life.

### 1014.3.5 ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE

- (a) Medal of Honor: Members of the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (b) Medal of Valor: Members of the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (c) Purple Heart: Members of the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (d) Lifesaving: Members of the Aberdeen Police Department, members of other public safety agencies (Police/Fire), or any private citizen.

### 1014.3.6 PLAQUES

(a) Types:

1. Distinguished Service Award.
2. Volunteer of the Year.

(b) Each award presented shall consist of:

1. An individual plaque, suitably inscribed with the name of the award, the year for which the award is made, and the recipient's name.
2. An order from the Chief briefly stating an award was made, to whom, and on what date.
3. A plaque for each of the two annual awards large enough to accommodate several entries will be maintained on display in the lobby where the names and dates of awards are added in cumulative fashion. A photograph of the present recipient shall be displayed on the plaque.

### 1014.3.7 ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE

(a) Distinguished Service:

1. Members of the Aberdeen Police Department, members of other public safety type agencies (Police/Fire), and any other private citizen.

2. Volunteer Of The Year:

- (a) The selection of the Volunteer Of The Year is made independently of the Chief of Police. The Special Assignments Officer shall distribute and

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tabulate the results. An eligible voter is a volunteer, who served one full calendar year immediately preceding the award.

### 1014.3.8 CRITERIA TO RECEIVE

(a) Distinguished Service:

1. The Distinguished Service Award may be awarded to those members who exhibit unusual thoroughness, conscientiousness, determination, and initiative in the performance of duty over a period of time.
  - (a) Action which brings honor and distinction to the department.
  - (b) An act of distinct service by a private citizen of the City of Aberdeen which is determined to be of major proportions and has a significant impact on a primary facet of police operations.



## **Fitness for Duty**

### **1015.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

All officers are required to be free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition which might adversely affect the exercise of peace officer powers. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all officers of this department remain fit for duty and able to perform their job functions.

### **1015.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of each member of this department to maintain good physical condition sufficient to safely and properly perform the essential duties of their job position.
- (b) Each member of this department shall perform his/her respective duties without physical, emotional, and/or mental constraints.
- (c) During working hours, all employees are required to be alert, attentive, and capable of performing their assigned responsibilities.
- (d) Any employee who feels unable to perform his/her duties shall promptly notify a supervisor. In the event that an employee believes that another employee is unable to perform his/her duties, such observations and/or belief shall be promptly reported to a supervisor.

### **1015.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) A supervisor observing an employee or receiving a report of an employee who is perceived to be unable to safely perform his/her duties due to a physical or mental condition shall take prompt and appropriate action in an effort to address the situation.
- (b) Whenever feasible, the supervisor should make a preliminary determination of the level of inability of the employee to perform the essential duties required of the job.
- (c) In the event the employee appears to be in need of immediate medical or psychiatric treatment, all reasonable efforts should be made to obtain sufficient information regarding the nature of the concern to enable the Department to assess options and react responsibly to assure the safety of the employee, other members of the Department and the public, while complying with the employee's legal rights.
- (d) In conjunction with the Patrol Lieutenant or employee's available Division Commander, a determination should be made whether or not the employee should be temporarily relieved from his/her duties.
- (e) The Chief of Police shall be promptly notified in the event that any employee is relieved from duty.

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### **1015.4 RELIEF FROM DUTY**

Any employee suffering from a work or non-work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty may be entitled to be placed on family medical leave under state and/or federal law. Consult with Human Resources to assure proper notification and compliance with family medical leave rights. Employees who are relieved from duty for medical reasons may be eligible for workers compensation payments or may be required to use sick leave or other paid time off consistent with applicable policies.

Any employee suffering from a work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty shall be required to comply with personnel rules and guidelines for processing such claims.

### **1015.5 PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS**

- (a) Whenever circumstances reasonably indicate that an employee is unfit for duty, the Chief of Police may serve that employee with a written order to undergo a physical and/or psychological examination in cooperation with Department of Human Resources to determine the level of the employee's fitness for duty. The order shall indicate the date, time and place for the examination.
- (b) The examining health care provider will provide the Department with a report indicating that the employee is either fit for duty or, if not, listing any functional limitations which limit the employee's ability to perform job duties. The scope of the requested fitness for duty report shall be confined to the physical or psychological condition that prompted the need for the examination. If the employee places his/her condition at issue in any subsequent or related administrative action/grievance, the examining physician or therapist may be required to disclose any and all information which is relevant to such proceeding.
- (c) In order to facilitate the examination of any employee, the Department will provide all appropriate documents and available information to assist in the evaluation and/or treatment.
- (d) All reports and evaluations submitted by the treating physician or therapist shall be part of the employee's confidential personnel file.
- (e) Any employee ordered to receive a fitness for duty examination shall comply with the terms of the order and cooperate fully with the examining physician or therapist regarding any clinical interview, tests administered or other procedures as directed. Any failure to comply with such an order and any failure to cooperate with the examining physician or therapist may be deemed insubordination and shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.
- (f) In the event an employee is required to submit to a "fitness for duty" examination as a condition of returning from medical leave required under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), contact Human Resources for direction regarding how to proceed.

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- (g) Once an employee has been deemed fit for duty by the examining health care provider, the employee will be notified to resume his/her duties.

### **1015.6 LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED**

Absent emergency operations members should not work more than:

- 16 hours in one day (24 hour) period, or
- 30 hours in any 2 day (48 hour) period, or
- 84 hours in any 7 day (168 hour) period.

Except in very limited circumstances members should have a minimum of 8 hours off between shifts. Supervisors should give consideration to reasonable rest periods and are authorized to deny overtime or relieve to off-duty status any member who has exceeded the above guidelines.

Limitations on the number of hours worked apply to shift changes, shift trades, rotation, holdover, training, general overtime and any other work assignments.

### **1015.7 APPEALS**

An employee who is separated from paid employment or receives a reduction in salary resulting from a fitness for duty exam shall be entitled to an administrative appeal as outlined in the Personnel Complaints Policy.

## Meal Periods and Breaks

### 1016.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy regarding meals and breaks, insofar as possible shall conform to the policy governing all City employees that has been established by the City Council.

#### 1016.1.1 MEAL PERIODS

Sworn employees shall remain on duty subject to call during meal breaks. All other employees are not on call during meal breaks unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Uniformed patrol and traffic officers should advise Grays Harbor Communications prior to taking a meal period. Uniformed officers shall take their breaks within the City limits unless on assignment outside of the City.

The time spent for the meal period shall not exceed the authorized time allowed.

#### 1016.1.2 15 MINUTE BREAKS

Each employee is entitled to a 15 minute break, near the mid point, for each four-hour work period. Only one 15 minute break shall be taken during each four hours of duty. No breaks shall be taken during the first or last hour of an employee's shift unless approved by a supervisor.

Field officers while on break are subject to call and shall monitor their radios. When field officers take their breaks away from their vehicles, they should do so only with the knowledge of Grays Harbor Communications.

# Lactation Break Policy

## 1017.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable accommodations to employees desiring to express breast milk for the employee's infant child.

## 1017.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide, in compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, reasonable break time and appropriate facilities to accommodate any employee desiring to express breast milk for her nursing child for up to two years after the child's birth (29 USC § 207; RCW 43.10.005).

## 1017.3 LACTATION BREAK TIME

A rest period should be permitted each time the employee has the need to express breast milk (29 USC § 207). In general, lactation breaks that cumulatively total 30 minutes or less during any four-hour work period or major portion of a four-hour work period would be considered reasonable. However, individual circumstances may require more or less time. Lactation breaks, if feasible, should be taken at the same time as the employee's regularly scheduled rest or meal periods.

While a reasonable effort will be made to provide additional time beyond authorized breaks, any such time exceeding regularly scheduled and paid break time will be unpaid.

Employees desiring to take a lactation break shall notify Grays Harbor Communications or a supervisor prior to taking such a break and such breaks may be reasonably delayed if they would seriously disrupt department operations.

Once a lactation break has been approved, the break should not be interrupted except for emergency or exigent circumstances.

## 1017.4 PRIVATE LOCATION

The Department will make reasonable efforts to accommodate employees with the use of an appropriate room or other location to express milk in private. Such room or place should be in close proximity to the employee's work area and shall be other than a bathroom or toilet stall. The location must be sanitary, shielded from view, and free from intrusion from co-workers and the public (29 USC § 207; RCW 43.70.640; RCW 43.10.005).

Employees occupying such private areas shall either secure the door or otherwise make it clear that the area is occupied with a need for privacy. All other employees should avoid interrupting an employee during an authorized break, except to announce an emergency or other urgent circumstance.

Authorized lactation breaks for employees assigned to the field may be taken at the nearest appropriate private area.

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## *Lactation Break Policy*

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### **1017.5 STORAGE OF EXPRESSED MILK**

Any employee storing expressed milk in any authorized refrigerated area within the Department shall clearly label it as such and shall remove it when the employee ends her shift.

# Time Sheet Procedures

## **1018.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the proper documentation and process involving time sheets.

## **1018.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of this department to submit payroll records to administration on a monthly basis for payment of wages.

### **1018.2.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLETION OF PAYROLL RECORDS**

All employees are responsible for the accurate and timely submission of payroll records for the payment of wages. Completed time cards shall be submitted to a supervisor for approval prior to submission to Support Services.

### **1018.2.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS**

Each non-exempt employee is responsible for the accurate and timely submission of hours worked. On a daily basis, each employee should document their hours worked, along with other data fields as determined by the Chief of Police. The employee should then initial the appropriate box on the time sheet to acknowledge that data entered is correct and accurate.

The daily time sheet for each relevant section should be reviewed on a daily basis by the designated supervisor to ensure that the sheet is completed. The supervisor will ensure the daily time sheet is completed in a timely basis by those employees who worked and will fill in the appropriate time off code for those that did not. The designated supervisor should initial in the appropriate box's on the daily time sheet.

Each designated supervisor shall ensure that the daily time sheet is forwarded daily to the administrative secretary. Any omissions or mistakes on a daily time sheet should be returned to the appropriate designated supervisor for correction.

## **1018.3 RECORDS**

The Support Services Division Commander shall ensure that accurate and timely payroll records are maintained as required by 29 CFR 516.2 for a minimum of three years (29 CFR 516.5).

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# Overtime Payment Requests

## 1019.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of the Department to compensate non-exempt salaried employees who work authorized overtime either by payment of wages as agreed and in effect through the collective bargaining agreement, or by the allowance of accrual of compensatory time off. In order to qualify for either, the employee must complete and submit a Request for Overtime Payment as soon as practical after overtime is worked through the procedure determined by the Support Services.

### 1019.1.1 DEPARTMENT POLICY

Because of the nature of police work, and the specific needs of the Department, a degree of flexibility concerning overtime policies must be maintained.

Non-exempt employees are not authorized to volunteer work time to the Department. All requests to work overtime shall be approved in advance by a supervisor. If circumstances do not permit prior approval, then approval shall be sought as soon as practical during the overtime shift and in no case later than the end of shift in which the overtime is worked.

The individual employee may request compensatory time in lieu of receiving overtime payment, however, the employee may not exceed 80 hours of compensatory time.

## 1019.2 REQUEST FOR OVERTIME PAYMENT FORMS

Employees shall submit all overtime payment request forms for verification by their immediate supervisor and then forward them to the Patrol Lieutenant, or other relevant Section Commander as soon as practical. Failure to submit a request for overtime payment in a timely manner may result in a denial of compensation.

### 1019.2.1 EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBILITY

Employees shall complete the requests immediately after working the overtime and turn them in to their immediate supervisor or the Patrol Lieutenant. Employee's shall ensure that the overtime worked is documented on their daily time sheet. Employee's shall ensure that the overtime payment request form is placed in the appropriate location as determined by the administration. Failure to do so may cause the overtime payment to not be made.

### 1019.2.2 SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY

The supervisor who approves and verifies the overtime earned shall verify that the overtime was worked before approving the request.

The supervisor shall ensure that the overtime worked is documented on the employees time sheet.

After the entry has been made on the employee's time sheet, the overtime payment request form is forwarded to the employee's commanding officer for final approval.



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## *Overtime Payment Requests*

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### 1019.2.3 COMMANDING OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITY

The Commanding officer shall review all overtime worked by employees in his/her section and forward the overtime request to the Administrative Secretary in a timely manner.

### 1019.3 ACCOUNTING FOR OVERTIME WORKED

Employees are to record the actual time worked in an overtime status. In some cases, the relevant collective bargaining agreements provide that a minimum number of hours will be paid, (e.g., two hours for Court, two hours for outside overtime). The employee will enter the actual time worked.

#### 1019.3.1 ACCOUNTING FOR PORTIONS OF AN HOUR

When accounting for less than a full hour, time worked shall be rounded up to the nearest quarter of an hour as indicated by the following chart:

<u>TIME WORKED</u>	<u>INDICATE ON CARD</u>
1 to 15 minutes	1/4 hour
16 to 30 minutes	1/2 hour
31 to 45 minutes	3/4 hour
46 to 60 minutes	1 hour

#### 1019.3.2 VARIATION IN TIME REPORTED

Where two or more employees are assigned to the same activity, case, or court trial and the amount of time for which payment is requested varies from that reported by the other officer, the Patrol Lieutenant or other approving supervisor may require each employee to include the reason for the variation on the back of the overtime payment request.

# Outside/Extra Employment

## 1020.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The primary duty, obligation and responsibility of a police officer is at all times with the police department. Police officers who are required to work overtime will do so regardless of the fact that Extra employment is approved. Extra employment and Outside employment must not become additional full time employment.

## 1020.2 DEFINITIONS

Extra Employment: Employment where the use of one's enforcement commission may be required and/or APD uniforms and equipment are utilized.

Outside Employment: All other employment not described by Extra Employment.

## 1020.3 OBTAINING APPROVAL FOR EXTRA EMPLOYMENT

No member of this department may engage in any extra employment without first obtaining prior written approval of the Chief of Police. Failure to obtain prior written approval for extra employment or engaging in employment prohibited by this policy may lead to disciplinary action.

In order to obtain approval for extra employment, the employee must complete an Extra Employment Application which shall be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The application will then be forwarded through channels to the Chief of Police for consideration.

If approved, the employee will be provided with a copy of the approved permit. Unless otherwise indicated in writing on the approved permit, a permit will be valid through the end of the calendar year in which the permit is approved. Any employee seeking to renew a permit shall submit a new Extra Employment Application in a timely manner.

Any employee seeking approval of extra employment, whose request has been denied, shall be provided with a written reason for the denial of the application at the time of the denial.

## 1020.4 PROHIBITED EXTRA AND OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

Extra Employment and Outside Employment must not include the following type of work:

- (a) Involve the employee's use of department time, facilities, equipment or supplies, information, files, records, correspondence, the use of the Department badge, uniform, prestige or influence for private gain or advantage, unless otherwise approved by the Chief of Police.
- (b) Involve the employee's receipt or acceptance of any money or other consideration from anyone other than this department for the performance of an act which the employee, if not performing such act, would be required or expected to render in the regular course or hours of employment or as a part of the employee's duties as a member of this department.

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- (c) Involve the performance of an act in other than the employee's capacity as a member of this department that may later be subject directly or indirectly to the control, inspection, review, audit or enforcement of any other employee of this department.
- (d) Involve time demands that would render performance of the employee's duties for this department less efficient or render the employee unavailable for reasonably anticipated overtime assignments and other job-related demands that occur outside regular working hours.
- (e) Of a nature that would tend to compromise the dignity of the police service in any manner
- (f) Has as any connection with the towing of vehicles.
- (g) Involves mixing or service of any alcoholic beverages.
- (h) As a bill collector or in any private employment in which police power is used for private purposes of a civil nature.
- (i) Assisting in any manner with defense case preparation in any criminal proceedings.

The Department expressly reserves the right to deny any Extra Employment Application submitted by an employee seeking to engage in any activity above.

### **1020.5 DEPARTMENT RESOURCES**

Employees are prohibited from using any department equipment or resources in the course of or for the benefit of any extra employment or outside employment, without permission by the Chief of Police or his/her designee. This shall include the prohibition of access to official records or databases of this department or other agencies through the use of the employee's position with this department.

### **1020.6 MATERIAL CHANGES OR TERMINATION OF EXTRA EMPLOYMENT**

If an employee terminates his/her extra employment during the period of a valid permit, the employee shall promptly submit written notification of such termination to the Chief of Police through channels. Any subsequent request for renewal or continued outside employment must thereafter be processed and approved through normal procedures set forth in this policy.

Employees are also required to disclose material changes in extra employment that occur after approval of extra employment has been granted to the Chief of Police in writing. For the purpose of this policy, such changes include any material change in the number of hours, type of duties or demands of extra employment. Employees who are uncertain whether a change in outside employment is material are advised to report the change.

### **1020.7 EXTRA EMPLOYMENT WHILE ON DISABILITY**

Department members engaged in extra employment who are placed on disability leave or modified/light-duty shall inform their immediate supervisor in writing within five days whether or not they intend to continue to engage in such extra employment while on such leave or light-duty status. The immediate supervisor shall review the duties of the extra employment along with any

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related doctor's orders, and make a recommendation to the Chief of Police whether such extra employment should continue.

In the event the Chief of Police determines that the extra employment should be discontinued or if the employee fails to promptly notify his/her supervisor of his/her intentions regarding their work permit, a notice of revocation of the member's permit will be forwarded to the involved employee, and a copy attached to the original work permit.

Criteria for revoking the extra employment permit include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) The extra employment is medically detrimental to the total recovery of the disabled member, as indicated by the City's professional medical advisors.
- (b) The extra employment performed requires the same or similar physical ability, as would be required of an on-duty member.
- (c) The employee's failure to make timely notice of their intentions to their supervisor.

When the disabled member returns to full duty with the Aberdeen Police Department, a request (in writing) may be made to the Chief of Police to restore the permit.

### **1020.8 EXTRA EMPLOYMENT TIME AND COMPENSATION**

Employees working extra employment are to be compensated at a rate of pay agreed upon by the employee and the extra employer.

Compensation for law enforcement activity resulting from extra employment in a law enforcement capacity is as follows; if an extra employment officer engages in self-initiated law enforcement activity arising out of and within the scope of his or her extra employment, the officer will be paid by the extra employer until the end of the extra employment shift, including court appearance pay and will not be paid by the City.

# Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting

## 1021.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance regarding the timely reporting of occupational diseases, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and work-related injuries.

### 1021.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Occupational disease or work-related injury** - An injury, disease, PTSD, or infection while acting in the course of employment (RCW 51.08.013; RCW 51.08.100; RCW 51.08.140; RCW 51.08.142).

## 1021.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department will address occupational diseases and work-related injuries appropriately, and will comply with applicable state workers' compensation requirements (RCW 51.28.010 et seq.).

## 1021.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

### 1021.3.1 SERIOUS INJURY REPORTS

In the event the injury is of such serious nature, that the facts cannot be reported, the superior officer on duty shall cause an investigation to be made and shall submit a written report of his findings to the Deputy Chief of Police through the division commander where the injured member was assigned.

### 1021.3.2 FATALITY NOTIFICATION

In the event such injury results in a fatality, a Division Commander shall be notified and shall proceed as directed by the Chief of Police. Also see "Notification of Personnel".

### 1021.3.3 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Any member sustaining any occupational disease or work-related injury shall report such event as soon as practicable, but within 24 hours, to a supervisor, and shall seek medical care when appropriate.

### 1021.3.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor learning of any occupational disease or work-related injury should ensure the member receives medical care as appropriate.

Supervisors shall ensure that required documents regarding workers' compensation are completed and forwarded promptly. Any related Citywide disease- or injury-reporting protocol shall also be followed.

## *Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting*

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Supervisors shall determine whether the Major Incident Notification and the Accident, Illness and Injury Prevention policies apply and take additional action as required.

### **1021.3.5 DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Division Commander who receives a report of an occupational disease or work-related injury should review the report for accuracy and determine what additional action should be taken. The report shall then be forwarded to the Chief of Police, the City's risk management entity, and the Support Services Division Commander to ensure any required Department of Labor and Industries reporting is made as required in the accident, illness and injury prevention plan identified in the Accident, Illness and Injury Prevention Policy.

### **1021.3.6 CHIEF OF POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Chief of Police shall review and forward copies of the report to the Department of Human Resources. Copies of the report and related documents retained by the Department shall be filed in the member's confidential medical file.

### **1021.4 OTHER DISEASE OR INJURY**

Diseases and injuries caused or occurring on-duty that do not qualify for workers' compensation reporting shall be documented on the designated report of injury form, which shall be signed by a supervisor. A copy of the completed form shall be forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander through the chain of command and a copy sent to the Support Services Division Commander.

Unless the injury is extremely minor, this report shall be signed by the affected member, indicating that he/she desired no medical attention at the time of the report. By signing, the member does not preclude his/her ability to later seek medical attention.

### **1021.5 SETTLEMENT OFFERS**

When a member sustains an occupational disease or work-related injury that is caused by another person and is subsequently contacted by that person, his/her agent, insurance company or attorney and offered a settlement, the member shall take no action other than to submit a written report of this contact to his/her supervisor as soon as possible.

#### **1021.5.1 NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL**

No less than 10 days prior to accepting and finalizing the settlement of any third-party claim arising out of or related to an occupational disease or work-related injury, the member shall provide the Chief of Police with written notice of the proposed terms of such settlement. In no case shall the member accept a settlement without first providing written notice to the Chief of Police. The purpose of such notice is to permit the City to determine whether the offered settlement will affect any claim the City may have regarding payment for damage to equipment or reimbursement for wages against the person who caused the disease or injury, and to protect the City's right of subrogation, while ensuring that the member's right to receive compensation is not affected.

# Personal Appearance Standards

## 1022.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to project uniformity and neutrality toward the public and other members of the department, employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance in a manner that projects a professional image appropriate for this department and for their assignment.

## 1022.2 GROOMING STANDARDS

Unless otherwise stated, and because deviations from these standards could present officer safety issues, the following appearance standards shall apply to all employees, except those whose current assignment would deem them not appropriate, and where the Chief of Police has granted exception.

### 1022.2.1 HAIR

Hairstyles of all members shall be neat in appearance. For male sworn members, hair must not extend below the top edge of the uniform collar while assuming a normal stance.

For female sworn members, hair must be no longer than the horizontal level of the bottom of the uniform patch when the employee is standing erect, worn up or in a tightly wrapped braid or ponytail.

### 1022.2.2 MUSTACHES

A short and neatly trimmed mustache may be worn. Mustaches shall not extend below the corners of the mouth or beyond the natural hairline of the upper lip.

### 1022.2.3 SIDEBURNS

Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the outer ear opening (the top of the earlobes) and shall be trimmed and neat.

### 1022.2.4 FACIAL HAIR

- (a) **Beards:** Officers may wear beards that are neatly trimmed, well groomed and are professional in appearance. Beards shall not pose a safety hazard, nor interfere with emergency equipment, such as a wearing a gas mask. The overall length is not to exceed one inch. Beards shall not be allowed to grow to or on the neck. If an employee is planning to grow a beard, it is to be done during a leave of at least two weeks to allow adequate time for a presentable growth and to prevent an unkempt appearance to the public.
- (b) **Goatee's:** Goatee's are allowed with mustaches, provided the lower margin of the goatee follows the jaw line and does not extend more than one-half inch under the jaw. The mustache and goatee must connect.

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### **1022.2.5 FINGERNAILS**

Fingernails extending beyond the tip of the finger can pose a safety hazard to officers or others. For this reason, fingernails shall be trimmed so that no point of the nail extends beyond the tip of the finger.

### **1022.2.6 JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES**

No jewelry or personal ornaments shall be worn by officers on any part of the uniform or equipment, except those authorized within this manual. Jewelry, if worn around the neck, shall not be visible above the shirt collar.

Earrings shall not be worn by uniformed sworn members, detectives or special assignment personnel without permission of the Chief of Police or his/her designee. Only one ring may be worn on each hand of the employee while on-duty.

### **1022.3 TATTOOS**

While on duty or representing the Department in any official capacity, tattoos may be visible if determined by the Division Commander that the tattoo(s) have no objectionable content.

### **1022.4 BODY PIERCING OR ALTERATION**

Body piercing or alteration to any area of the body visible in any authorized uniform or attire that is a deviation from normal anatomical features and which is not medically required is prohibited except with prior authorization of the Chief of Police. Such body alteration includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Tongue splitting or piercing.
- (b) The complete or transdermal implantation of any material other than hair replacement.
- (c) Abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose or teeth.
- (d) Branding or scarification.



# Uniform Regulations

## 1023.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The uniform policy of the Aberdeen Police Department is established to ensure that uniformed officers will be reasonably identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of department uniforms (RCW 10.116.050).

Employees should also refer to the following associated policies:

- Department-Owned and Personal Property
- Body Armor
- Personal Appearance Standards

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications manual is maintained and periodically updated by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. That manual should be consulted regarding authorized equipment and uniform specifications.

### 1023.1.1 WEARING A COMPLETE UNIFORM

Members are required to wear a proper and complete department uniform in the prescribed manner and to be properly equipped to perform their assigned duties any time they are acting in their official capacity on duty unless working on an assignment which requires them to be out of uniform.

### 1023.1.2 WEARING UNIFORM WHEN OFF DUTY

Members will wear a uniform only for the purpose of performance of official duties. The uniform or uniform items will not be worn or used when a member is off duty with the exception that the duty weapon may be carried when off duty or the wearing of specific authorized items as outlined in the Uniform Manual and Policy.

### 1023.1.3 DEFINITIONS

**Reasonably identifiable** – The officer's uniform clearly displays the officer's name or other information that members of the public can see and the department can use to identify the officer (RCW 10.116.050).

## 1023.2 WEARING AND CONDITION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Police employees wear the uniform to be identified as the law enforcement authority in society. The uniform also serves an equally important purpose to identify the wearer as a source of assistance in an emergency, crisis or other time of need.

- (a) Uniform and equipment shall be maintained in a serviceable condition and shall be ready at all times for immediate use. Uniforms shall be neat, clean, and appear professionally pressed.
- (b) All peace officers of this department shall possess and maintain at all times, a serviceable uniform and the necessary equipment to perform uniformed field duty.

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## *Uniform Regulations*

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- (c) Personnel shall wear only the uniform specified for their rank and assignment.
- (d) The uniform is to be worn in compliance with the specifications set forth in the department's uniform specifications that are maintained separately from this policy.
- (e) All supervisors will perform periodic inspections of their personnel to ensure conformance to these regulations.
- (f) Civilian attire shall not be worn in combination with any distinguishable part of the uniform.
- (g) Uniforms are only to be worn while on duty, while in transit to or from work, for court, or at other official department functions or events.
- (h) If the uniform is worn while in transit, an outer garment shall be worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the employee while he/she is off duty.
- (i) Employees are not to purchase or drink alcoholic beverages while wearing any part of the department uniform, including the uniform pants.
- (j) Mirrored sunglasses will not be worn with any Department uniform.
- (k) Visible jewelry, other than those items listed below, shall not be worn with the uniform-unless specifically authorized by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
  - 1. Wrist watch.
  - 2. Wedding ring(s), class ring, or other ring of tasteful design. A maximum of one ring/set may be worn on each hand.
  - 3. Medical alert bracelet.

### **1023.2.1 DEPARTMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION**

The Department issues each employee an official department identification card bearing the employee's name, identifying information and photo likeness. All employees shall be in possession of their department-issued identification card at all times while on duty or when carrying a concealed weapon.

- (a) Whenever on duty or acting in an official capacity representing the department, employees shall display their department-issued identification in a courteous manner to any person upon request and as soon as practical.
- (b) Officers working specialized assignments may be excused from the possession and display requirements when directed by their Division Commander.

### **1023.3 UNIFORM CLASSES**

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### 1023.3.1 CLASS A UNIFORM

The Class A uniform is to be worn on special occasions such as funerals, graduations, ceremonies, or as directed. The Class A uniform is required for all sworn personnel. The Class A uniform includes the standard issue uniform with:

- (a) Long sleeve shirt with tie.
- (b) Polished shoes.

Boots with pointed toes are not permitted.

### 1023.3.2 CLASS B UNIFORM

All officers will possess and maintain a serviceable Class B uniform at all times.

The Class B uniform will consist of the same garments and equipment as the Class A uniform with the following exceptions:

- (a) The long or short sleeve shirt may be worn with the collar open. No tie is required.
- (b) A white, navy blue or black crew neck t-shirt must be worn with the uniform.
- (c) All shirt buttons must remain buttoned except for the last button at the neck.
- (d) Shoes for the Class B uniform may be as described in the Class A uniform.
- (e) Approved all black unpolished shoes may be worn.
- (f) Boots with pointed toes are not permitted.

### 1023.3.3 CLASS C UNIFORM

The Class C uniform may be established to allow field personnel cooler clothing during the summer months or special duty. The Chief of Police will establish the regulations and conditions for wearing the Class C Uniform and the specifications for the Class C Uniform.

### 1023.3.4 SPECIALIZED UNIT UNIFORMS

The Chief of Police may authorize special uniforms to be worn by officers in specialized units such as Canine Team, SWAT, Bicycle Patrol, Motor Officers and other specialized assignments.

### 1023.3.5 FOUL WEATHER GEAR

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications lists the authorized uniform jacket and rain gear.

### 1023.3.6 REFLECTIVE TRAFFIC CONTROL VEST

The supplied reflective vest shall be worn in a visible manner when working in a vehicle traffic control environment or in any other assignment that places department personnel in the area of vehicle traffic.

## **1023.4 INSIGNIA AND PATCHES**

- (a) Shoulder Patches - The authorized shoulder patch supplied by the Department shall be machine stitched to the sleeves of all uniform shirts and jackets, three-quarters of

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an inch below the shoulder seam of the shirt and be bisected by the crease in the sleeve.

- (b) Service stripes, stars, etc. - Service stripes and other indicators for length of service may be worn on long sleeved shirts and jackets. They are to be machine stitched onto the uniform. The bottom of the service stripe shall be sewn the width of one and one-half inches above the cuff seam with the rear of the service stripes sewn on the dress of the sleeve. The stripes are to be worn on the left sleeve only.
- (c) The regulation nameplate, or an authorized sewn on cloth nameplate, shall be worn at all times while in uniform. The nameplate shall display the employee's first and last name. If an employee's first and last names are too long to fit on the nameplate, then the initial of the first name will accompany the last name. If the employee desires other than the legal first name, the employee must receive approval from the Chief of Police. The nameplate shall be worn and placed above the right pocket located in the middle, bisected by the pressed shirt seam, with equal distance from both sides of the nameplate to the outer edge of the pocket.
- (d) When a jacket is worn, the nameplate or an authorized sewn on cloth nameplate shall be affixed to the jacket in the same manner as the uniform.
- (e) Assignment Insignias - Assignment insignias, (SWAT, FTO, etc.) may be worn as designated by the Chief of Police.
- (f) Flag Pin - A flag pin may be worn, centered above the nameplate.
- (g) Badge - The department-issued badge, or an authorized sewn on cloth replica, must be worn and visible at all times while in uniform.
- (h) Rank Insignia - The designated insignia indicating the employee's rank must be worn at all times while in uniform. The Chief of Police may authorize exceptions.

### 1023.4.1 MOURNING BADGE

Uniformed employees should wear a black mourning band across the uniform badge whenever a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty. The following mourning periods will be observed:

- (a) An officer of this department - From the time of death until midnight on the 14th day after the death.
- (b) An officer from this or an adjacent county - From the time of death until midnight on the day of the funeral.
- (c) Funeral attendee - While attending the funeral of an out of region fallen officer.
- (d) National Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15th) - From 0001 hours until 2359 hours.
- (e) As directed by the Chief of Police.

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### **1023.5 CIVILIAN ATTIRE**

There are assignments within the Department that do not require the wearing of a uniform because recognition and authority are not essential to their function. There are also assignments in which the wearing of civilian attire is necessary.

- (a) All employees shall wear clothing that fits properly, is clean and free of stains, and not damaged or excessively worn.
- (b) All male administrative, investigative and support personnel who elect to wear civilian clothing to work shall wear button style shirts with a collar, slacks or suits that are moderate in style.
- (c) All female administrative, investigative, and support personnel who elect to wear civilian clothes to work shall wear dresses, slacks, shirts, blouses, or suits which are moderate in style.
- (d) The following items shall not be worn on duty:
  - 1. T-shirt alone.
  - 2. Open toed sandals or thongs.
  - 3. Swimsuit, tube tops, or halter-tops.
  - 4. Spandex type pants or see-through clothing.
  - 5. Distasteful printed slogans, buttons or pins.
- (e) Variations from this order are allowed at the discretion of the Chief of Police or designee when the employee's assignment or current task is not conducive to the wearing of such clothing.
- (f) No item of civilian attire may be worn on duty that would adversely affect the reputation of the Aberdeen Police Department or the morale of the employees.

### **1023.6 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, ENDORSEMENTS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

Unless specifically authorized by the Chief of Police, Aberdeen Police Department employees may not wear any part of the uniform, be photographed wearing any part of the uniform, utilize a department badge, patch or other official insignia, or cause to be posted, published, or displayed, the image of another employee, or identify himself/herself as an employee of the Aberdeen Police Department, to do any of the following:

- (a) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any political campaign or initiative.
- (b) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any social issue, cause or religion.
- (c) Endorse, support, or oppose, any product, service, company or other commercial entity.
- (d) Appear in any commercial, social, or non-profit publication, or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast or any website.

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### **1023.7 OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT - MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT**

- (a) Any of the items listed in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications as optional shall be purchased totally at the expense of the employee. No part of the purchase cost shall be offset by the Department for the cost of providing the Department-issued item.
- (b) Maintenance of optional items shall be the financial responsibility of the purchasing employee. For example, repairs due to normal wear and tear.
- (c) Replacement of items listed in this order as optional shall be done as follows:
  - 1. When the item is no longer functional because of normal wear and tear, the employee bears the full cost of replacement.
  - 2. When the item is no longer functional because of damage in the course of the employee's duties, it shall be replaced following the procedures for the replacement of damaged personal property (See the Department-Owned and Personal Property Policy).

### **1023.8 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES**

Aberdeen Police Department employees may not wear any uniform item, accessory or attachment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications or by the Chief of Police or designee.

Aberdeen Police Department employees may not use or carry any safety item, tool or other piece of equipment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications or by the Chief of Police or designee.

### **1023.9 POLICY**

The Aberdeen Police Department will provide uniforms for all employees who are required to wear them in the manner, quantity, and frequency agreed upon in the respective employee group's collective bargaining agreement. The Department may provide other department members with uniforms at the direction of the Chief of Police.

All uniforms and equipment issued to department members shall be returned to the Department upon termination or resignation.

## Police Explorers

### 1024.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Explorer Scouts work under direct supervision, perform a variety of routine and progressively more advanced tasks in an associated program within the Boy Scouts of America organization in preparation for a career in law enforcement.

Nothing in this policy should be construed to supersede the Explorer Scout Post Handbook and relevant policies of the Boy Scouts of America.

**Purpose and Mission for Exploring:** The intent of law enforcement exploring is to educate and involve youth in police operations, to interest them in possible law enforcement careers and to build mutual understanding. The educational aspect provides knowledge of the law enforcement function in one's community whether one enters the field of law enforcement as a career or not.

**Knowledge of Manual Contacts:** It will be the responsibility of every Explorer to have knowledge of all policies, procedures and regulations contained in the Explorer Manual.

**Chain of Command:** The Chain of Command is established for the efficient operation of the Post. It is similar to the structure of the department. The chain flows from the lowest rank/position upwards to the top rank or position. The Post Advisor shall be an officer appointed by the Chief of Police and will be the top of the Posts Chain of Command.

Explorers must adhere to the Explorer Post Constitution.

Explorers are VOLUNTEERS and may be removed from the program at any time.

### 1024.2 MEMBERSHIP

**Membership:** Membership in a Law Enforcement Explorer post is open to young adults, male or female, age 15 1/2 and in high school, through age 20.

A. Parental approval is required, which includes signatures by the Explorer and his/her parents or guardians on a general liability release form for applicants under the age of 18.

B. Be of good health.

C. Be of good moral habits with no arrest or conviction records to serious offenses.

D. Explorer Scouts are required to maintain a minimum school grade point average of 2.0 ("C" grade) for all courses taken.

### 1024.3 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The program should be coordinated by an officer the rank of Lieutenant or above who shall be appointed by the Chief of Police.

## *Police Explorers*

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### 1024.3.1 PROGRAM ADVISOR'S

The Chief of Police will select individual officers to serve as advisors for the Explorer Post. These officers will serve as mentors for each Explorer. Explorers will follow the Chain of Command, per policy, to present ideas, concerns, etc. to the advisors. Advisors are not intended to circumvent the established Chain of Command.

### **1024.4 ORIENTATION AND TRAINING**

New Explorers will receive an orientation of the organization and facilities. He/She will serve a six-month probationary status from time of acceptance. In addition to job-specific training, information will be offered to prepare Explorers to compete successfully in the police officer selection process, as well as academy training. All training will focus on improving skills, as well as preparation to become productive members of the law enforcement community. These meetings will also offer an opportunity to receive continuous feedback regarding progress of the program.

### **1024.5 UNIFORMS / EQUIPMENT**

Each Explorer will be provided a uniform, which clearly identifies him/her as an Explorer. It will be the responsibility of each Explorer to purchase his/her own training uniform, duty gear, boots, and other items deemed needed for participation, which the Aberdeen Police Department does not provide." Uniform Maintenance: Explorers will maintain their uniforms in good condition. Any part of the uniform that becomes worn or damaged will be repaired or replaced as necessary.

#### 1024.5.1 EQUIPMENT

Explorers shall wear only that equipment and uniform which is authorized by this department. As non-commissioned personnel, Explorers shall neither utilize nor carry firearms or non-lethal weapons such as chemical mace or batons. Authorized equipment shall directly relate to Explorer activities.

#### 1024.5.2 DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

Explorers will utilize department equipment only for its intended purpose in accordance with established departmental procedures and will not abuse, damage, or lose that equipment. They will maintain all department equipment assigned to them in good condition. Explorers will not convert department equipment to their own use.

A. Inoperative Equipment: Explorers will immediately report any damage to the department's property or equipment assigned to them. In addition, Explorers will report any inoperative, defective, or hazardous equipment which comes to their attention.

B. Loss, Damage or Waste: Losing, damaging, or wasting department property or equipment through negligence, carelessness, or improper use will be grounds for disciplinary action. The Explorer responsible for such a loss, damage, or waste may be charged for the property in question.



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C. Return of Equipment: Explorers will turn in all department equipment assigned to them as directed. Upon termination, all department-owned property in an Explorer's possession will be promptly returned.

### **1024.6 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS**

Explorers may participate in assignments/details/calls where the Explorer is not placed in any immediate/imminent danger.

#### **1024.6.1 COVERT OPERATIONS**

It shall be the policy of this department to prohibit the use of explorers in performing covert acts or acts which might undermine the role of Law Enforcement Exploring in the community.

#### **1024.6.2 SPECIAL DUTY GUIDELINES**

If you are on duty/special assignment you should advise radio/dispatch of the situation and details. Explorers shall never attempt to follow suspects. You should continue on with your detail unless ordered to do otherwise by the shift supervisor, a superior officer or Post Advisor.

### **1024.7 RIDE-ALONG PROCEDURES**

All Explorers are encouraged to participate in the Ride-Along Program on his/her own time. Applicable waivers must be signed in advance and be on file. Explorers will wear his/her assigned uniform as described in policy/constitution while participating in the ride-along.

The Ride-Along is open to Explorers who have successfully completed his/her probationary period and required field training with his/her advisors.

Explorers under the age of 18 should not ride after 2200 hours on school nights.

Explorers under the age of 18 may not ride after midnight and/or during shifts starting after midnight (graveyard shift).

#### **1024.7.1 DANGEROUS SITUATIONS**

Law Enforcement by its very nature has moments of extreme danger. Situations will arise where the officer will have to terminate the ride-along for the Explorer's own safety. The Explorer shall be dropped off at a safe public location where they have access to a telephone (i.e. an open restaurant or business). Explorers will then follow the Emergency Drop Off Procedures as set forth in the following subsection.

#### **1024.7.2 EMERGENCY DROP OFF**

An Explorer should have enough money to make a telephone call. (911 calls are free). Immediately after being dropped off, the Explorer should use the nearest phone to notify dispatch of his/her location. Dispatch will then log this and advise if another officer will be en-route to pick up the Explorer, or assist the Explorer in making arrangements to be picked up by a responsible person. Explorers on ride-alongs should have a responsible person they can call to come pick them up quickly in these situations. Once the Explorer is returned to the station or to home, the dispatcher shall be notified so that this may be logged showing the Explorer is safe and off duty.

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### 1024.7.3 TERMINATION OF RIDE-ALONG

A ride-along may be terminated by the officer or the shift supervisor at any time. Should the ride be terminated for any reason, the Explorer shall not question the decision. The Explorer shall submit a memo to the Post Advisor simply stating that the ride was terminated early and by whose authority the ride was terminated. The Post Advisor will then determine why the ride was terminated.

### 1024.7.4 ASSISTING THE OFFICER

The Explorer is to assist the officer by being an extra set of eyes and ears. The Explorer will follow all orders and directions given too him/her by the officer. Any questions the Explorer may have about field contacts or procedures should be saved for the officer. These questions should be discussed in the privacy of the patrol car. The Explorer is never to argue with the officer.

### 1024.7.5 USE OF EQUIPMENT

The Explorer will never touch any emergency equipment controls or operate any other equipment unless ordered to do so by the officer. Do not assume you should help without asking first.

### 1024.7.6 SPECIAL RULES

Each officer has special ways of handling their patrol car and area assignment. Each Explorer should develop a rapport with the officer at the start of the ride and ask if any special rules exist. They should take care to show the officer that they appreciate the opportunity to ride and assist the officer where necessary.

### 1024.7.7 RIDE-ALONG EMERGENCIES

Should a serious situation develop on a ride-along and it appears that the officers in imminent danger, the Explorer should advise radio/dispatch of the officer's unit number, their location and the nature of the problem. If the officer is down, they should broadcast "Officer Needs Help!", give the location, the officers unit number and request an aid car/ambulance if necessary.

### 1024.7.8 ASSISTING THE OFFICER

Explorers are not expected to go to the downed officer's aid! If the Explorer's own safety is in question, they should seek a safe position and then notify radio/dispatch of the emergency. This department does not require Explorers to do more than this.

**The Explorer's only obligation in a serious situation is to get to safety and then request aid for the fallen officer.**

**REMEMBER** , should you become injured trying to assist you may not have a second chance to get help on the way!

## 1024.8 CONDUCT / APPEARANCE

### CONDUCT

A. Explorers should remember that when on/off "duty" they are a reflection upon their department, community and the Boy Scouts of America. They should act accordingly so as not to bring discredit on themselves, the department, the community or the Boy Scouts of America.

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## *Police Explorers*

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B. **Fraternization:** This department and the Boy Scouts of America do not condone and will not permit fraternization between Explorers and their adult members regardless of local or state laws related to age of consent. Fraternization is not morally appropriate, nor is it in keeping with the relationship between youth members and adult leaders prescribed in the programs of this department and those of the Boy Scouts of America.

### **APPEARANCE**

A. Law Enforcement Explorers are responsible for wearing the proper and complete Post uniform in the prescribed manner except when working in an assignment that requires them to be out of uniform.

B. Explorers will maintain a neat, clean appearance. They will keep their uniforms clean, pressed and in good condition. They will keep their hair neat, clean and cut in the prescribed manner. Poor grooming or improper wearing of the uniform or its accessories may be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

### **1024.9 VEHICLES**

Explorers may operate department vehicles when authorized to do so. Explorers are never to engage in Emergency Vehicle Operation and Control (EVOC). Explorers should always exhibit courteous driving manners and regard the safety of other drivers and pedestrians. Explorers will abide by all policies covering department vehicle operation.

#### **1024.9.1 DRIVER TRAINING**

Only those Explorers who have completed a department approved Safe Driving Course may operate department vehicles. (This course shall include instruction on emergency operation limitations of Explorers and APD Policy Chapter 8 and 9.010).

#### **1024.9.2 VEHICLE OPERATION OUT OF JURISDICTION**

Explorers are prohibited from leaving the department's jurisdiction in department vehicles unless authorized by the program coordinator. Boy Scouts of America Tour Permits shall be filed as required by BSA rules for trips planned outside the department's jurisdiction.

#### **1024.9.3 COLLISION PROCEDURES**

A. When a department vehicle is involved in an accident inside the department's jurisdiction the Explorer shall immediately render aid to the injured, remove any hazards of life or property and then contact the Shift Supervisor promptly. The vehicles involved should not be moved until an officer is on the scene. (Vehicles may be moved if damages are minor, there are no injuries, there are independent witnesses, or by leaving them it creates a hazard to life and property).

B. When a department vehicle is involved in an accident outside the department's jurisdiction the Explorer shall render aid to the injured, remove any hazards to life and property, and promptly notify the agency with jurisdiction. The Explorer should identify him/herself to the responding officer as a Law Enforcement Explorer from this department and request that telephone notification of

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the accident be made as soon as possible to this department. Again, an effort should be made to not move the involved vehicles until an officer is present.

### **1024.10 COMPLIANCE / CONFLICT ORDERS**

Explorers will perform their assigned responsibilities, assisting regular Law Enforcement Officers with their duties, to the best of their ability and in accordance with department directives and other directives in this manual. Explorers will perform their assignments in a competent manner.

#### **1024.10.1 COMPLIANCE WITH ORDERS**

Explorers will promptly obey any lawful orders of a superior officer. Any Explorer who refuses to obey a lawful order will be considered insubordinate and may be subject to disciplinary action, upon review.

#### **1024.10.2 CONFLICT OF ORDERS**

Should any lawful order be given by a superior officer conflict with any previous order or published directive, the Explorer will respectfully bring this conflict to the attention of the superior officer. The superior officer who issued the conflicting order will take any necessary steps to correct the conflict and, at the same time, assume responsibility for the Explorer's actions while carrying out this order.

#### **1024.10.3 DUTY TO COOPERATE / REPLY**

Explorers have a duty to cooperate and will fully answer all questions which an advisor, investigating officer, or supervisor may ask regarding the investigation of any complaint. Explorers will cooperate with the internal investigation and disciplinary process.

**(NOTE:** Statements made in the department's internal investigation that are involuntary will not be admissible in a criminal prosecution.)

### **1024.11 DISCIPLINE / COMPLAINTS/ APPEALS**

#### **1024.11.1 DISCIPLINE**

Violations of the directives of this Manual or any violations of other official department directives or orders may be grounds for initiating disciplinary procedures.

#### **1024.11.2 COMPLAINTS**

A. Receiving Complaints: Citizens who wish to file complaints against personnel of this department will be informed of the manner in which this may be done. Complaints specific to Explorers shall be routed to the Post Advisor.

B. Harassment of Complainants: No Explorer will harass, verbally abuse or threaten any citizen or fellow Explorer who files a complaint against that Explorer or any other department personnel.

C. Processing Complaints: Complaints against Explorers (whether originating from a citizen, a fellow Explorer, other department personnel or officers from another agency) will be thoroughly reviewed. Assuming that the complaint does not involve illegal activity, the Explorer will be informed of the charges and permitted to provide an explanation or comment on the charges.

## *Police Explorers*

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Where possible illegal activity is involved, the Explorer will be given every right due any other person in the context of a criminal investigation.

D. Disposition of Complaints: Upon completion of the review of their charges in a complaint, the matter will be classified as:

- (a) Exonerated "" The alleged conduct occurred but it was lawful and proper;
- (b) Unfounded "" The complaint was false or unfounded;
- (c) Not sustained "" There was insufficient evidence to prove or disprove the allegation;
- (d) Sustained: The allegation was supported by proper and sufficient evidence.

Explorers will be promptly notified of the disposition of the complaint.

### 1024.11.3 COMPLAINTS OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Complaints against Explorers that allege criminal violations will be grounds for bringing criminal charges. This action will not serve to prevent the internal disciplinary process from dealing with the same matter.

### 1024.11.4 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

If a complaint is found to be sustained, disciplinary action will be taken. Depending on the severity of the violation involved and the explorer's past record, such action could include but not necessarily be limited to:

- A. Verbal reprimand;
- B. Written reprimand;
- C. Suspension;
- D. Loss of privileges;
- E. Lowering of rank/loss of elected position;
- F. Termination from the Explorer Post.

Explorers will be promptly notified of any disciplinary action to be taken. Any disciplinary action taken will become a part of that Explorer's permanent record.

### 1024.11.5 APPEAL OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Any disciplinary action taken shall be open to appeal to the department executive. The final decision of the department executive may not be appealed except through a lawful court process.

## **1024.12 HEALTH**

### Bloodborne Pathogens

A. It is encouraged that all Explorers obtain a Hepatitis B vaccinations when participating in the program, however the vaccination and associated costs will be the responsibility of the Explorer and his/her parents

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## *Police Explorers*

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B. Explorers/Parents/Guardians may choose to decline a Hepatitis B vaccination, but must complete and sign a declination form which will be retained in the Explorer's file.

# Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships

## 1025.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure equal opportunity and effective employment practices by avoiding actual or perceived favoritism, discrimination, or actual or potential conflicts of interest by or between members of this department. These employment practices include: recruiting, testing, hiring, compensation, assignment, use of facilities, access to training opportunities, supervision, performance appraisal, discipline and workplace safety and security.

### 1025.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Business relationship** - Serving as an employee, independent contractor, compensated consultant, owner, board member, shareholder or investor in an outside business, company, partnership, corporation, venture or other transaction where the Department employee's annual interest, compensation, investment or obligation is greater than \$250.

**Conflict of interest** - Any actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest in which it reasonably appears that a department employee's action, inaction or decisions are or may be influenced by the employee's personal or business relationship.

**Nepotism** - The practice of showing favoritism to relatives in appointment, employment, promotion or advancement by any public official in a position to influence these personnel decisions.

**Personal relationship** - Includes marriage, cohabitation, dating or any other intimate relationship beyond mere friendship.

**Public official** - A supervisor, officer or employee who is vested with authority by law, rule or regulation, or to whom authority has been delegated.

**Relative** - An employee's parent, stepparent, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, child (natural, adopted or step), sibling or grandparent.

**Subordinate** - An employee who is subject to the temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority of a supervisor.

**Supervisor** - An employee who has temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority over the actions, decisions, evaluation and/or performance of a subordinate employee.

## 1025.2 RESTRICTED DUTIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

The Department does not prohibit all personal or business relationships between employees. However, in order to avoid nepotism or other inappropriate conflicts, the following reasonable restrictions shall apply:

- (a) Employees are prohibited from directly supervising, occupying a position in the line of supervision or being directly supervised by any other employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.

## *Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships*

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1. If circumstances require that such a supervisor/subordinate relationship exist temporarily, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to defer matters pertaining to the involved employee to an uninvolved supervisor.
  2. When personnel and circumstances permit, the Department will attempt to make every reasonable effort to avoid placing employees in such supervisor/subordinate situations. The Department, however, reserves the right to transfer or reassign any employee to another position within the same classification in order to avoid conflicts with any provision of this policy.
- (b) Employees are prohibited from participating in, contributing to or recommending promotions, assignments, performance evaluations, transfers or other personnel decisions affecting an employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.
  - (c) Whenever possible, FTOs and other trainers will not be assigned to train relatives. FTOs and other trainers are prohibited from entering into or maintaining personal or business relationships with any employee they are assigned to train until such time as the training has been successfully completed and the employee is off probation.
  - (d) To avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest, members of this department shall refrain from developing or maintaining personal or financial relationships with victims, witnesses or other individuals during the course of or as a direct result of any official contact.
  - (e) Except as required in the performance of official duties or, in the case of immediate relatives, employees shall not develop or maintain personal or financial relationships with any individual they know or reasonably should know is under criminal investigation, is a convicted felon, parolee, fugitive, or registered sex offender, or who engages in serious violations of state or federal laws.

### 1025.2.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Prior to entering into any personal or business relationship or other circumstance which the employee knows or reasonably should know could create a conflict of interest or other violation of this policy, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, next highest level of supervisor.

Whenever any employee is placed in circumstances that would require the employee to take enforcement action or provide official information or services to any relative or individual with whom the employee is involved in a personal or business relationship, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, immediate supervisor. In the event that no uninvolved supervisor is immediately available, the employee shall promptly notify dispatch to have another uninvolved employee either relieve the involved employee or minimally remain present to witness the action.



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## *Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships*

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### 1025.2.2 SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY

Upon being notified of, or otherwise becoming aware of any circumstance that could result in or constitute an actual or potential violation of this policy, a supervisor shall take all reasonable steps to promptly mitigate or avoid such violations, whenever possible. Supervisors shall also promptly notify the Chief of Police of such actual or potential violations through the chain of command.

# Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees

## 1026.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures, protocols and actions for investigating and reporting domestic violence involving employees of this and other law enforcement agencies. The intent of this policy is to ensure that law enforcement employees are held to the standards of the law regarding domestic violence (RCW 10.99.090).

### 1026.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Agency** - Means a general authority Washington law enforcement agency as defined in RCW 10.93.020.

**Employee** - Means any person currently employed with an agency.

**Sworn Employee** - Means a general authority Washington peace officer as defined in RCW 10.93.020, any person appointed under RCW 35.21.333, and any person appointed or elected to carry out the duties of the sheriff under RCW Chapter 36.28.

## 1026.2 DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Aberdeen Police Department has the following obligations (RCW 10.99.030 and 10.99.090):

- (a) Provide pre-hire screening procedures reasonably calculated to disclose whether an applicant for a sworn employee position has a history of domestic violence, child abuse allegations, or have been subject to protective order.
- (b) Maintain ongoing and meaningful relationships with victim advocacy groups and other domestic violence professionals in the community.
- (c) Provide education to Aberdeen Police Department employees on the dynamics of interpersonal violence.
- (d) In response to observed behavior or at the request of the employee, the Aberdeen Police Department may offer or recommend intervention services to employees. If domestic violence is suspected, the referral should be to a domestic violence specialist.
- (e) Any employee who becomes aware of domestic violence committed by a sworn employee must immediately report that allegation to their supervisor.
- (f) Recognize that employees who disclose that they have personally engaged in criminal acts of domestic violence are not entitled to confidentiality. Such acts shall be investigated administratively and criminally as appropriate.
- (g) Provide information to employing law enforcement agencies within 24 hours of a domestic violence or domestic dispute report involving a sworn officer.
- (h) Provide information on this domestic violence policy and programs under RCW 26.50.150 to employees and make it available to employee families and the public.

# Aberdeen Police Department

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## *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (i) Provide victims of domestic violence by Aberdeen Police Department employees a department point of contact to assist the victim through the investigative process. Consideration should be given to selecting a point of contact at least one rank higher than the perpetrator, and would ideally be someone other than the investigator.
- (j) Provide victims of domestic violence by Aberdeen Police Department employees contact information about public and private nonprofit domestic violence services and information regarding relevant confidentiality policies related to the victim's information.
- (k) Respond to Aberdeen Police Department employees who are alleged victims of violence at the hands of sworn employees of the Aberdeen Police Department. Safety concerns and domestic violence services information will be reviewed with the victim employee.
- (l) Provide for an impartial administrative investigation and appropriate criminal investigation of all acts of domestic violence allegedly committed by a sworn employee and appropriate sanctions when it is found that an employee has committed an act of domestic violence. Administrative investigations may be conducted by the Aberdeen Police Department or through agreements with other law enforcement agencies.
- (m) Consider whether to relieve a sworn employee of Department-issued weapons and suspend law enforcement powers pending resolution of an investigation.

### 1026.2.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors are required to:

- (a) Be aware of behaviors in their subordinates that could be indicative of domestic violence and properly process observations of such behavior.
- (b) Ensure that domestic violence incidents are properly recorded and processed according to this policy.

### 1026.3 EMPLOYEE ACTIONS

Law enforcement employees have the following obligations or entitlements (RCW 10.99.090):

- (a) Employees are entitled to seek assistance through the employee assistance program, employee peer counselors, chaplains, or psychological professionals, however, in situations where family violence is indicated a referral to a domestic violence specialist is critical.
- (b) Employees with knowledge or information about any sworn employee in violation of this policy must report in writing to their supervisor or the Deputy Chief as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours. Failure to report may subject the employee to disciplinary action.
- (c) Employees who are victims of domestic violence are encouraged to request assistance, but are not subject to punitive measures for failing to report their abuse.

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## *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (d) Employees should be alert to the likelihood of victim or witness intimidation and shall immediately take appropriate action. This action will include, but is not limited to the report to their supervisor or the Deputy Chief within 24 hours.
- (e) Employees are expected to fully cooperate with the investigation of allegations under this Policy but only as requested by a supervisor, the Deputy Chief or by court subpoena.
- (f) When a law enforcement agency responds to a call in which a sworn employee is alleged to have been involved in a domestic dispute or committed an act of domestic violence, the involved employee must immediately report that police response to their supervisor. A written report must follow within 24 hours, subject to the agency's internal investigatory process.
- (g) When an employee becomes the subject of an investigation for child abuse or neglect, or becomes subject to an order under RCW 26.44.063 or an order of protection under RCW 26.50.020 et seq. or any equivalent order issued by another state or tribal court, that employee must immediately report the fact to his/her supervisor. A written report must follow within 24 hours to include a copy of any order and any notices of court dates, appearances, and proceedings received by the employee.

### **1026.4 INCIDENT RESPONSE**

Any notification of any incident of domestic violence involving any law enforcement officer requires a prompt response, full investigation and a complete written report by this department (RCW 10.99.030). These incidents additionally require:

- (a) On-scene supervisory presence.
- (b) Notification through the chain of command to the Chief of Police of this department; and if the incident involves employees of another agency, notification of the agency head of the employing agency.
- (c) The Chief of Police may delegate responsibility for receiving such reports to a specialized unit and/or specific person. Anyone so designated the Domestic Violence Specialist or Domestic Violence Unit should have specialized training regarding the dynamics of violent relationships, victim safety and the role of advocacy. The point of contact or unit supervisor should review each referral for any potential conflict of interest
- (d) In the event of a report of domestic violence alleged to have been committed by the Chief of Police, prompt notification will be made to the employing entity's chief executive officer, or, in the case of an elected Sheriff, the County's Prosecutor.

#### **1026.4.1 PATROL RESPONSE**

A patrol officer responding to an incident described as domestic violence involving a law enforcement officer should, whenever possible, request a supervisory response.

## *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (a) The primary unit will conduct a thorough investigation, including, but not limited to:
  - 1. Photographs of the crime scene and any injuries identified.
  - 2. Statements from all witnesses, including children, if any.
  - 3. The Domestic Violence Supplemental Report Form.
  - 4. Seizure of any weapons used or referred to in the crime.
  - 5. Signed medical releases.
  - 6. Copies of dispatch (CAD) records.
  - 7. 9-1-1 call recording preserved.
  - 8. Statement of the victim; statement of the suspect.
  - 9. Determine if the victim requests any guns or specific weapons be removed for safekeeping and accommodate removal or explain the process for seeking a court order for removal.
  - 10. Complete the report as soon as possible, but prior to the completion of their shift.
- (b) Patrol units responding to suspicious circumstances, compelling third party accounts of incidents, unexplained property damage, etc. or other troubling event involving law enforcement officers will complete written reports of the incident.
- (c) A copy of all reports of the incident should be forwarded to the Domestic Violence Unit or Specialist. Access to the report should then be restricted to some form of "read only" version or physically secured.

### 1026.4.2 PATROL SUPERVISOR RESPONSE

A patrol supervisor shall:

- (a) Respond whenever practical to the scene of any domestic violence incident involving sworn employees of this department regardless of jurisdiction. Supervisors will coordinate information and offer assistance to the agency of jurisdiction to provide a complete investigation.
- (b) Respond to the scene of all domestic violence incidents within the jurisdiction of the Aberdeen Police Department involving any law enforcement officer.
- (c) Coordinate the investigation, applying appropriate resources and special units such as forensics, photography, domestic violence specialists, advocates and ensuring command notification.
- (d) Write a report on all incidents, whether deemed criminal or not and route it through the chain of command.
- (e) In the event of the arrest of a sworn employee of the Aberdeen Police Department, contact the Chief of Police who will order the surrender of the officer's Department-

## *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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issued weapons and identification. Consideration should be given to other agency equipment and inquiries made about voluntary surrender of personal weapons that may be secured for safekeeping.

- (f) In the event of the arrest of a sworn employee of another agency, contact that agency prior to custody transport and request authorization to seize that employee's agency-issued weapons or arrange for the employing agency to obtain them.
- (g) Endeavor to make a good faith effort to locate the suspect if there is probable cause for an arrest.
- (h) Explain the process to the victim, including the opportunity for applicable emergency protection orders, administrative no-contact orders, and confidentiality statutes and policies.
- (i) Provide the victim with a copy of this policy and APD contact information, acting as the point of contact until another assignment is made.

### 1026.4.3 COMMAND DUTY OFFICER

- (a) The command officer notified of an incident covered by this policy will see that the Chief of Police is notified promptly of such incident.
- (b) All completed investigations of domestic violence committed by any sworn law enforcement employees shall be promptly forwarded to the appropriate prosecuting authority for a charging decision.
- (c) For incidents involving agency employees:
  - 1. The command officer shall respond to the scene if the situation dictates command presence.
  - 2. The command officer will make a decision regarding removal of the involved employee's law enforcement powers, duty weapon, badge, and other Aberdeen Police Department owned equipment, pending the outcome of the investigation and possible prosecutorial charging decision.
  - 3. A command officer will issue an administrative order prohibiting contact with the victim if appropriate.
  - 4. This decision will be forwarded to the chief of police for review and further action.
  - 5. A command officer should be assigned to review the report and coordinate the activities of the Department and should do the following:
    - (a) Coordinate with the Aberdeen Police Department's investigative unit or the agency of jurisdiction.
    - (b) Be the point of contact and provide an update regarding the administrative process to the victim.

## *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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- (c) Inform the victim that any information disclosed during either the criminal or administrative investigation is subject to public disclosure laws and policies of the department.
  - (d) Coordinate with the appropriate prosecutor's office regarding charging and prosecution.
  - (e) Coordinate with the appropriate advocacy organization to assist with victim safety concerns. Victim notification of each step in the administrative process is critical to victim safety. 04.100.10
- 6. For other law enforcement agencies:
  - (a) The command officer shall respond to the scene if the situation dictates command presence.
  - (b) The command officer should verify command notification of the employing agency at the direction of the chief of police.
  - (c) The command officer should verify the supervisor has offered assistance with removing weapons, police powers, etc.
  - (d) The command officer should see that the Aberdeen Police Department provides appropriate reports and any other requested documentation to the employing agency.

### **1026.5 VICTIM SAFETY ASSISTANCE AND NOTIFICATION**

The Aberdeen Police Department will work with community resources and domestic violence advocacy agencies and shall make available to the victim (RCW 10.99.090):

- (a) Information on how to obtain protective orders and/or removal of weapons from his/her home.
- (b) Assistance with obtaining such orders in coordination with domestic violence victim advocates.
- (c) A copy of this policy and any agency confidentiality policy.
- (d) Information about public and private domestic violence advocacy resources to include the Washington State Domestic Violence Hotline.
- (e) Information related to relevant confidentiality policies related to the victim's information and public disclosure as provide by law.
- (f) The Aberdeen Police Department will coordinate victim notification regarding criminal and administrative investigative processes through the designated agency liaison in order to assist with victim safety.

## *Domestic Violence Involving Law Enforcement Employees*

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### 1026.5.1 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS

- (a) The department will observe all other appropriate policies and procedures generally applicable to investigation of alleged officer misconduct. The department will respect the rights of the accused employee under applicable collective bargaining agreements and case law.
- (b) Administrative investigations will be conducted through the department's internal investigations function or by an outside agency as directed by the chief of police.
- (c) Where sufficient information exists, the department may make appropriate restrictions to assignments, law enforcement powers, building and records access and consider administrative reassignment and/or leave.
- (d) In determining the proper course of administrative action, the department may consider reviewing such factors as the employee's past conduct and history of complying with department rules.
- (e) Department employees may be ordered to undergo fitness for duty evaluation or assessment by a domestic violence treatment provider, or other professional, prior to any disposition, depending on circumstances and in accordance with administrative policy, applicable collective bargaining agreements and civil service standards.



## Department Badges

### 1027.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Aberdeen Police Department badge and uniform patch as well as the likeness of these items and the name of the Aberdeen Police Department are the property of the Department and their use shall be restricted as set forth in this policy.

### 1027.2 POLICY

The uniform badge shall be issued to department members as a symbol of authority and the use and display of department badges shall be in strict compliance with this policy. Only authorized badges issued by this department shall be displayed, carried or worn by members while on duty or otherwise acting in an official or authorized capacity.

#### 1027.2.1 FLAT BADGE

Sworn officers, with the written approval of the Chief of Police may purchase, at his/her own expense, a flat badge capable of being carried in a wallet. The use of the flat badge is subject to all the same provisions of department policy as the uniform badge.

- (a) An officer may sell, exchange, or transfer the flat badge he/she purchased to another officer within the Aberdeen Police Department with the written approval of the Chief of Police.
- (b) Should the flat badge become lost, damaged, or otherwise removed from the officer's control, he/she shall make the proper notifications as outlined in the Department-Owned and Personal Property Policy.
- (c) An honorably retired officer may keep his/her flat badge upon retirement.
- (d) The purchase, carrying or display of a flat badge is not authorized for non-sworn personnel.

#### 1027.2.2 NON-SWORN PERSONNEL

Badges and department identification cards issued to non-sworn personnel shall be clearly marked to reflect the position of the assigned employee (e.g. Parking Control, Dispatcher).

Non-sworn personnel shall not display any department badge except as a part of his/her uniform and while on duty, or otherwise acting in an official and authorized capacity.

Non-sworn personnel shall not display any department badge or represent him/herself, on or off duty, in such a manner which would cause a reasonable person to believe that he/she is a sworn peace officer.

#### 1027.2.3 RETIREE UNIFORM BADGE

Upon honorable retirement employees may purchase his/her assigned duty badge for display purposes. It is intended that the duty badge be used only as private memorabilia as other uses of the badge may be unlawful or in violation of this policy.

## *Department Badges*

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### **1027.3 UNAUTHORIZED USE**

Except as required for on-duty use by current employees, no badge designed for carry or display in a wallet, badge case or similar holder shall be issued to anyone other than a current or honorably retired peace officer.

Department badges are issued to all sworn employees and non-sworn uniformed employees for official use only. The department badge, shoulder patch or the likeness thereof, or the department name shall not be used for personal or private reasons including, but not limited to, letters, memoranda, and electronic communications such as electronic mail or web sites and web pages.

The use of the badge, uniform patch and department name for all material (printed matter, products or other items) developed for Department use shall be subject to approval by the Chief of Police.

Employees shall not loan his/her department badge or identification card to others and shall not permit the badge or identification card to be reproduced or duplicated.

### **1027.4 PERMITTED USE BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS**

The likeness of the department badge shall not be used without the expressed authorization of the Chief of Police and shall be subject to the following:

- (a) The employee associations may use the likeness of the department badge for merchandise and official association business provided they are used in a clear representation of the association and not the Aberdeen Police Department. The following modifications shall be included:
  - 1. The text on the upper and lower ribbons is replaced with the name of the employee association.
  - 2. The badge number portion displays the initials of the employee association.
- (b) The likeness of the department badge for endorsement of political candidates shall not be used without the expressed approval of the Chief of Police.

# Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments

## 1028.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for providing temporary modified-duty assignments. This policy is not intended to affect the rights or benefits of employees under federal or state law, City rules or current collective bargaining agreements or memorandums of understanding. For example, nothing in this policy affects the obligation of the Department to engage in a good faith, interactive process to consider reasonable accommodations for any employee with a temporary or permanent disability that is protected under federal or state law.

## 1028.2 POLICY

Subject to operational considerations, the Aberdeen Police Department may identify temporary modified-duty assignments for employees who have an injury or medical condition resulting in temporary work limitations or restrictions. A temporary assignment allows the employee to work, while providing the Department with a productive employee during the temporary period.

## 1028.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Priority consideration for temporary modified-duty assignments will be given to employees with work-related injuries or illnesses that are temporary in nature. Employees having disabilities covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or the Washington Law Against Discrimination shall be treated equally, without regard to any preference for a work-related injury.

No position in the Aberdeen Police Department shall be created or maintained as a temporary modified-duty assignment.

Temporary modified-duty assignments are a management prerogative and not an employee right. The availability of temporary modified-duty assignments will be determined on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the operational needs of the Department. Temporary modified-duty assignments are subject to continuous reassessment, with consideration given to operational needs and the employee's ability to perform in a modified-duty assignment.

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee may restrict employees working in temporary modified-duty assignments from wearing a uniform, displaying a badge, carrying a firearm, operating an emergency vehicle or engaging in outside employment, or may otherwise limit them in employing their peace officer powers.

Temporary modified-duty assignments shall generally not exceed a cumulative total of 1,040 hours in any one-year period.

## 1028.4 PROCEDURE

Employees may request a temporary modified-duty assignment for short-term injuries or illnesses.

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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Employees seeking a temporary modified-duty assignment should submit a written request to their Division Commanders or the authorized designees. The request should, as applicable, include a certification from the treating medical professional containing:

- (a) An assessment of the nature and probable duration of the illness or injury.
- (b) The prognosis for recovery.
- (c) The nature and scope of limitations and/or work restrictions.
- (d) A statement regarding any required workplace accommodations, mobility aids or medical devices.
- (e) A statement that the employee can safely perform the duties of the temporary modified-duty assignment.

The Division Commander will make a recommendation through the chain of command to the Chief of Police regarding temporary modified-duty assignments that may be available based on the needs of the Department and the limitations of the employee. The Chief of Police or the authorized designee shall confer with the Department of Human Resources or the City Attorney as appropriate.

Requests for a temporary modified-duty assignment of 20 hours or less per week may be approved and facilitated by the Patrol Lieutenant or Division Commander, with notice to the Chief of Police.

### 1028.4.1 MODIFIED DUTY SCHEDULES

The schedules of employees assigned to modified duty may be adjusted to suit medical appointments or Department needs at the discretion of the command officer the employee on modified duty reports to.

The employee and his/her supervisors should be informed in writing of the schedule, assignment and limitations and restrictions as determined by the employee's health care provider.

### 1028.4.2 ACCOUNTABILITY

The employee's supervisors shall coordinate efforts to ensure proper time accountability and shall complete and process a change of shift/assignment form.

- (a) Employees on modified duty are responsible for coordinating required doctor visits and physical therapy appointments in advance with their supervisor to appropriately account for any duty time taken. Doctor visits and appointments for treatment of injuries or illnesses that are not work related shall be arranged during off-duty time or otherwise charged to the employee's sick leave.
- (b) Employees shall promptly submit a status report for each visit to their treating health care provider and shall immediately notify their supervisor of any change in restrictions or limitations as determined by their health care provider. An employee assigned to a modified duty assignment shall provide a duty status report to their supervisor no less than once every 30 days while the employee is on modified duty.

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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- (c) Supervisors shall keep the Section Commander apprised of the employee's status and ability to perform the modified duty assignment through the chain of command. Modified duty assignments that extend beyond 60 days will require a written status report and a request for an extension to the Chief of Police, through the chain of command, with an update of the employee's current status and anticipated date of return to regular duty. Extensions require approval of the Chief of Police.
- (d) When it is determined that an employee on modified duty will return to regular duty, the supervisor shall notify the Chief of Police, through the chain of command, and complete and process a change of shift/assignment form. All training and certification necessary for return to duty shall be reviewed and updated as necessary by the relevant Section Commander.

### 1028.4.3 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The Department reserves the right to require, prior to returning to full-duty status, a fitness-for-duty examination of any employee assigned to a modified duty assignment or of any employee having been on such assignment. Such examinations shall be at the expense of the Department.

Whenever circumstances reasonably indicate that an employee is unfit for duty, the Chief of Police may serve that employee with a written order to undergo a physical and/or psychological examination in cooperation with Department of Human Resources to determine the level of the employee's fitness for duty. The order shall indicate the date, time and place for the examination. The examining health care provider will provide the Department with a report indicating that the employee is either fit for duty or, if not, listing any functional limitations which limit the employee's ability to perform job duties. The scope of the requested fitness for duty report shall be confined to the physical or psychological condition that prompted the need for the examination. If the employee places his/her condition at issue in any subsequent or related administrative action/grievance, the examining physician or therapist may be required to disclose any and all information which is relevant to such proceeding. In order to facilitate the examination of any employee, the Department will provide all appropriate documents and available information to assist in the evaluation and/or treatment. All reports and evaluations submitted by the treating physician or therapist shall be part of the employee's confidential personnel medical file. Any employee ordered to receive a fitness for duty examination shall comply with the terms of the order and cooperate fully with the examining physician or therapist regarding any clinical interview, tests administered or other procedures as directed. Any failure to comply with such an order and any failure to cooperate with the examining physician or therapist may be deemed insubordination and shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination. In the event an employee is required to submit to a "fitness for duty" examination as a condition of returning from medical leave required under the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), contact Human Resources for direction regarding how to proceed. Once an employee has been deemed fit for duty by the examining health care provider, the employee will be notified to resume his/her duties.

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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Prior to returning to full-duty status, employees shall be required to provide a statement signed by their health care provider indicating that they are medically cleared to perform the basic and essential job functions of their assignment without restriction or limitation.

### **1028.5 ACCOUNTABILITY**

Written notification of assignments, work schedules and any restrictions should be provided to employees assigned to temporary modified-duty assignments and their supervisors. Those assignments and schedules may be adjusted to accommodate department operations and the employee's medical appointments, as mutually agreed upon with the Division Commander.

#### **1028.5.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of employees assigned to temporary modified duty shall include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Communicating and coordinating any required medical and physical therapy appointments in advance with their supervisors.
- (b) Promptly notifying their supervisors of any change in restrictions or limitations after each appointment with their treating medical professionals.
- (c) Communicating a status update to their supervisors no less than once every 30 days while assigned to temporary modified duty.
- (d) Submitting a written status report to the Division Commander that contains a status update and anticipated date of return to full-duty when a temporary modified-duty assignment extends beyond 60 days.

#### **1028.5.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The employee's immediate supervisor shall monitor and manage the work schedule of those assigned to temporary modified duty.

The responsibilities of supervisors shall include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Periodically apprising the Division Commander of the status and performance of employees assigned to temporary modified duty.
- (b) Notifying the Division Commander and ensuring that the required documentation facilitating a return to full duty is received from the employee.
- (c) Ensuring that employees returning to full duty have completed any required training and certification.

### **1028.6 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Prior to returning to full-duty status, employees shall be required to provide certification from their treating medical professionals stating that they are medically cleared to perform the essential functions of their jobs without restrictions or limitations.

The Department may require a fitness-for-duty examination prior to returning an employee to full-duty status, in accordance with the Fitness for Duty Policy.

## *Temporary Modified-Duty Assignments*

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### **1028.7 PREGNANCY**

If an employee is temporarily unable to perform regular duties due to a pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition, the employee will be treated the same as any other temporarily disabled employee (42 USC § 2000e(k)). A pregnant employee shall not be involuntarily transferred to a temporary modified-duty assignment.

Nothing in this policy limits a pregnant employee's right to a temporary modified-duty assignment if required under RCW 43.10.005 or WAC 357-26-030 et seq.

#### **1028.7.1 NOTIFICATION**

Pregnant employees should notify their immediate supervisors as soon as practicable and provide a statement from their medical providers identifying any pregnancy-related job restrictions or limitations. If at any point during the pregnancy it becomes necessary for the employee to take a leave of absence, such leave shall be granted in accordance with the City's personnel rules and regulations regarding family and medical care leave.

### **1028.8 PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES**

Probationary employees who are assigned to a temporary modified-duty assignment shall have their probation extended by a period of time equal to their assignment to temporary modified duty.

### **1028.9 MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING**

Employees assigned to temporary modified duty shall maintain all certification, training and qualifications appropriate to both their regular and temporary duties, provided that the certification, training or qualifications are not in conflict with any medical limitations or restrictions. Employees who are assigned to temporary modified duty shall inform their supervisors of any inability to maintain any certification, training or qualifications.

# Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking

## 1029.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended to address issues associated with employee use of social networking sites and to provide guidelines for the regulation and balancing of employee speech and expression with the needs of the Department.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit or infringe upon any communication, speech or expression that is protected or privileged under law. This includes speech and expression protected under state or federal constitutions as well as labor or other applicable laws. For example, this policy does not limit an employee from speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of a recognized bargaining unit or officer associations, about matters of public concern, such as misconduct or corruption.

Employees are encouraged to consult with their supervisor regarding any questions arising from the application or potential application of this policy.

### 1029.1.1 APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all forms of communication including but not limited to film, video, print media, public or private speech, use of all Internet services, including the World Wide Web, e-mail, file transfer, remote computer access, news services, social networking, social media, instant messaging, blogs, forums, video and other file-sharing sites.

## 1029.2 POLICY

Public employees occupy a trusted position in the community, and thus, their statements have the potential to contravene the policies and performance of this department. Due to the nature of the work and influence associated with the law enforcement profession, it is necessary that employees of this department be subject to certain reasonable limitations on their speech and expression. To achieve its mission and efficiently provide service to the public, the Aberdeen Police Department will carefully balance the individual employee's rights against the Department's needs and interests when exercising a reasonable degree of control over its employees' speech and expression.

## 1029.3 SAFETY

Employees should consider carefully the implications of their speech or any other form of expression when using the Internet. Speech and expression that may negatively affect the safety of the Aberdeen Police Department employees, such as posting personal information in a public forum, can result in compromising an employee's home address or family ties. Employees should therefore not disseminate or post any information on any forum or medium that could reasonably be expected to compromise the safety of any employee, an employee's family or associates.



## *Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking*

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Examples of the type of information that could reasonably be expected to compromise safety include:

- Disclosing a photograph and name or address of an officer who is working undercover.
- Disclosing the address of a fellow officer.
- Otherwise disclosing where another officer can be located off-duty.

### **1029.4 PROHIBITED SPEECH, EXPRESSION AND CONDUCT**

To meet the department's safety, performance and public-trust needs, the following are prohibited unless the speech is otherwise protected (for example, an employee speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of a recognized bargaining unit or officer associations, on a matter of public concern):

- (a) Speech or expression made pursuant to an official duty that tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Aberdeen Police Department or its employees.
- (b) Speech or expression that, while not made pursuant to an official duty, is significantly linked to, or related to, the Aberdeen Police Department and tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Aberdeen Police Department or its employees. Examples may include:
  1. Statements that indicate disregard for the law or the state or U.S. Constitution.
  2. Expression that demonstrates support for criminal activity.
  3. Participating in sexually explicit photographs or videos for compensation or distribution.
- (c) Speech or expression that could reasonably be foreseen as having a negative impact on the credibility of the employee as a witness. For example, posting statements or expressions to a website that glorify or endorse dishonesty, unlawful discrimination or illegal behavior.
- (d) Speech or expression of any form that could reasonably be foreseen as having a negative impact on the safety of the employees of the Department. For example, a statement on a blog that provides specific details as to how and when prisoner transportations are made could reasonably be foreseen as potentially jeopardizing employees by informing criminals of details that could facilitate an escape or attempted escape.
- (e) Speech or expression that is contrary to the canons of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics as adopted by the Aberdeen Police Department.
- (f) Use or disclosure, through whatever means, of any information, photograph, video or other recording obtained or accessible as a result of employment with the Department for financial or personal gain, or any disclosure of such materials without the express authorization of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee (RCW 9A.68.020).
- (g) Posting, transmitting or disseminating any photographs, video or audio recordings, likenesses or images of department logos, emblems, uniforms, badges, patches,

## *Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking*

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marked vehicles, equipment or other material that may or does negatively impact, represents, or portrays the Aberdeen Police Department on any personal or social networking or other website or web page, without the express authorization of the Chief of Police.

- (h) Accessing websites for non-authorized purposes, or use of any personal communication device, game device or media device, whether personally or department-owned, for personal purposes while on-duty, except in the following circumstances:
  - 1. When brief personal communication may be warranted by the circumstances (e.g., inform family of extended hours).
  - 2. During authorized breaks; such usage should be limited as much as practicable to areas out of sight and sound of the public and shall not be disruptive to the work environment.

Employees must take reasonable and prompt action to remove any content, including content posted by others, that is in violation of this policy from any web page or website maintained by the employee (e.g., social or personal website).

### 1029.4.1 UNAUTHORIZED ENDORSEMENTS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

While employees are not restricted from engaging in the following activities as private citizens or as authorized members of a recognized bargaining unit or officer associations, employees may not represent the Aberdeen Police Department or identify themselves in any way that could be reasonably perceived as representing the Aberdeen Police Department in order to do any of the following, unless specifically authorized by the Chief of Police:

- (a) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any political campaign or initiative.
- (b) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any social issue, cause or religion.
- (c) Endorse, support or oppose any product, service, company or other commercial entity.
- (d) Appear in any commercial, social or nonprofit publication or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast or any website.

Additionally, when it can reasonably be construed that an employee, acting in his/her individual capacity or through an outside group or organization (e.g. bargaining group), is affiliated with this department, the employee shall give a specific disclaiming statement that any such speech or expression is not representative of the Aberdeen Police Department.

Employees retain their right to vote as they choose, to support candidates of their choice and to express their opinions as private citizens, including as authorized members of a recognized bargaining unit or officer associations, on political subjects and candidates at all times while off-duty. However, employees may not use their official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the result of an election or a nomination for office. Employees are also prohibited from directly or indirectly using their official authority to coerce, command or advise another employee to pay, lend

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or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes (5 USC § 1502).

### **1029.5 PRIVACY EXPECTATION**

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to e-mails, texts or anything published or maintained through file-sharing software or any Internet site (e.g., Facebook, MySpace) that is accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system.

The Department reserves the right to access, audit and disclose for whatever reason any message, including attachments, and any information accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed over any technology that is issued or maintained by the Department, including the department e-mail system, computer network or any information placed into storage on any department system or device.

This includes records of all key strokes or web-browsing history made at any department computer or over any department network. The fact that access to a database, service or website requires a user name or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through department computers, electronic devices or networks. However, the Department shall not require a member to disclose a personal user name or password, or open a personal social website, except when access is reasonably believed to be relevant to the investigation of allegations of work-related misconduct (Chapter 330, Laws of 2013).

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# Grievance Procedure

## 1030.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department that all grievances be handled quickly and fairly without discrimination against employees who file a grievance whether or not there is a basis for the grievance. Our Department's philosophy is to promote a free verbal communication between employees and supervisors.

### 1030.1.1 GRIEVANCE DEFINED

**Grievance** - Is any dispute involving the interpretation or application of any of the following documents by the person affected:

- The employee bargaining agreement (Memorandum of Understanding).
- This Policy Manual.
- City rules and regulations covering personnel practices or working conditions.

Grievances may be brought by an individual affected employee or by a group representative.

Specifically outside the category of grievance are complaints related to allegations of discrimination or harassment subject to the Discriminatory Harassment Policy. Also outside the category of grievances are personnel complaints regarding any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance against any department employee that, if true, would constitute a violation of department policy or federal, state, or local law set forth in the Personnel Complaints Policy.

## 1030.2 PROCEDURE

Except as otherwise required under a collective bargaining agreement, if an employee believes that he/she has a grievance as defined above, then that employee shall observe the following procedure:

- (a) Attempt to resolve the issue through informal discussion with immediate supervisor.
- (b) If after a reasonable amount of time, generally seven days, the grievance cannot be settled by the immediate supervisor, the employee may request an interview with the Division Commander of the affected division or bureau.
- (c) If a successful resolution is not found with the Division Commander, the employee may request a meeting with the Chief of Police.
- (d) If the employee and the Chief of Police are unable to arrive at a mutual solution, then the employee shall proceed as follows:
  1. Submit in writing a written statement of the grievance and deliver one copy to the Chief of Police and another copy to the immediate supervisor and include the following information:

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- (a) The basis for the grievance (i.e., what are the facts of the case).
  - (b) Allegation of the specific wrongful act and the harm done.
  - (c) Identification of the specific policies, rules or regulations or allegedly violated.
  - (d) What remedy you are seeking or goal you would like to accomplish from this grievance.
- (e) The employee shall receive a copy of the acknowledgment signed by the supervisor including the date and time of receipt.
- (f) The Chief of Police will receive the grievance in writing. The Chief of Police and the Mayor will review and analyze the facts or allegations and respond to the employee within 14 calendar days. The response will be in writing, and will affirm or deny the allegations. The response shall include any remedies if appropriate. The decision of the Mayor is considered final.

### **1030.3 EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATION**

Employees are entitled to have representation during the grievance process. The representative may be selected by the employee from the appropriate employee bargaining group.

### **1030.4 GRIEVANCE RECORDS**

At the conclusion of the grievance process, all documents pertaining to the process shall be forwarded to Support Services for inclusion into a secure file for all written grievances. A second copy of the written grievance will be maintained by the Mayor's office to monitor the grievance process.

### **1030.5 GRIEVANCE AUDITS**

The Training Coordinator shall perform an annual audit of all grievances filed the previous calendar year to evaluate whether or not any policy/procedure changes or training may be appropriate to avoid future filings of grievances. The Training Coordinator shall record these findings in a confidential and generic memorandum to the Chief of Police without including any identifying information from any individual grievance. If the audit identifies any recommended changes or content that may warrant a critical revision to this policy manual, the Training Coordinator should promptly notify the Chief of Police.

# Accident, Illness and Injury Prevention

## 1031.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish an ongoing and effective plan to reduce the incidence of illness and injury for members of the Aberdeen Police Department, in accordance with the requirements of an Accident, Illness and Injury Prevention Program (AIIPP) (WAC 296-800-140 et seq.).

This policy specifically applies to illness and injury that results in lost time or that requires medical treatment beyond first aid. Although this policy provides the essential guidelines for a plan that reduces illness and injury, it may be supplemented by procedures outside the Policy Manual.

This policy does not supersede, but supplements any related Citywide safety efforts.

## 1031.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department is committed to providing a safe environment for its members and visitors and to minimizing the incidence of work-related accidents, illness and injuries. The Department will establish and maintain an AIIPP and will provide tools, training and safeguards designed to reduce the potential for accidents, illness and injuries. It is the intent of the Department to comply with all laws and regulations related to occupational safety.

## 1031.3 ACCIDENT, ILLNESS AND INJURY PREVENTION PLAN

The Support Services Division Commander is responsible for developing an accident, illness and injury prevention plan that shall include (WAC 296-800-14005):

- (a) A description of the entire accident, illness and injury plan, including workplace safety and health training programs.
- (b) A safety orientation that covers all components of the AIIPP.
- (c) Regularly scheduled safety meetings.
- (d) Posted or distributed safety information (WAC 296-800-19005; WAC 296-800-20005).
- (e) A system for members to anonymously inform management about workplace hazards.
- (f) Establishment of a safety and health committee that will (WAC 296-800-130):
  - 1. Meet regularly.
  - 2. Prepare a written record of safety and health committee meetings.
  - 3. Review the results of periodic scheduled inspections.
  - 4. Review investigations of accidents and exposures.
  - 5. Make suggestions to command staff for the prevention of future incidents.
  - 6. Review investigations of alleged hazardous conditions.
  - 7. Submit recommendations to assist in the evaluation of member safety suggestions.

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8. Assess the effectiveness of efforts made by the Department to meet applicable standards (WAC 296-800-100 et seq.).
  - (g) Establishing a process to ensure workplace accidents involving a fatality or in-patient hospitalization of any member are reported as required to the Washington Department of Labor and Industries (WAC 296-27-031).
  - (h) On-the-job review and training of the practices necessary to perform the initial job assignments in a safe manner and how to properly address hazards.
  - (i) Instruction on reporting injuries and location of first-aid facilities.
  - (j) The use and care of required personal protective equipment (PPE).
  - (k) The proper actions to take during emergencies, including the routes for exiting work areas.
  - (l) Identification of the hazardous gases, chemicals or materials, along with the instructions on their safe use and emergency action following accidental exposure.
  - (m) The development, supervision, implementation and enforcement of training programs to improve the skill, awareness and competency of all members regarding occupational safety and health (WAC 296-800-14020).

### 1031.3.1 SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Aberdeen Police Department maintains a safety committee to communicate and evaluate safety and health issues that may affect members and to promote a safe and healthy work environment. The safety committee should include employee-elected and department-selected members. The number of employee-elected members must equal or exceed the number of department-selected members. A chairperson of the committee shall be elected (WAC 296-800-13020).

The safety committee will:

- (a) Review safety and health inspection reports to help correct safety standards.
- (b) Evaluate accident investigations conducted since the last meeting to determine if the causes of the unsafe situation were identified and corrected.
- (c) Evaluate the AIIPP and discuss recommendations for improvement, if needed.
- (d) Document attendance.
- (e) Write down the subject discussed.
- (f) Prepare minutes of each meeting that shall be made available for review by safety and health consultation personnel of the Washington Department of Labor and Industries.

### 1031.4 SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Support Services Division Commander include but are not limited to:

- (a) Managing, implementing, and enforcing a plan to reduce the incidence of member accident, illness, and injury (WAC 296-800-14025).

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- (b) Ensuring that a system of communication is in place that facilitates a continuous flow of safety and health information between supervisors and members. This system shall include:
  - 1. New member orientation that includes a discussion of safety and health policies and procedures.
  - 2. Regular member review of the accident, illness, and injury prevention plan.
- (c) Ensuring that all safety and health policies and procedures are clearly communicated and understood by all members.
- (d) Taking reasonable steps to ensure that all members comply with safety rules in order to maintain a safe work environment. This includes but is not limited to:
  - 1. Informing members of the accident, illness, and injury prevention guidelines.
  - 2. Recognizing members who perform safe work practices.
  - 3. Ensuring that the member evaluation process includes member safety performance.
  - 4. Ensuring department compliance to meet standards regarding the following:
    - (a) Communicable diseases (WAC 296-823-100 et seq.)
    - (b) PPE (WAC 296-800-160 et seq.)
    - (c) Respiratory protection (WAC 296-800-160)
    - (d) First aid (WAC 296-800-150 et seq.)
    - (e) Safe workplace (WAC 296-800-110 et seq.)
    - (f) Emergency Action Plan and Fire Prevention Plan (WAC 296-24-567)
    - (g) Walking-working surfaces (WAC 296-24-735 et seq.; WAC 296-24-740 et seq.; WAC 296-24-7500 et seq.).
- (e) Making available a form to document inspections, unsafe conditions or work practices, and actions taken to correct unsafe conditions and work practices.
- (f) Making available a form to document individual incidents or accidents.
- (g) Making available a form to document the safety and health training of each member. This form will include the member's name or other identifier, training dates, type of training, and training providers.
- (h) Conducting and documenting a regular review of the illness and injury prevention plan.

### **1031.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisor responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring member compliance with accident, illness and injury prevention guidelines and answering questions from members about this policy.



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- (b) Training, counseling, instructing or making informal verbal admonishments any time safety performance is deficient. Supervisors may also initiate discipline when it is reasonable and appropriate under the Standards of Conduct Policy.
- (c) Establishing and maintaining communication with members on health and safety issues. This is essential for an injury-free, productive workplace.
- (d) Completing required forms and reports relating to accident, illness and injury prevention; such forms and reports shall be submitted to the Support Services Division Commander.
- (e) Notifying the Support Services Division Commander when:
  - 1. New substances, processes, procedures or equipment that present potential new hazards are introduced into the work environment.
  - 2. New, previously unidentified hazards are recognized.
  - 3. Occupational accidents, illnesses and injuries occur.
  - 4. New and/or permanent or intermittent members are hired or reassigned to processes, operations or tasks for which a hazard evaluation has not been previously conducted.
  - 5. Workplace conditions warrant an inspection.

### **1031.6 HAZARDS**

All members should report and/or take reasonable steps to correct unsafe or unhealthy work conditions, practices or procedures in a timely manner. Members should make their reports to a supervisor (as a general rule, their own supervisors).

Supervisors should make reasonable efforts to correct unsafe or unhealthy work conditions in a timely manner, based on the severity of the hazard. These hazards should be corrected when observed or discovered, when it is reasonable to do so. When a hazard exists that cannot be immediately abated without endangering members or property, supervisors should protect or remove all exposed members from the area or item, except those necessary to correct the existing condition.

Members who are necessary to correct the hazardous condition shall be provided with the necessary protection.

All significant actions taken and dates they are completed shall be documented on the appropriate form. This form should be forwarded to the Support Services Division Commander via the chain of command.

The Support Services Division Commander will take appropriate action to ensure the accident, illness and injury prevention plan addresses potential hazards upon such notification.

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### **1031.7 INSPECTIONS**

Safety inspections are crucial to a safe work environment. These inspections identify and evaluate workplace hazards and permit mitigation of those hazards. A hazard assessment checklist should be used for documentation and to ensure a thorough assessment of the work environment.

The Support Services Division Commander shall ensure that the appropriate documentation is completed for each inspection.

#### **1031.7.1 EQUIPMENT**

Members are charged with daily vehicle inspections of their assigned vehicles and of their PPE prior to working in the field. Members shall complete the appropriate form if an unsafe condition cannot be immediately corrected. Members should forward this form to their supervisors.

### **1031.8 INVESTIGATIONS**

Any member sustaining any work-related illness or injury, as well as any member who is involved in any accident or hazardous substance exposure while on-duty shall report such event as soon as practicable to a supervisor. Members observing or learning of a potentially hazardous condition are to promptly report the condition to their immediate supervisors.

A supervisor receiving such a report should personally investigate the incident or ensure that an investigation is conducted. Investigative procedures for workplace accidents and hazardous substance exposures should include:

- (a) A visit to the accident scene as soon as possible.
- (b) An interview of the injured member and witnesses.
- (c) An examination of the workplace for factors associated with the accident/exposure.
- (d) Determination of the cause of the accident/exposure.
- (e) Corrective action to prevent the accident/exposure from reoccurring.
- (f) Documentation of the findings and corrective actions taken.

Additionally, the supervisor should proceed with the steps to report an on-duty injury, as required under the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy, in conjunction with this investigation to avoid duplication and ensure timely reporting.

### **1031.9 TRAINING**

The Support Services Division Commander shall work with the Training Coordinator to provide all members, including supervisors, with training on general and job-specific workplace safety and health practices (WAC 296-800-14020). Training shall be provided:

- (a) To supervisors to familiarize them with the safety and health hazards to which members under their immediate direction and control may be exposed.
- (b) To all members with respect to hazards specific to each member's job assignment.
- (c) To all members given new job assignments for which training has not previously been provided.

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- (d) Whenever new substances, processes, procedures or equipment are introduced to the workplace and represent a new hazard.
- (e) Whenever the Department is made aware of a new or previously unrecognized hazard.

### **1031.9.1 TRAINING TOPICS**

The Training Coordinator shall ensure that training includes:

- (a) Reporting unsafe conditions, work practices and injuries, and informing a supervisor when additional instruction is needed.
- (b) Use of appropriate clothing, including gloves and footwear.
- (c) Use of respiratory equipment.
- (d) Availability of toilet, hand-washing and drinking-water facilities.
- (e) Provisions for medical services and first aid.
- (f) Handling of bloodborne pathogens and other biological hazards.
- (g) Prevention of heat and cold stress.
- (h) Identification and handling of hazardous materials, including chemical hazards to which members could be exposed, and review of resources for identifying and mitigating hazards (e.g., hazard labels, Safety Data Sheets (SDS)).
- (i) Mitigation of physical hazards, such as heat and cold stress, noise, and ionizing and non-ionizing radiation.
- (j) Identification and mitigation of ergonomic hazards, including working on ladders or in a stooped posture for prolonged periods.
- (k) Back exercises/stretchers and proper lifting techniques.
- (l) Avoidance of slips and falls.
- (m) Good housekeeping and fire prevention.
- (n) Other job-specific safety concerns.

### **1031.10 RECORDS**

Records and training documentation relating to accident, illness and injury prevention will be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

Safety committee records shall be retained for a minimum of one year (WAC 296-800-13020).

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# Line-of-Duty Deaths

## 1032.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of the Aberdeen Police Department in the event of the death of a member occurring in the line of duty and to direct the Department in providing proper support for the member's survivors.

The Chief of Police may also apply some or all of this policy in situations where members are injured in the line of duty and the injuries are life-threatening.

### 1032.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Line-of-duty death** - The death of a sworn member during the course of performing law enforcement-related functions while on- or off-duty, or a non-sworn member during the course of performing their assigned duties.

**Survivors** - Immediate family members of the deceased member, which can include spouse, children, parents, other next of kin or significant others. The determination of who should be considered a survivor for purposes of this policy should be made on a case-by-case basis given the individual's relationship with the member and whether the individual was previously designated by the deceased member.

## 1032.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Aberdeen Police Department to make appropriate notifications and to provide assistance and support to survivors and coworkers of a member who dies in the line of duty.

It is also the policy of this department to respect the requests of the survivors when they conflict with these guidelines, as appropriate.

## 1032.3 INITIAL ACTIONS BY COMMAND STAFF

- (a) Upon learning of a line-of-duty death, the deceased member's supervisor should provide all reasonably available information to the Patrol Lieutenant and Grays Harbor Communications.
  - 1. Communication of information concerning the member and the incident should be restricted to secure networks to avoid interception by the media or others (see the Public Information Officer section of this policy).
- (b) The Patrol Lieutenant should ensure that notifications are made in accordance with the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths and Major Incident Notification policies as applicable.
- (c) If the member has been transported to the hospital, the Patrol Lieutenant or the designee should respond to the hospital to assume temporary responsibilities as the Hospital Liaison.

## *Line-of-Duty Deaths*

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- (d) The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should assign members to handle survivor notifications and assign members to the roles of Hospital Liaison (to relieve the temporary Hospital Liaison) and the Department Liaison as soon as practicable (see the Notifying Survivors section and the Department Liaison and Hospital Liaison subsections in this policy).

### **1032.4 NOTIFYING SURVIVORS**

Survivors should be notified as soon as possible in order to avoid the survivors hearing about the incident in other ways.

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should review the deceased member's emergency contact information and make accommodations to respect the member's wishes and instructions specific to notifying survivors. However, notification should not be excessively delayed because of attempts to assemble a notification team in accordance with the member's wishes.

The Chief of Police, Patrol Lieutenant or the authorized designee should select at least two members to conduct notification of survivors, one of which may be the Department Chaplain.

Notifying members should:

- (a) Make notifications in a direct and compassionate manner, communicating as many facts of the incident as possible, including the current location of the member. Information that is not verified should not be provided until an investigation has been completed.
- (b) Determine the method of notifying surviving children by consulting with other survivors and taking into account factors such as the child's age, maturity and current location (e.g., small children at home, children in school).
- (c) Plan for concerns such as known health concerns of survivors or language barriers.
- (d) Offer to transport survivors to the hospital, if appropriate. Survivors should be transported in department vehicles. Notifying members shall inform the Hospital Liaison over a secure network that the survivors are on their way to the hospital and should remain at the hospital while the survivors are present.
- (e) When survivors are not at their residences or known places of employment, actively seek information and follow leads from neighbors, other law enforcement, postal authorities and other sources of information in order to accomplish notification in as timely a fashion as possible. Notifying members shall not disclose the reason for their contact other than a family emergency.
- (f) If making notification at a survivor's workplace, ask a workplace supervisor for the use of a quiet, private room to meet with the survivor. Members shall not inform the workplace supervisor of the purpose of their visit other than to indicate that it is a family emergency.
- (g) Offer to call other survivors, friends or clergy to support the survivors and to avoid leaving survivors alone after notification.
- (h) Assist the survivors with meeting childcare or other immediate needs.

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- (i) Provide other assistance to survivors and take reasonable measures to accommodate their needs, wishes and desires. Care should be taken not to make promises or commitments to survivors that cannot be met.
- (j) Inform the survivors of the name and phone number of the Survivor Support Liaison (see the Survivor Support Liaison section of this policy), if known, and the Department Liaison.
- (k) Provide their contact information to the survivors before departing.
- (l) Document the survivor's names and contact information, as well as the time and location of notification. This information should be forwarded to the Department Liaison.
- (m) Inform the Chief of Police or the authorized designee once survivor notifications have been made so that other Aberdeen Police Department members may be apprised that survivor notifications are complete.

### **1032.4.1 OUT-OF-AREA NOTIFICATIONS**

The Department Liaison should request assistance from law enforcement agencies in appropriate jurisdictions for in-person notification to survivors who are out of the area.

- (a) The Department Liaison should contact the appropriate jurisdiction using a secure network and provide the assisting agency with the name and telephone number of the department member that the survivors can call for more information following the notification by the assisting agency.
- (b) The Department Liaison may assist in making transportation arrangements for the member's survivors, but will not obligate the Department to pay travel expenses without the authorization of the Chief of Police.

### **1032.5 NOTIFYING DEPARTMENT MEMBERS**

Supervisors or members designated by the Chief of Police are responsible for notifying department members of the line-of-duty death as soon as possible after the survivor notification is made. Notifications and related information should be communicated in person or using secure networks and should not be transmitted over the radio.

Notifications should be made in person and as promptly as possible to all members on-duty at the time of the incident. Members reporting for subsequent shifts within a short amount of time should be notified in person at the beginning of their shift. Members reporting for duty from their residence should be instructed to contact their supervisor as soon as practicable. Those members who are working later shifts or are on days off should be notified by phone as soon as practicable.

Members having a close bond with the deceased member should be notified of the incident in person. Supervisors should consider assistance (e.g., peer support group, modifying work schedules, approving sick leave) for members who are especially affected by the incident.

Supervisors should direct members not to disclose any information outside the Department regarding the deceased member or the incident.

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### **1032.6 LIAISONS AND COORDINATORS**

The Chief of Police or the authorized designee should select members to serve as liaisons and coordinators to handle responsibilities related to a line-of-duty death, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Department Liaison.
- (b) Hospital Liaison.
- (c) Survivor Support Liaison.
- (d) Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) coordinator.
- (e) Funeral Liaison.
- (f) Mutual aid coordinator.
- (g) Benefits Liaison.
- (h) Finance coordinator.

Liaisons and coordinators will be directed by the Department Liaison and should be given sufficient duty time to complete their assignments.

Members may be assigned responsibilities of more than one liaison or coordinator position depending on available department resources. The Department Liaison may assign separate liaisons and coordinators to accommodate multiple family units, if needed.

#### **1032.6.1 DEPARTMENT LIAISON**

The Department Liaison should be a Division Commander or of sufficient rank to effectively coordinate department resources, and should serve as a facilitator between the deceased member's survivors and the Department. The Department Liaison reports directly to the Chief of Police. The Department Liaison's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Directing the other liaisons and coordinators in fulfilling survivors' needs and requests. Consideration should be given to organizing the effort using the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- (b) Establishing contact with survivors within 24 hours of the incident and providing them contact information.
- (c) Advising survivors of the other liaison and coordinator positions and their roles and responsibilities.
- (d) Identifying locations that will accommodate a law enforcement funeral and presenting the options to the appropriate survivors, who will select the location.
- (e) Coordinating all official law enforcement notifications and arrangements.
- (f) Making necessary contacts for authorization to display flags at half-mast.
- (g) Ensuring that department members are reminded of appropriate information—sharing restrictions regarding the release of information that could undermine future legal proceedings.
- (h) Coordinating security checks of the member's residence as necessary and reasonable.

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- (i) Serving as a liaison with visiting law enforcement agencies during memorial and funeral services.

### 1032.6.2 HOSPITAL LIAISON

The Hospital Liaison should work with hospital personnel to:

- (a) Arrange for appropriate and separate waiting areas for:
  - 1. The survivors and others whose presence is requested by the survivors.
  - 2. Department members and friends of the deceased member.
  - 3. Media personnel.
- (b) Ensure, as much as practicable, that any suspects who are in the hospital and their families or friends are not in close proximity to the member's survivors or Aberdeen Police Department members (except for members who may be guarding the suspect).
- (c) Ensure that survivors receive timely updates regarding the member before information is released to others.
- (d) Arrange for survivors to have private time with the member, if requested.
  - 1. The Hospital Liaison or hospital personnel may need to explain the condition of the member to the survivors to prepare them accordingly.
  - 2. The Hospital Liaison should accompany the survivors into the room, if requested.
- (e) Stay with survivors and ensure that they are provided with other assistance as needed at the hospital.
- (f) If applicable, explain to the survivors why an autopsy may be needed.
- (g) Ensure hospital bills are directed to the Department, that the survivors are not asked to sign as guarantor of payment for any hospital treatment and that the member's residence address, insurance information and next of kin are not included on hospital paperwork.

Other responsibilities of the Hospital Liaison include, but are not limited to:

- Arranging transportation for the survivors back to their residence.
- Working with investigators to gather and preserve the deceased member's equipment and other items that may be of evidentiary value.
- Documenting his/her actions at the conclusion of his/her duties.

### 1032.6.3 SURVIVOR SUPPORT LIAISON

The Survivor Support Liaison should work with the Department Liaison to fulfill the immediate needs and requests of the survivors of any member who has died in the line of duty, and serve as the long-term department contact for survivors.

The Survivor Support Liaison should be selected by the deceased member's Division Commander. The following should be considered when selecting the Survivor Support Liaison:



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- The liaison should be an individual the survivors know and with whom they are comfortable working.
- If the survivors have no preference, the selection may be made from names recommended by the deceased member's supervisor and/or coworkers. The deceased member's partner or close friends may not be the best selections for this assignment because the emotional connection to the member or survivors may impair their ability to conduct adequate liaison duties.
- The liaison must be willing to assume the assignment with an understanding of the emotional and time demands involved.

The responsibilities of the Survivor Support Liaison include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Arranging for transportation of survivors to hospitals, places of worship, funeral homes and other locations, as appropriate.
- (b) Communicating with the Department Liaison regarding appropriate security measures for the family residence, as needed.
- (c) If requested by the survivors, providing assistance with instituting methods of screening telephone calls made to their residence after the incident.
- (d) Providing assistance with travel and lodging arrangements for out-of-town survivors.
- (e) Returning the deceased member's personal effects from the Department and the hospital to the survivors. The following should be considered when returning the personal effects:
  - 1. Items should not be delivered to the survivors until they are ready to receive the items.
  - 2. Items not retained as evidence should be delivered in a clean, unmarked box.
  - 3. All clothing not retained as evidence should be cleaned and made presentable (e.g., items should be free of blood or other signs of the incident).
  - 4. The return of some personal effects may be delayed due to ongoing investigations.
- (f) Assisting with the return of department-issued equipment that may be at the deceased member's residence.
  - 1. Unless there are safety concerns, the return of the equipment should take place after the funeral at a time and in a manner considerate of the survivors' wishes.
- (g) Working with the CISM coordinator to ensure that survivors have access to available counseling services.
- (h) Coordinating with the department's Public Information Officer (PIO) to brief the survivors on pending press releases related to the incident and to assist the survivors with media relations in accordance with their wishes (see the Public Information Officer section of this policy).
- (i) Briefing survivors on investigative processes related to the line-of-duty death, such as criminal, internal and administrative investigations.

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- (j) Informing survivors of any related criminal proceedings and accompanying them to such proceedings.
- (k) Introducing survivors to prosecutors, victim's assistance personnel and other involved personnel as appropriate.
- (l) Maintaining long-term contact with survivors and taking measures to sustain a supportive relationship (e.g., follow-up visits, phone calls, cards on special occasions, special support during holidays).
- (m) Inviting survivors to department activities, memorial services or other functions as appropriate.

Survivor Support Liaisons providing services after an incident resulting in multiple members being killed should coordinate with and support each other through conference calls or meetings as necessary.

The Department recognizes that the duties of a Survivor Support Liaison will often affect regular assignments over many years, and is committed to supporting members in the assignment.

If needed, the Survivor Support Liaison should be issued a personal communication device (PCD) owned by the Department to facilitate communications necessary to the assignment. The department-issued PCD shall be used in accordance with the Personal Communication Devices Policy.

### 1032.6.4 CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

The CISM coordinator should work with the Chief of Police or the authorized designee, liaisons, coordinators and other resources to make CISM and counseling services available to members and survivors who are impacted by a line-of-duty death. The responsibilities of the CISM coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Identifying members who are likely to be significantly affected by the incident and may have an increased need for CISM and counseling services, including:
  - 1. Members involved in the incident.
  - 2. Members who witnessed the incident.
  - 3. Members who worked closely with the deceased member but were not involved in the incident.
- (b) Ensuring that members who were involved in or witnessed the incident are relieved of department responsibilities until they can receive CISM support as appropriate and possible.
- (c) Ensuring that CISM and counseling resources (e.g., peer support, debriefing, grief counselors) are available to members as soon as reasonably practicable following the line-of-duty death.
- (d) Coordinating with the Survivor Support Liaison to ensure survivors are aware of available CISM and counseling services and assisting with arrangements as needed.

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- (e) Following up with members and the Survivor Support Liaison in the months following the incident to determine if additional CISM or counseling services are needed.

### 1032.6.5 FUNERAL LIAISON

The Funeral Liaison should work with the Department Liaison, Survivor Support Liaison and survivors to coordinate funeral arrangements to the extent the survivors wish. The Funeral Liaison's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting survivors in working with the funeral director regarding funeral arrangements and briefing them on law enforcement funeral procedures.
- (b) Completing funeral notification to other law enforcement agencies.
- (c) Coordinating the funeral activities of the Department, including, but not limited to the following:
  - 1. Honor Guard
    - (a) Casket watch
    - (b) Color guard
    - (c) Pallbearers
    - (d) Bell/rifle salute
  - 2. Bagpipers/bugler
  - 3. Uniform for burial
  - 4. Flag presentation
  - 5. Last radio call
- (d) Briefing the Chief of Police and command staff concerning funeral arrangements.
- (e) Assigning an officer to remain at the family home during the viewing and funeral.
- (f) Arranging for transportation of the survivors to and from the funeral home and interment site using department vehicles and drivers.

### 1032.6.6 MUTUAL AID COORDINATOR

The mutual aid coordinator should work with the Department Liaison and the Funeral Liaison to request and coordinate any assistance from outside law enforcement agencies needed for, but not limited to:

- (a) Traffic control during the deceased member's funeral.
- (b) Area coverage so that as many Aberdeen Police Department members can attend funeral services as possible.

The mutual aid coordinator should perform his/her duties in accordance with the Outside Agency Assistance Policy.

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### 1032.6.7 BENEFITS LIAISON

The Benefits Liaison should provide survivors with information concerning available benefits and assist them in applying for benefits. Responsibilities of the Benefits Liaison include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Confirming the filing of workers' compensation claims and related paperwork (see the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy).
- (b) Researching and assisting survivors with application for federal government survivor benefits, such as those offered through the:
  - 1. Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Programs.
  - 2. Public Safety Officers' Educational Assistance (PSOEA) Program.
  - 3. Social Security Administration.
  - 4. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (c) Researching and assisting survivors with application for state and local government survivor benefits.
  - 1. Death benefit (RCW 41.26.510)
  - 2. Education benefit (RCW 28B.10.567; RCW 28B.15.380; RCW 28B.15.520)
  - 3. Retirement benefits (RCW 41.04.393)
- (d) Researching and assisting survivors with application for other survivor benefits such as:
  - 1. Private foundation survivor benefits programs.
  - 2. Survivor scholarship programs.
- (e) Researching and informing survivors of support programs sponsored by police associations and other organizations.
- (f) Documenting and informing survivors of inquiries and interest regarding public donations to the survivors.
  - 1. If requested, working with the finance coordinator to assist survivors with establishing a process for the receipt of public donations.
- (g) Providing survivors with a summary of the nature and amount of benefits applied for, including the name of a contact person at each benefit office. Printed copies of the summary and benefit application documentation should be provided to affected survivors.
- (h) Maintaining contact with the survivors and assisting with subsequent benefit questions and processes as needed.

### 1032.6.8 FINANCE COORDINATOR

The finance coordinator should work with the Chief of Police and the Department Liaison to manage financial matters related to the line-of-duty death. The finance coordinator's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

## *Line-of-Duty Deaths*

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- (a) Establishing methods for purchasing and monitoring costs related to the incident.
- (b) Providing information on finance-related issues, such as:
  - 1. Paying survivors' travel costs if authorized.
  - 2. Transportation costs for the deceased.
  - 3. Funeral and memorial costs.
  - 4. Related funding or accounting questions and issues.
- (c) Working with the Benefits Liaison to establish a process for the receipt of public donations to the deceased member's survivors.
- (d) Providing accounting and cost information as needed.

### **1032.7 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

In the event of a line-of-duty death, the department's PIO should be the department's contact point for the media. As such, the PIO should coordinate with the Department Liaison to:

- (a) Collect and maintain the most current incident information and determine what information should be released.
- (b) Ensure that department members are instructed to direct any media inquiries to the PIO.
- (c) Prepare necessary press releases.
  - 1. Ensure coordination with other entities having media roles (e.g., outside agencies involved in the investigation or incident).
  - 2. Ensure that important public information is disseminated, such as information on how the public can show support for the Department and deceased member's survivors.
- (d) Arrange for community and media briefings by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee as appropriate.
- (e) Respond, or coordinate the response, to media inquiries.
- (f) If requested, assist the member's survivors with media inquiries.
  - 1. Brief the survivors on handling sensitive issues such as the types of questions that reasonably could jeopardize future legal proceedings.
- (g) Release information regarding memorial services and funeral arrangements to department members, other agencies and the media as appropriate.
- (h) If desired by the survivors, arrange for the recording of memorial and funeral services via photos and/or video.

The identity of deceased members should be withheld until the member's survivors have been notified. If the media has obtained identifying information for the deceased member prior to survivor notification, the PIO should request that the media withhold the information from release until proper notification can be made to survivors. The PIO should ensure that media are notified when survivor notifications have been made.

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### **1032.8 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN**

The Department chaplain may serve a significant role in line-of-duty deaths. His/her duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Assisting with survivor notifications and assisting the survivors with counseling, emotional support or other matters, as appropriate.
- Assisting liaisons and coordinators with their assignments, as appropriate.
- Assisting department members with counseling or emotional support, as requested and appropriate.

Further information on the potential roles and responsibilities of the chaplain is in the Chaplains Policy.

### **1032.9 INVESTIGATION OF THE INCIDENT**

The Chief of Police shall ensure that line-of-duty deaths are investigated thoroughly and may choose to use the investigation process outlined in the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy.

Investigators from other agencies may be assigned to work on any criminal investigation related to line-of-duty deaths. Partners, close friends or personnel who worked closely with the deceased member should not have any investigative responsibilities because such relationships may impair the objectivity required for an impartial investigation of the incident.

Involved department members should be kept informed of the progress of the investigations and provide investigators with any information that may be pertinent to the investigations.

### **1032.10 LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT ANIMAL**

The Chief of Police may authorize appropriate memorial and funeral services for law enforcement animals killed in the line of duty.

### **1032.11 NON-LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH**

The Chief of Police may authorize certain support services for the death of a member not occurring in the line of duty.

# Anti-Retaliation

## 1033.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy prohibits retaliation against members who identify workplace issues, such as fraud, waste, abuse of authority, gross mismanagement or any inappropriate conduct or practices, including violations that may pose a threat to the health, safety or well-being of members.

This policy does not prohibit actions taken for nondiscriminatory or non-retaliatory reasons, such as discipline for cause.

These guidelines are intended to supplement and not limit members' access to other applicable remedies. Nothing in this policy shall diminish the rights or remedies of a member pursuant to any applicable federal law, provision of the U.S. Constitution, law, ordinance, or collective bargaining agreement or memorandum of understanding.

## 1033.2 POLICY

The Aberdeen Police Department has a zero tolerance for retaliation and is committed to taking reasonable steps to protect from retaliation members who, in good faith, engage in permitted behavior or who report or participate in the reporting or investigation of workplace issues. All complaints of retaliation will be taken seriously and will be promptly and appropriately investigated.

## 1033.3 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

No member may retaliate against any person for engaging in lawful or otherwise permitted behavior; for opposing a practice believed to be unlawful, unethical, discriminatory or retaliatory; for reporting or making a complaint under this policy; or for participating in any investigation related to a complaint under this or any other policy.

Retaliation includes any adverse action or conduct, including but not limited to:

- Refusing to hire or denying a promotion.
- Extending the probationary period.
- Unjustified reassignment of duties or change of work schedule.
- Real or implied threats or other forms of intimidation to dissuade the reporting of wrongdoing or filing of a complaint, or as a consequence of having reported or participated in protected activity.
- Taking unwarranted disciplinary action.
- Spreading rumors about the person filing the complaint or about the alleged wrongdoing.
- Shunning or unreasonably avoiding a person because he/she has engaged in protected activity.

## *Anti-Retaliation*

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### **1033.3.1 RETALIATION PROHIBITED FOR INTERVENING OR REPORTING**

An officer shall not be retaliated against in any way for intervening or reporting in good faith any wrongdoing by another law enforcement officer. Wrongdoing means conduct that is contrary to law or policies of this department (RCW 10.93.190).

### **1033.4 COMPLAINTS OF RETALIATION**

Any member who feels he/she has been retaliated against in violation of this policy should promptly report the matter to any supervisor, command staff member, Chief of Police or the City Human Resources Director.

Members shall act in good faith, not engage in unwarranted reporting of trivial or minor deviations or transgressions, and make reasonable efforts to verify facts before making any complaint in order to avoid baseless allegations. Members shall not report or state an intention to report information or an allegation knowing it to be false, with willful or reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the information or otherwise act in bad faith.

Investigations are generally more effective when the identity of the reporting member is known, thereby allowing investigators to obtain additional information from the reporting member. However, complaints may be made anonymously. All reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the reporting member's identity. However, confidential information may be disclosed to the extent required by law or to the degree necessary to conduct an adequate investigation and make a determination regarding a complaint. In some situations, the investigative process may not be complete unless the source of the information and a statement by the member is part of the investigative process.

### **1033.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors are expected to remain familiar with this policy and ensure that members under their command are aware of its provisions.

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring complaints of retaliation are investigated as provided in the Personnel Complaints Policy.
- (b) Receiving all complaints in a fair and impartial manner.
- (c) Documenting the complaint and any steps taken to resolve the problem.
- (d) Acknowledging receipt of the complaint, notifying the Chief of Police via the chain of command and explaining to the member how the complaint will be handled.
- (e) Taking appropriate and reasonable steps to mitigate any further violations of this policy.
- (f) Monitoring the work environment to ensure that any member making a complaint is not subjected to further retaliation.
- (g) Periodic follow-up with the complainant to ensure that retaliation is not continuing.
- (h) Not interfering with or denying the right of a member to make any complaint.



## *Anti-Retaliation*

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- (i) Taking reasonable steps to accommodate requests for assignment or schedule changes made by a member who may be the target of retaliation if it would likely mitigate the potential for further violations of this policy.

### **1033.6 COMMAND STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Chief of Police should communicate to all supervisors the prohibition against retaliation.

Command staff shall treat all complaints as serious matters and shall ensure that prompt actions take place, including but not limited to:

- (a) Communicating to all members the prohibition against retaliation.
- (b) The timely review of complaint investigations.
- (c) Remediation of any inappropriate conduct or condition and instituting measures to eliminate or minimize the likelihood of recurrence.
- (d) The timely communication of the outcome to the complainant.

### **1033.7 WHISTLE-BLOWING**

Washington law protects employees who make good faith reports of improper government actions. Improper government actions include violations of Washington law, abuse of authority, gross waste of funds, and substantial and specific danger to the public health or safety (RCW 42.40.010 et seq.; RCW 49.60.210; RCW 42.41.010 et seq.).

Members who believe they have been the subject of retaliation for engaging in such protected behaviors should promptly report it to a supervisor. Supervisors should refer the complaint to the Deputy Chief for investigation pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy.

#### **1033.7.1 DISPLAY OF REPORTING PROCEDURES**

The Department shall display the City policy to employees regarding their rights and the procedures for reporting information of an alleged improper government action. A copy of the policy shall be made available to employees upon request (RCW 42.41.030).

### **1033.8 RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE**

The Special Assignments Officer shall ensure that documentation of investigations is maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedules.

### **1033.9 TRAINING**

The policy should be reviewed with each new member.

All members should receive periodic refresher training on the requirements of this policy.

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## Attachments

## **APD Organization Chart 2016.pdf**

## **Washington State Law Enforcement Records Retention Schedule.pdf**

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