

## Patrol Function

### 400.1 POLICY

Officers will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles, patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of Vancouver, 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.

### 400.2 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the Patrol Division of the Department to ensure intra-Department cooperation and information sharing.

#### 400.2.1 GENERAL PATROL FUNCTION

Officers will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles, patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of the city of Vancouver, 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 patrols, business patrols, 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.
- (j) Prepare crime and information reports.

#### 400.2.2 PATROL BRIEFINGS

Patrol briefings are generally conducted at the beginning of the officer's assigned shift to provide an opportunity for important exchange between employees and supervisors.

Patrol briefings should accomplish the following:

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- a. Provide 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. Notify officers of changes in schedules and assignments.
- c. Review recent incidents for training purposes.
- d. Provide training on a variety of subjects.
- e. Discuss new policy and/or general order.
- f. Discuss other job related topics.

A supervisor generally will conduct patrol briefings; however, officers may conduct the briefing for training purposes with supervisor approval.

### **400.3 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 Vancouver Police Department.

#### **400.3.1 CRIME ANALYST**

Crime analysts exchange criminal information and intelligence reports to all police personnel through emails and special bulletins.

#### **400.3.2 CRIME REPORTS**

A crime report may be completed by any patrol officer or Police Service Technician who receives criminal information. The report will be processed and forwarded to the appropriate division/investigative unit for follow-up investigation.

#### **400.3.3 PATROL SHIFT BRIEFING**

Patrol 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 shift briefings as time permits.

#### **400.3.4 INFORMATION CLIPBOARDS**

Several information clipboards will be maintained in the briefing room and will be available for review by officers from all divisions within the Department.

### **400.4 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.

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

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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.

If enforcement activity is required refer to **Policy 206.3.1 - Police Emergency Operations Plan** and review the Vancouver Police Special Occurrence Manual for Field Force Mobilization.