Purpose

To establish guidelines for requesting aid from, or rendering aid to other law enforcement agencies.

Policy

This department maintains various agreements with other law enforcement and governmental agencies for the purpose of mutual aid and services. These agencies include state and local municipalities, federal authorities, and military installations located within the boundaries of the City of Virginia Beach. When requested by other parties to these agreements, this Department shall provide as much assistance as feasible.

Mutual Aid Agreements (CALEA 2.1.3 H, G)

Mutual Aid Agreements may be entered into by the Virginia Beach City Manager after review and approval by the Office of the City Attorney and the City Council. Mutual Aid Agreements may be long standing or specific to a special need or event. Long-standing agreements are reviewed on a frequency determined by the Office of the City Attorney. Agreements for one time or special events shall be reviewed prior to entering into the agreement.

Provisions for the reimbursement of expenditures by an agency incurred while providing aid shall be delineated in the mutual aid agreement.

Command Protocol (CALEA 2.1.3 C, D, E)

The Chief of Police or his designee shall request mutual aid from other agencies in accordance with the provisions of the applicable mutual aid agreement. Requests for assistance outside of an existing agreement shall be made by the Chief of Police or his designee via contact with the Chief or head of the agency from which assistance is desired.

All requests for aid from the Virginia Beach Police Department shall be directed to the Chief of Police or his designee. All personnel from other agencies who respond to this Department's request for aid shall report to the Chief of Police or his designee.

Non-Emergency Requests

Services such as routine calls to accidents, domestic disturbances etc. are performed on a regular basis on military installations (i.e., housing areas) and on streets that adjoin the City of Virginia Beach to neighboring cities. Officers called to such incidents shall assist in providing services until officers from the jurisdiction responsible for investigating or reporting the incident assume responsibility of the case. Conditions permitting, officers may remain at the scene to provide additional assistance. In situations that
may require a significant time commitment, a supervisor shall be notified to assess the conditions under which the aid is required.

**Emergency Services**

This Department may render mutual aid to or receive mutual aid from other agencies as established by Mutual Aid Agreements. The amount, type, and extent of aid will depend greatly on the situation, and availability of services. Manpower, equipment, and communications shall be offered as directed by the Chief of Police or his designee.

During both emergency and non-emergency conditions, the department shall fully assess the situation prior to the utilization of outside personnel. With the benefit of compatible communications systems and cross-training of personnel, outside agencies may be requested to assist in such comparable functions as SWAT response, crisis negotiations, crowd control, traffic or prisoner security, as the need demands.

**Special Events**

The Virginia Beach Police Department may request or provide aid to or from other jurisdictions for special events that may require police resources beyond those normally available. During such events where assistance is provided, preparations will be made in accordance with General Order 13.01 (NIMS/ICS) and members providing such assistance are subject to the policies and rules of the Virginia Beach Police Department during the assignment. Events hosted by the City of Virginia Beach requiring additional police resources will be carefully planned in accordance with General Order 13.01 (NIMS/ICS), incorporating the incoming assistance into the plan and structure that most efficiently utilizes these resources.

**Communications (CALEA 2.1.3 F)**

Communications with other agencies shall be coordinated through the Emergency Communications and Citizen Services (ECCS), in both emergency and non-emergency assist situations through the utilization a mutual aid channel. The mutual aid channel enables communication between the following neighboring cities:

- Norfolk
- Chesapeake
- Portsmouth
- Suffolk
- Newport News

**Virginia State Police and National Guard (CALEA 2.1.4)**

The senior City of Virginia Beach official on duty shall make requests for Virginia State Police assistance through the Governor’s Office at (804) 786-2211. The City Manager will normally make this request. Concurrent with this request, the Chief of Police or his designee will contact the State Police Division Commander in Chesapeake at (804) 424-6820.

If combined forces are unable to handle the situation, the Governor's Office shall then be notified to request the intervention of the National Guard.

If Federal assistance (other than police on military installations) is required, requests shall also be directed to the Governor's Office.