

Patrol Function

400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the patrol unit of the Department to ensure intra-organizational cooperation and information sharing.

400.1.1 FUNCTION

Officers will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles. They will patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of Fargo, identify community needs, provide support and assistance to the community, respond to calls for assistance, act as a deterrent to crime, enforce state and local laws and respond to emergencies 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Patrol will generally provide services within the limits of available resources. These include:

- (a) Patrol that is directed at the prevention of criminal acts, traffic violations and accidents, the maintenance of public order and the discovery of hazardous situations or conditions.
- (b) Crime prevention activities, such as residential inspections, business inspections and community presentations.
- (c) Calls for service, both routine and emergency.
- (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 government agencies.
- (h) The application of resources to specific problems or situations within the community that may be improved or resolved by Community Oriented Policing and problem-solving strategies.
- (i) Traffic direction and control.

400.1.2 TERRORISM

It is the goal of the Fargo Police Department to make every reasonable effort to accurately and appropriately gather and report any information that may relate to either foreign or domestic terrorism. Officers should advise a supervisor as soon as practicable of any activity believed to be terrorism-related and should document such incidents with a written report.

The supervisor should ensure that all terrorism-related reports are forwarded to the Investigation Division supervisor in a timely fashion. The Investigation Division supervisor shall review all terrorism-related reports as soon as practicable and contact the North Dakota Department of

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Emergency Services, Homeland Security Division when there is a reasonable suspicion that a terrorism threat exists.

400.2 PATROL INFORMATION SHARING PROCEDURES

The following guidelines are intended to develop and maintain intra-organizational cooperation and information flow between the various divisions of the Fargo Police Department.

400.2.1 INTEL UNIT

The Intel Unit, to include the crime analyst, will be the central unit for information exchange. Criminal information and reports can be submitted to the Intel Unit for distribution to all appropriate divisions within the Department through daily and special bulletins.

400.2.2 CASE REPORTS

A case report should be completed by any patrol officer who receives information about a criminal act occurring within Fargo PD's jurisdiction. The report will be processed and forwarded to the appropriate bureau for retention or follow-up investigation.

400.2.3 PATROL BRIEFINGS

Patrol supervisors, investigative sergeants/detectives and special unit sergeants/detectives are encouraged to share information as much as reasonably possible. All supervisors and/or officers will be provided an opportunity to share information through daily patrol briefings, as time permits.

Patrol supervisors or their designee, will utilize the department's electronic bulletin board to disseminate information during the patrol briefing. Shift commanders and patrol supervisors shall also discuss topics to include, but are not limited to, policy implementation, relevant court decisions, department issues, and crime and ILP issues.

400.3 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 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 shall 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. However, officers and supervisors shall use their best judgement when deciding to make a physical arrest or complete a long-form case report as the best means to de-escalate an incident.

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400.4 DISABLED PERSONS

Should an officer encounter a person who exhibits any indication of disability or impairment, which appears to cause an immediate danger to the person's health or well being, the officer shall attempt to intervene in order to prevent the condition from worsening. If the contact may result in the person being charged with a crime or taken to a place of detention, this effort must be made, whenever feasible, prior to charging or detention.

In seeking to determine whether a disabled person suffers from an illness, the officer shall make a reasonable search for an identifying device or identification card. This search may not be done in a manner or to an extent that would appear to a reasonable person in the circumstances as posing an unreasonable risk of worsening the disabled person's condition.

An officer who finds a disabled person without an identifying device or identification card is not relieved of the duty to that person to ascertain the existence of any illness. An officer who determines or has reason to believe that a disabled person is suffering from an illness that would cause his/her condition shall promptly notify the person's physician, if practicable. If the officer is unable to discover the physician's identity or cannot communicate with the physician, the officer shall make a reasonable effort to have the disabled person transported immediately to a medical practitioner or a facility where medical treatment is available. If the officer believes it is unduly dangerous to move the disabled person, the officer shall make a reasonable effort to obtain the assistance of a medical practitioner on-scene (N.D.C.C. § 23-28-03).