



Patrol Function

.01 Policy

It is the policy of the Bladensburg Police Department to provide continuous police services on a twenty-four hour a day, seven-day a week basis. The delivery of uniformed police services will focus on improving or enhancing the quality of life in the community through aggressive enforcement of the laws and ordinances in a manner that is fair, consistent, and responsive to the needs of the citizens served.

.02 Terms

Readily Available: Accessible for immediate use by the officer in the field.

Pre-planned, High Risk Tactical Situations: Consist of, but are not be limited to, Drug raids, High-risk felony warrant arrests, Civil demonstrations or disturbances, and Cover officers in undercover operations.

.03 Governing Legislation and Reference

Governing Legislation: N/A

Forms:

Roll Call Briefing (Form 648).

Personnel Inspection (Form 642).

Vehicle Inspection (Form 643).

Armor Inspection (Form 650).

Reference:

General Order 218, Personnel Inspection.

General Order 220, Department Vehicles.

General Order 314, Roll Call.

.04 Procedure

A. Patrol Coverage

Uniformed police service is provided within the corporate boundaries of the Town of Bladensburg. Patrol areas defined by geographic boundaries are staffed twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to provide routine preventative patrol and rapid response to calls for service.

B. Duties and Responsibilities

A daily Roll Call Sheet will reflect the shift strength and individual supervisor and officer assignments for each shift.

Supervisors have the flexibility of choosing where to assign extra officers available after accomplishing minimum staffing. First consideration will be given to double staffing exceptionally busy beats. Extra officers may be assigned to address problems in areas with a particular problem or high criminal activity.

General Patrol Supervisor Duties

- Conduct roll calls;
- Brief officers with current information regarding daily criminal and Department activity;
- Notify officers of their daily assignment;
- Notifying officers of new directives or changes in directives;
- Evaluation of officers' readiness to patrol via line inspections;
- Provide updated information on wanted persons, stolen vehicles, and major cases;
- Ensuring officers have the necessary equipment to perform their patrol duties;
- Provide guidance and assistance as required to officers performing field patrol duties by monitoring radio traffic, being present at criminal and service calls, reviewing reports, and mentoring (one-to-one contact);
- Advise relief personnel of all facts and conditions relative to police business to facilitate the continuity of field operations at the conclusion of a shift;
- Ensure the goals and objectives of the Department are being pursued;
- Monitor and provide direction and guidance to all personnel, including support, investigative and special units, working during their assigned shift;

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- Identify criminal and service problems requiring strategic and tactical police response; and,
- Completion of related work as required.

Shift supervisors are responsible for ensuring officers are in service in a timely manner after the conclusion of roll call.

Sergeant Duties

- Perform supervisory and administrative work as first-line supervisor of sworn police officers engaged in performing municipal police work;
 - Duty to supervise is not limited to personnel assigned to a supervisor's bureau, division, unit or section. Supervisors may still give commands, orders, or directions to personnel outside of their direct chain of command when immediate supervision is appropriate or required;
- Conduct line inspections;
- Give guidance to new officers serving probation periods under their supervision;
- Advise relief personnel of facts and conditions relative to police business necessary for the continuity of field operations at the conclusion of a shift;
- Ensure the goals and objectives of the Department are being pursued; and,
- Completion of related work as required.

Report for Duty

Officers shall report for duty at their assigned times in full duty uniform and prepared to immediately begin their shift assignment after roll call.

Officers shall remain on duty until their end of shift time or when relieved of duty by a supervisor.

Supervisory personnel will remain on duty until their end of shift time or when relieved of duty by another supervisor.

Officers are to check their mailboxes and e-mail each duty day.

Officers are to remain attentive throughout roll call and make note of the information

presented during roll call. It is the duty of every officer to become familiar with the daily information that is made available on the CAD/RMS system.

Officer Responsibility

Officers will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following activities during the course of their shift:

- Seek out violators and enforce criminal laws, traffic laws, and municipal ordinances;
- Respond to calls for police assistance without unnecessary delay;
- Respond to emergency situations without unnecessary delay;
- Conduct preliminary and follow-up investigations on assigned criminal, quasi-criminal, traffic enforcement, traffic accident, and citizen request for service;
- Interact with citizens in non-crime related encounters;
- Conduct neighborhood and business security patrols;
- Seek out innovative solutions to community problems related to crime and disorder; and,
- Problem solving chronic problems in assigned area.

Foot Patrols

Foot patrol is considered an essential part of the patrol function.

Foot patrol assignments shall be conducted in areas that have been predetermined as being high risk or problematic. Officers shall be directed to perform foot patrol assignments in high risk or problematic areas by a supervisor or at the officers own discretion.

Officers shall notify the Communication Center and advise them of the location and reason for the assignment before conducting foot patrol. All foot patrol activity shall be documented in the CAD/RMS.

Officers shall consider the area call load before performing a foot patrol assignment.

During foot patrol, Officers are encouraged to make contact with citizens and business representatives in the area they conducting foot patrol.

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Officers are required to take enforcement action when necessary while conducting foot patrol.

Officers shall make a request for assistance when conducting a foot patrol assignment where a heightened officer safety risk exists.

Bicycle Patrol

Bicycle patrols are a resource designed to assist patrol in policing high-density areas utilizing specialized equipment and training.

C. Equipment

Officers will be expected to report for work with all equipment provided them including but not limited to the following:

- All assigned uniform and equipment;
- Personally assigned portable radios and Department spare radios provided while personally assigned radios are being repaired; and,
- Radar guns or other special equipment signed out for routine or directed assignment.

Officers shall inspect assigned vehicles prior to patrol and immediately report any damage, mechanical failure, or missing equipment.

All officers are expected to properly care for all equipment provided to them whether permanently assigned or distributed at the beginning of each shift.

Officers are responsible for keeping their equipment in good working condition.

Protective Vest

All personnel engaged in patrol duties are required to wear protective body armor. This includes special details and traffic control and direction. All personnel engaged in pre-planned, high risk tactical situations shall wear body armor.

Administrative, plain clothes, and other personnel approved by the Chief of Police are exempt from daily use, but shall have their protective vest readily available at all times and shall make every effort to wear body armor when responding to calls. A supervisor may require that body armor be worn under certain situations or tactical reasons.

HISTORY: Adopted December 1, 2013

This General Order supersedes all other orders and memoranda in conflict therewith.

Authority:



Charles L. Owens
Chief of Police