



**CHEVY CHASE
VILLAGE
POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

Police Chief: John Fitzgerald

GENERAL ORDER: 3-5 RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES

DATE: 12/22/2015 Pages: 1 ◇ New ◇ Amended ◆ Revised 3-5

I. POLICY

It is the policy of the Chevy Chase Village police department to maintain open channels of communication with neighboring law enforcement agencies, other criminal justice agencies, and both public and private social service agencies. Effective liaison and open channels of communication are essential steps toward cooperation, which is the backbone of successful law enforcement. The Chief and the Lieutenant are responsible for maintaining liaison with other law enforcement agencies.

II. RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCIES

- A. It is the responsibility of all department personnel to maintain harmonious working relations and communications with the Village Attorney, the State's Attorney, the Public Defender, respective Clerk's offices, local probation and parole officers, the Central Processing Unit, and any other criminal justice agencies. Members of the police department will provide all possible information, assistance, and support allowed by law to those agencies.
- B. All employees of the Village police department will assist and cooperate with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in every way possible allowed by law.
- C. Any serious policy or procedural problems with the personnel of another agency will be called to the attention of the Lieutenant and/or the Chief, who will meet with appropriate personnel of these agencies in order to resolve the problems.
- D. The Village Attorney is under contract with the Village. Personnel are required to obtain approval from the Chief prior to contacting the Village Attorney.

III. COORDINATION WITH THE STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- A. In every contested felony or misdemeanor case other than traffic, the officer involved will meet with the State's Attorney or his assistant to discuss the case prior to trial.

- B. During any police investigation, or during planning for arrests or pre-trial stages, any questions of law or criminal procedure will be addressed to the appropriate State's Attorney, or to the Chief or Lieutenant who will address the issue with the Village Attorney. Questions concerning police procedure will be addressed to the Lieutenant or the Chief.
- C. Criminal cases referred to the State's Attorney which result either in a decision not to prosecute or which are dismissed due to police department mishandling will be carefully reviewed and appropriate corrective action taken. The State's Attorney has been asked to call such cases to the attention of the Chief of Police.

III. REFERRALS

Officers of the Village police department often encounter citizens, both adult and juvenile, who need specialized assistance which the police department cannot give, e.g. physical abuse counseling, marriage counseling, mental health counseling, assistance in handling civil matters, etc. When in the best judgment of an officer these situations arise, the citizen should be referred to the most qualified agency to deal with the problem.

IV. LIAISON MEETINGS

The purpose of these meetings is to exchange information and establish liaison with criminal justice representatives from area jurisdictions.

- A. The Chief will attend, based on the Chief's availability, the quarterly Montgomery County Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission meetings.
- B. The Public Safety Coordinator will attend quarterly MAPP and MHSO Task Force Meetings.
- C. The Chief and/or Lieutenant will attend other liaison meetings as appropriate.

This directive voids the previous version dated 12/7/2010.