



# Mutual Aid

S.O.P. #	ORIGINAL DATE	REVISION DATE	APPROVED BY
1.4	1/1/1994	2/1/2018	E. Fox, Chief of Police

## 1.4.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of mutual aid, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

Aid - Aid provided pursuant to a mutual aid agreement means law enforcement personnel, equipment, facilities and or services.

Designated Official - Each party to a police mutual aid agreement will identify to all other parties the law enforcement official(s) within their jurisdictions who Have the authority to invoke the agreement. See below.

Emergency Situation - An actual or potential condition that poses and immediate threat to life or property, and which exceeds the resources and capability of the local law enforcement agency to successfully bring the situation under control.

## 1.4.2 PURPOSE

The department enters into mutual aid agreements with area political subdivisions for the purpose of providing and receiving additional law enforcement resources during times when the capacity or ability of the home agency to meet the emergency demands is exceeded. A list of current mutual aid agreements is made available to all officers and to the Anne Arundel County Police Communications Division.

## 1.4.3 AUTHORITY TO INVOKE

The decision to request or provide inter jurisdictional mutual aid should be made by an officer of at least the rank of Police Sergeant or higher. If the Sergeant is not on duty and no ranking official can be contacted in a reasonable amount of time, then authority passes to the platoon commander of Anne Arundel County Police at the Western District.

## 1.4.4 PROCEDURES

A. When an emergency situation occurs, aid from other signatory agencies of the mutual aid agreement may be requested. The request for aid must be directed to the designated Official(s) of the other law enforcement agencies, either in writing or by telephone. Crofton Police Department may request aid from neighboring jurisdictions who have signed the agreement. or may be asked to supply aid to other member agencies.

B. Any party requesting aid will provide to the assisting agencies a complete description of the nature of the emergency, and all types and amounts of assistance needed or to be provided.

C. If Crofton Police officers are authorized to be sent to another jurisdiction, the authorizing officer will appoint an officer to supervise the contingent of police. The supervisor will contact the designated official of the requesting agency and coordinate all tactical matters.

D. During an emergency situation, all personnel from responding agencies will report to, and work under the direction and supervision of, the designated supervisor of the requesting agency of the emergency site.

E. At all times, officers will adhere to the policies and procedures of their own departments, and are only required to obey lawful orders.



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F. Mutual aid rendered under any agreement may be denied or withdrawn if, in the opinion of the designated official of the providing agency, such action is necessary for the continued police protection of the assisting party's jurisdiction. The requesting party will be so advised before aid is withdrawn.

G. Responding party law enforcement officers shall only make arrests in foreign jurisdictions for offenses directly related to the emergency situation, and are responsible for the following post-arrest activities:

1. Identification of prisoners
2. Control of property obtained from arrestees
3. Completion of arrest reports and charging documents
4. Transportation of arrestee to booking / holding facility
5. Court duties pertaining to arrest

H. In any emergency situation where mutual aid is invoked, radio communications will be established among the parties, where possible, through use of the local mutual aid radio network.