PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

COLONEL HUGH T. CLEMENTS, JR. CHIEF OF POLICE

TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER/SERIES	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
General Order	110.01	3/26/2021	3/28/2021
SUBJECT TITLE		PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DATES	
Agency Jurisdiction and Mutual Aid		3/20/2020; 6/17/2007	
REFERENCE		RE-EVALUATION DATE	
RIPAC 2.24		3/20/2026	
SUBJECT AREA		DISTRIBUTION	
Law Enforcement Operations		All Sworn Personnel	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the jurisdictional boundaries of the Providence Police Department and to address matters pertaining to requests for mutual aid from either the Department of from other municipal, state, or federal law enforcement agencies.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Providence Police Department to provide and exchange, upon request, police services to and from another agency in accordance with the guidelines set forth herein.

DISCUSSION

Reciprocal agreements entered into by adjoining or concurrent jurisdictions to fulfill requests for police assistance made pursuant to an actual or potential situation that exceeds the capacity of the requesting agency constitutes "mutual aid". Such requests may be for either emergency or non-emergency police assistance.

Emergency police assistance can be requested under the provision of RIGL § 45-42-1 where police assistance may be provided to another law enforcement agency within the state in response to a made by the requesting police chief/agency CEO, or designee. Under such emergency conditions, responding officers shall have the same authority, powers, duties, privileges, and immunities as do duly appointed officers of the city/town making the request. Such aid shall be provided until the requesting agency discharges or releases the assisting officers.

Non-emergency police assistance may be provided for under the provisions of RIGL §45-42-2 in which police agencies that share adjacent geographical boundaries may enter into an agreement to provide assistance for police services. Requests for non-emergency police assistance will be made by the requesting police chief or his/her designee. Responding officers shall have the same authority, powers, duties, privileges, and immunities for jurisdictional purposes as do duly appointed officers of the city/town making the request.

Each agreement entered into will contain the following information, at a minimum:

- Statement of purpose.
- Defined geographical areas encompassed.
- Conditions under which the non-emergency mutual aid agreement may be initiated.
- Enforcement guidelines.

PROCEDURE

I. JURISDICTION

- A. The Providence Police Department and the Rhode Island State Police have concurrent jurisdiction in the detection and suppression of criminal activity, as well as in activities pertaining to traffic control and safety on the highways, within the boundaries of the City of Providence.
- B. This Department will respond to all requests for service within our jurisdiction. Should any member(s) of the Rhode Island State Police be on the scene of an accident or other occurrence, the Providence Police Department will provide any assistance necessary to the member(s) of the Rhode Island State Police.
- C. Should assistance from other jurisdictions be necessary, they will be contacted either by landline or via inter-city radio network.
- D. Whenever this agency takes the initial report, it will be responsible for conducting a thorough investigation, including prosecution of the offender if warranted.

II. GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES

- A. The City of Providence is bordered by, and maintains reciprocal agreements with, the following Cities and Towns:
 - 1. City of Pawtucket.
 - 2. City of Cranston.
 - 3. Town of North Providence.
 - 4. City of East Providence.

- 5. Town of Johnston.
- B. A detailed map of the City of Providence and its boundaries is kept posted in the following locations to include but not be limited to:
 - District sub-stations.
 - 2. Patrol Office.
 - 3. Investigative Offices.
 - 4. Communications Facility.
 - 5. Administrative Offices.
 - 6. Chief's Office.
- C. All police recruits will receive information identifying boundaries of the City of Providence during training at the police academy.

III. MUTUAL AID REQUESTS

- A. Requests for mutual aid from outside law enforcement agencies.
 - When officers respond for mutual aid to outside departments, Providence police officers will follow the policies, procedures, rules, and regulations of the Providence Police Department.
 - 2. In the event that several officers are needed for mutual aid, the ranking Providence officer at the scene will be in charge. Any orders given by the outside agency to members of this department, will be delegated through the ranking Providence officer at the scene.
 - 3. The Chief of Police or designee, after having received a request for mutual aid from any other jurisdiction, may assign a member or members of the department to the requesting department.

Requests for mutual aid from federal law enforcement agencies.

- 1. The Chief of Police of the Providence Police Department, after receiving a request for mutual aid from any federal law enforcement agency, may direct and/or assign a member or members of the department to provide the requested assistance to that federal law enforcement agency.
- B. Requests for mutual aid initiated by the Providence Police Department.
 - 1. In the event of an emergency situation, the Providence police

may request mutual aid from any municipal or federal agency. This request, when authorized by the Chief of Police, will be made by the Chief of Police, or designee, to the chief executive officer of the agency to which the request is being made.

- 2. In an emergency situation in which the department requires the assistance of the Rhode Island National Guard, the Chief of Police or designee will notify the Mayor of the City of Providence to request such aid from the Governor or designee.
- 3. In all cases where the Providence Police Department has sought mutual aid, the following will apply:
 - a. Arrestees will be processed under the direction of the Providence Police Department.
 - b. Prisoners will be transported under the direction of the Providence Police Department. Vehicles for this purpose may be provided by outside agencies.
 - c. Detention facilities will be operated under the direction of the Providence Police Department.
 - d. Radio communications will be coordinated by the Providence Police Department.
 - e. The identity of the ranking authority from the Providence Police Department, who is at the scene and requesting mutual aid, will be made known to the commanding officer of the agency providing assistance.
 - f. It will be the responsibility of the Patrol Bureau Shift Supervisor to obtain estimates of aid and resources available from provider agencies.
 - g. When appropriate, expenditures, if any, will be borne by the receiver agency to compensate for the use of the provider's agency's resources.

IV. PROVISIONS

- A. The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall review a mutual aid agreement whenever deemed necessary. Concern will be drawn to the legal status of the agreement(s) as well as the current information pertaining to the involved agency.
- B. Non-emergency mutual aid agreements will be re-affirmed with neighboring agencies on the three-year anniversary of the last (re)affirmation.

- C. This directive shall be disseminated to all sworn agency personnel for review on an annual basis.
- D. Training on a specific non-emergency mutual aid agreement shall be conducted whenever there are changes to the parameters of the existing agreement.

APPROVED:

STEVEN M. PARÉ COMMISSIONER DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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HUGH T. CLEMENTS, JR. COLONEL CHIEF OF POLICE

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