

# POCOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

SUBJECT	MUTUAL AID		
NUMBER:	16.000	EFFECTIVE DATE:	01/10/2016
SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE:	01/10/2017	ISSUE DATE:	01/10/2016
DATE REVIEWED:		REVISION DATE:	
APPROVED BY:	Chief Steve Howard		

### I. Purpose

- A. The purpose of this policy is to describe mutual aid agreements between the Pocola Police Department and other area law enforcement agencies.

### II. Policy

- A. It is the policy of the Pocola Police Department to provide assistance to other law enforcement agencies, upon request, during natural or man-made disasters. Such assistance may include, but is not limited to personnel, vehicles, equipment and other police resources. Such requests for assistance will be provided pursuant to the guidelines established by Oklahoma's Statewide Mutual Aid System, under State Senate Bill 1709.

### III. Procedures

- A. For purposes of this policy, disasters may include, but are not limited to fire, flood, epidemic, war, civil disorder, tactical situations, or any other public disaster, which in the judgment of the Chief of Police or authorized designee, is clearly beyond the capacity of the respective agency to control solely with its own resources.
- B. Oklahoma's Statewide Mutual Aid System states a participating emergency jurisdiction's obligation to provide assistance to another participating emergency jurisdiction with the prevention, mitigation, and response and recovery activities related to a declared emergency or training exercises is subject to the following conditions:

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1. There must be a local emergency declared under Oklahoma § 63-695.1 or a plan to conduct training exercises;
  2. A responding participating emergency jurisdiction may withhold its resources to the extent necessary to provide reasonable protection and services for its own emergency jurisdiction;
  3. An emergency responder from a participating emergency jurisdiction responding to a request for assistance from another participating emergency jurisdiction shall remain under the command control of his or her home jurisdiction, including use of medical protocols, standard operating procedures, and other protocols and procedures identified by the department. However, for the duration of the assistance, the emergency responder shall be under the operational control of the participating emergency jurisdiction requesting assistance in accordance with the incident management system of that participating emergency jurisdiction.
- C. Oklahoma § 63-695.3 states the chief executive officer of the governing body of a participating emergency jurisdiction or his or her designee may request assistance from another participating emergency jurisdiction:
1. To prevent, mitigate, or respond and recover from a local emergency declared under § 63-695.4; or
  2. To conduct joint training exercises.
- D. Oklahoma § 63-695.4 states a request for assistance may be made verbally or in writing.
1. Verbal requests shall be followed with written confirmation as soon as practical.
  2. A request for assistance is not required to be reported to the department in advance of or concurrent with the request.
  3. However, a request for assistance shall be reported to the department in writing as soon as practical.
- E. Oklahoma § 63-695.6 states for the purposes of liability, an emergency responder acting under the operational control of a participating emergency jurisdiction requesting assistance is deemed to be an employee of the participating emergency jurisdiction requesting assistance and exercising operational control.

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- F. Oklahoma § 63-695.9 states a participating emergency jurisdiction receiving assistance under the statewide mutual aid system shall reimburse a participating emergency jurisdiction responding to a request for assistance for all expenses associated with providing the assistance other than regular salaries and benefits.
1. A request for reimbursement shall be made in accordance with procedures developed by the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact and adopted by the department as a rule under the Oklahoma Intrastate Mutual Aid Compact §63-695.9 et seq.
  2. The department shall not provide reimbursement for expenses associated with training exercises except in accordance with applicable rules.
- G. Before granting another law enforcement agency's request for mutual assistance, the following information, at a minimum, should be considered as soon as it can be collected:
1. The name, rank, and law enforcement agency of the official making the request.
  2. The nature and location of the emergency.
  3. The number of personnel requested, and whether specialized personnel are needed.
  4. The type of equipment needed.
  5. Estimated duration of the need.
  6. The name, rank, and location of the individual to whom assisting personnel must report.
- H. Whenever possible, assisting personnel should be deployed as supportive units.
- I. Assisting personnel must respond to all lawful directives issued by the ranking officer of the requesting jurisdiction. Directives which are contrary to law, other orders, or to the Rules and Regulations of the Pocola Police Department are not recognized unless clarified.
- J. The withdrawal of personnel or equipment should be with the agreement of the requesting and assisting jurisdiction, if possible. Either the requesting or assisting jurisdiction may cause the withdrawal of personnel and equipment if agreement is not reached. Notification must be given in person to the requesting agency's chief executive officer or his or her designee upon withdrawal.

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- K. For agreements that extend beyond the scope of Oklahoma’s Statewide Mutual Aid System or agreements that require more specific details, Written Mutual Aid Agreements will be maintained between the Pocola Police Department and local jurisdictions. The original Mutual Aid Agreement will be maintained on file in the office of the Chief of Police. A list of all agencies with whom the Pocola Police Department has negotiated Mutual Aid Agreements will be maintained in the Pocola Police Department Communications Unit.
- L. The Chief of Police or his staff shall review the Mutual Aid Agreements annually. Revisions that may be deemed necessary will be made and the agreements re-negotiated.

**IV. Requests for aid from the Pocola Police Department**

- A. Requests for mutual aid, pursuant to the guidelines established by Oklahoma’s Statewide Mutual Aid System, must be made by the Chief Executive Officer of the requesting law enforcement agency, or by his or her authorized designee.
- B. The Chief of Police, or his or her designee, will decide what resources are available to the requesting agency and will authorize the level of response to be provided. This response may include, but is not limited to manpower, vehicles, equipment or other police resources.
- C. Such requests for assistance will be granted pursuant to the guidelines established by Oklahoma’s Statewide Mutual Aid System.

**V. Supervision and Control of Officers on Loan**

- A. Pocola officers assigned to a requesting law enforcement agency under mutual aid provisions shall be subject to lawful operational commands by supervisors of that agency.
- B. Personnel and administrative control, including compensation of Pocola officers, will be retained by the Pocola Police Department. Pocola police officers will be entitled to Worker's Compensation and other benefits to which they would be entitled were they functioning within the normal course and scope of their duties with the Pocola Police Department.
- C. Pocola officers assigned to the requesting law enforcement agency under mutual aid provisions shall have the same jurisdiction, powers, rights and immunities of that agency and its officers.

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- D. There may be incidents in which the requesting agency does not have "cross talk capabilities" with the Pocola Police Department's communications system. In those instances, communications between Pocola officers and the requesting agency must be addressed by either (a) the requesting agency issuing appropriate radio equipment to our officers upon arrival to their jurisdiction, or (b) the Pocola Police Department providing communications equipment to the requesting agency

**VI. Requests by the Pocola Police Department**

- A. All requests for mutual aid assistance on behalf of the Pocola Police Department will be made by the Chief of Police or his or her authorized designee.

**VII. Officers Temporarily Assigned to the Pocola Police Department**

- A. Officers from another law enforcement agency that are temporarily assigned to the Pocola Police Department under mutual aid provisions are subject to the same rules, regulations, and supervisory commands as our own officers. They will possess the same powers, rights and immunities as our officers. Officers shall be compensated by their respective agency.
- B. Personnel and administrative control, including compensation of the officers, will be retained by the law enforcement agency providing assistance.
- C. Officers from another agency should be assigned with a Pocola officer whenever possible.
- D. In the event the assigned officer does not have "cross talk" communications capability with the Pocola Police Department, then the assigned officer should be issued a Pocola Police Department portable radio to facilitate communications with our agency.

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