

**CITY OF OCONOMOWOC POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

DATE: January 27, 2021

HISTORY: September 7, 2020
December 9, 1998

SUBJECT: Mutual Aid

POLICY NUMBER: 98-023

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for providing assistance to or requesting assistance from another law enforcement agency or other governmental agencies.

II. POLICY

The goal of this agency is to provide efficient, high quality law enforcement services to the community during both emergency and non-emergency situations. The purpose of mutual assistance is to enable this agency to more effectively handle emergency situations through the pooling of law enforcement resources. In recognition of the fact that this agency does not have an infinite amount of resources with which to meet all incidents, it shall be the policy of this agency to participate in mutual assistance in order to strengthen our response to emergency situations and ensure public safety. When the need arises to request or give assistance to another law enforcement agency, it shall be the policy of this department to request or provide the requested level of assistance needed to resolve the situation that exceeds the physical and organizational capabilities of this department. Generally, this need results from an emergency, such as a civil disorder, major fire, weather related disaster, hazardous materials incidents, major crimes, or similar incidents where additional resources are necessary to preserve the peace or protect the rights, lives, or property of citizens.

III. GUIDELINES

A. Use of other Agencies for Mutual Aid

1. When an emergency condition exists that exceeds the physical or organizational capabilities of this department, the shift supervisor/OIC or dispatcher is authorized to request mutual aid.
2. The requesting member shall determine the number of personnel and equipment necessary to deal with the situation.
3. The authority for Mutual Aid requests is cited in SS. 66.305 - Law Enforcement: Mutual Assistance. Responding officer(s) shall be advised to report to the area designated by the requesting officer and shall be under their command. Pursuant to State Statute, the responding officer shall have all police powers of the police officers of the requesting municipality. Expenditures borne by departments summoned for mutual aid shall be paid as provided in SS. 66.315 - Police. Pay When Acting Outside County or Municipality.
4. When investigations can be handled more effectively by the use of specialized units, personnel, or equipment not available within the department, the shift supervisor/OIC shall evaluate and consider the use of specialization available to the department through other area agencies or organizations.

B. Federal Law Enforcement Assistance

1. Occasionally it will be necessary to request the assistance of a federal law enforcement agency to investigate matters that fall outside of local jurisdictional authority and that come to the attention of the department.
2. For cases which are investigatory in nature, the investigating officer may make the request to the appropriate federal agency, although the Chief of Police shall be notified that the request was made.
3. During emergencies, the shift supervisor/OIC has the authority to make the request. As indicated above, the Chief of Police shall be notified that such a request was made.
4. Whenever Federal authorities request our assistance or cooperation, the Chief of Police shall be notified.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Requests for Assistance

1. In the event that this agency requires assistance in handling an emergency, the officer in charge at the scene of the emergency will contact the dispatcher and request that the shift supervisor/OIC, be advised of the situation. The following information should be available prior to contact:
 - a. Nature of the emergency;
 - b. Estimated amount of equipment, personnel, or special units that will be necessary to bring the situation under control.

B. Emergency Scene Responsibilities

1. The shift supervisor/OIC of this agency shall be in charge at the emergency site. All non-departmental personnel shall follow lawful orders. However, whenever the mutual assistance involves the use of a specialized SWAT, hostage negotiation, bomb disposal or canine unit, the specialized unit in conjunction with the supervisor/OIC of this agency shall be responsible for the implementation of the mission to be accomplished.
2. When taking law enforcement actions at the emergency site, including uses of force, officers from this agency shall at all times adhere to agency policies and procedures, and utilize only those weapons and tactics with which they have trained.
3. Officers deployed from this agency to an emergency site pursuant to the assistance of another agency shall regularly appraise our dispatcher concerning their status.
4. Officers may take only those law enforcement actions permitted under state law for emergency deployment outside this jurisdiction.
5. Officers from this agency who are sent to assist another agency site shall follow the lawful orders of the commanding officer at the location of the emergency.

C. Non-Emergency assistance:

1. This department will participate in a mutual aid with other agencies in conducting various types of investigations which are not of an emergency nature. Investigations include, but are not limited to, the following categories of criminal activity:
 - a. Narcotics related investigations.
 - b. Recovery of stolen property.

- c. Acquiring Intelligence information.
- d. Arrests outside jurisdictional limits will be in accordance with applicable laws.

V. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. All request for mutual assistance require Supervisor/OIC notification.
- B. Officers should not offer mutual assistance. Such assistance must be requested from an outside agency.
- C. The shift Supervisor/OIC shall aid the dispatcher in determining which units will be sent to assist an agency requesting assistance.

VI. EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY MAY BE AUTHORIZED ONLY BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE

This policy is effective immediately
and will supersede any directives or understandings in conflict