



Weather Related Emergencies

.01 Policy

Weather related emergencies can have a negative impact on police services. The Department's goal is to avert or minimize the effects of inclement weather on the level of police service in the Town.

.02 Terms

N/A

.03 Governing Legislation and Reference

Governing Legislation: N/A

Forms: N/A

Reference: General Order 349, Unusual Occurrences.

.04 Procedure

A. Suspension of Routine Patrol

When environmental conditions become so adverse as to make routine patrol unduly hazardous, the on-duty patrol supervisor may suspend routine patrol activities. Notification of the suspension will be made to the Operations Commander.

Once the decision to suspend routine patrol activities has been made, the patrol supervisor will notify the on-duty dispatcher who will computer log and broadcast the suspension.

During the suspension officers will continue to respond to emergencies and all calls for service which require personal police assistance.

The patrol supervisor shall direct patrol officers to specific locations throughout the Town when they are otherwise not involved in a call for service. Because of the potential for looting during a weather emergency, the patrol supervisor should consider positioning officers near business districts. Officers will not spend long periods of time in the police facility.

During the emergency, parking enforcement efforts will be directed to clear snow emergency routes.

When conditions justifying the suspension of routine patrol activities cease to exist the patrol supervisor will cancel the suspension.

Notification of the cancellation will be made to the Operations Commander. The on-duty dispatcher will be directed to log and broadcast the cancellation.

B. Regional Command Center

Upon notification that an emergency has been declared, the Chief of Police will assign a liaison officer to respond to the County Emergency Operations Center to assist in the coordination of services during the emergency.

If an emergency is declared at a time other than normal business hours, the on-duty Supervisor will report to the Emergency Operations Center.

C. Employee Work Status

In the event of a snow or other severe weather emergency which causes the Town government to close, the following personnel are designated as essential:

- All Sworn Police Personnel;
- Communications personnel; and,
- On-Call Investigator — If a situation arises which requires the response of the on-call detective, that investigator will be considered an essential employee for the duration of the situation requiring his or her response.

D. Command Responsibility

The Operations Commander will identify:

- Emergency notification procedures for the call-out of off-duty personnel;
- Deployment of personnel when routine patrol is suspended;
- Shopping centers and other businesses susceptible to looting;
- Commercial buildings maintaining private security on a 24-hour basis where officers could seek shelter;
- Police and Fire Department facilities that could be used to house officers for sleeping purposes; and,

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- Procedures to ensure that vehicles parked at police facilities are moved before snow removal.

E. Supervisor's Responsibility

Supervisors shall:

- Assign at least one officer or investigator to take reports over the telephone;
- Deploy officers geographically as operationally necessary; and,
- Temporarily reassign an investigator to supplement patrol officers until normal operations are resumed, if necessary.

F. Routine Patrol Restored

A Command Officer may cancel the suspension of routine patrol. The Command Officer will notify Communications and request that the dispatcher broadcast the cancellation.

HISTORY: Adopted December 1, 2013

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

Authority:



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Chief of Police