

## Mutual Aid

### 101.1 MUTUAL AID

To provide emergency services when there is a depletion of Department resources, the Department has entered into Mutual Aid agreements with adjoining jurisdictions. The Department's legal advisor maintains a list of all mutual aid agreements.

Officers involved in any exercise of police authority outside the city of Vancouver are bound by Vancouver Police Department policies, procedures, and regulations that limit Department officers in their exercise of the authority given by the Washington Mutual Aid Peace Officer Powers Act.

The Washington Mutual Aid Peace Officers Powers Act gives general authority to Washington Peace Officers who possess a certificate of basic law enforcement training or a certificate of equivalency authority to enforce state traffic or criminal laws throughout the state.

#### 101.1.1 REQUESTING MUTUAL AID

1. In situations that require mutual aid assistance, any on-duty Vancouver Police supervisor may request assistance from a neighboring agency.
2. The request may be made either by direct contact with the agency or through CRESA.
3. Outside personnel responding to a Vancouver Police Department request will be requested to report to the Vancouver Police supervisor in charge of the incident (Incident Commander).
4. Maintaining radio communications between Vancouver Police and other responding agencies will be coordinated by CRESA.
5. If enforcement action is taken, the Vancouver Police supervisor will ensure appropriate documentation and reporting of the names and agencies of officers that responded to a mutual aid request. Before the end of the shift in which aid was received, the supervisor shall report the mutual aid incident through the chain of command. The Vancouver Police supervisor will ensure police reports are completed prior to the end of the shift, or other specified time, documenting the actions taken by responding agency officers or deputies.

#### 101.1.2 RESPONDING TO A MUTUAL AID REQUEST

1. No officer shall respond outside the City of Vancouver to a request for mutual aid by another law enforcement agency without first being authorized by the on-duty Vancouver Police supervisor.
2. The supervisor shall designate how many (if any) units will be sent to provide mutual aid.
3. A supervisor shall also respond to monitor the mutual aid being provided and to ensure direct supervision of Vancouver Police personnel. If a supervisor is not available, a supervisor or Command officer will designate one of the responding officers as a "lead" officer.
4. The Vancouver Police supervisor will ensure any necessary reports are provided to the agency requesting mutual aid by the end of the shift, or other specified time, in which the aid was provided.

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Before the end of the shift in which aid was provided, the supervisor shall report the mutual aid incident through the chain of command.

5. When the requesting agency does not border the city of Vancouver, officers shall not respond without receiving a specific request from the requesting agency and shall not respond without approval from a Vancouver Police supervisor.

6. If not requested at the mutual aid incident, officers should prepare to assist other agencies that will have diminished resource capabilities due to its support of the incident.

#### 101.1.3 STATE OR NATIONAL GUARD ASSISTANCE

Civil emergency, whether natural or manmade, may require the assistance of the National Guard. Should such circumstances arise, National Guard resources may be activated in accordance with the State Emergency Management Statute (RCW 38.52.070).

Prior to requesting National Guard assistance, a declaration of civil emergency shall be issued pursuant to Vancouver Municipal Code Section 2.12.030.

Upon written proclamation of a state of emergency, the City of Vancouver's Emergency Preparedness Director will contact the Clark County Emergency Management Council, which will in turn coordinate the activation of the National Guard through the Governor's Office of the State of Washington. These procedures are outlined in the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan maintained by the City's Emergency Preparedness Director.

#### 101.1.4 COMPENSATION

Compensation for expenditures incurred by agencies responding to a mutual aid request from Vancouver Police, if not previously arranged, shall be decided through an administrative review of the incident after the fact.

The Vancouver Police Legal Advisor and Administrative staff shall periodically review this policy and make changes as necessary.