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| DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE | | Policy and Procedure |
| General Administration | | P&P-A-108 |
| Jurisdiction /Authority, & Mutual Aid | | |
| Effective Date: 05-20-13 Supercedes: 01-03-12 | Approval: Sheriff | Number of Pages: 4 |
| References: P&P B-146, PAT SOP C-216, DET SOP D-312, CRS 29-5-103, 29-5-104, 29-5-106, 29-5-108, 29-5-109, 29-5-110, 30-5-101, & 30-5-120 | Reevaluation Date: Annually or as needed | Standards: CALEA 1.2.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.4 COM 2.3.2 |

I. PURPOSE

To provide statutory and policy standards on jurisdiction, authority, as well as guidelines for providing assistance to, or gaining assistance from, other agencies (Mutual Aid).

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Douglas County Sheriff's that sworn members of the Office will enforce federal, state and county laws and ordinances in carrying out their official law enforcement duties. <1.2.1>

In furtherance of these duties, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office shall aid and assist other law enforcement agencies (without delay in emergency situations), and shall avail itself of the aid and assistance of other agencies when appropriate and necessary.

III. JURISDICTION

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office has law enforcement jurisdiction in Douglas County, Colorado. Douglas County is bounded by Jefferson County, Arapahoe County, Park County, Teller County, El Paso County, and Elbert County. Incorporated municipalities wholly or partly within Douglas County are: Aurora, Castle Rock, Larkspur, Littleton, Lone Tree, and Parker. 30-5-101 C.R.S. - *Legislative declaration - county boundaries*. 30-5-120 C.R.S. - *Douglas*. <2.1.1>

IV. AUTHORITY OF PEACE OFFICERS <1.2.1>

- A. Deputies shall be administered the Oath of Office by the Sheriff, or a designee, prior to being placed on sworn status to the Office, as per 30-10-506 CRS.
- B. Authority to act shall exist regardless of whether deputies are in their own jurisdiction or within another jurisdiction in the State of Colorado. All regular peace officer personnel, regardless of assigned duty hours or assignment, are obligated to act as peace officers when matters come to their attention concerning any criminal acts (felony or misdemeanor) and/or public safety matter which requires immediate intervention or attention (see also 16-3-110 C.R.S. - *Peace Officer Duties*). <2.1.2>
- C. Adhere to and enforce federal, state and county laws and ordinances in a manner set forth by law and Office policy.

V. INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT <2.1.2> <COM 2.3.2>

Primary responsibility for law enforcement services in the incorporated municipalities lies with the respective police departments of those jurisdictions.

The Sheriff's Office may provide law enforcement services within a Douglas County municipality by contract, request or in exigent circumstances justifying immediate action. Law enforcement assistance requested by a Douglas County municipal law enforcement agency shall be provided efficiently and expeditiously. Assisting them with temporary assistance on calls for service, or the services of specialized units, e.g., Lab, Bomb Squad, SWAT, SORT, K-9, shall be approved and provided pursuant to the policies and procedures of their respective Divisions.

The Douglas Regional 911 communications center provides dispatch services for law enforcement, fire and EMS agencies. The center dispatches for the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, in addition to 11 fire agencies and 4 law enforcement agencies located in both Douglas and Elbert counties. These outside agencies contract with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office for their dispatch services: <COM 2.3.2>

- United Fire Dispatch Authority, which consists of Castle Rock, Franktown, Jackson 105, and Larkspur Fire Departments;
- Elbert County Communication's Authority, consisting of Elizabeth, Elbert, Rattlesnake, Big Sandy/Simla, Kiowa, North Central, and Agate Fire Departments; and
- Elbert County Sheriff's Office, and the Kiowa, Simla and Elizabeth Police Departments.

VI. PROVIDING AGENCY ASSISTS & MUTUAL AID

A. Local Agency Assists

The DCSO routinely receives requests to assist other law enforcement agencies with personnel, equipment, or both. Typically, most of these requests come from local municipal police departments that are in our jurisdiction and we routinely provide both emergency and routine assistance, provided it is approved by the on-duty/on call watch commander of the division whose resources are being requested.

B. Mutual Aid (Out-of-County) Assists – **Must be approved by Sheriff**

Requests for assistance outside of Douglas County are considered '**Mutual Aid,**' and commonly occur during emergencies, large scale investigations, planned events, service of warrants, large scale disasters, etc.

Situations that exceed the immediate resources of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office may also justify a request for Mutual Aid assistance from other agencies.

While it is our policy to always assist other agencies without delay in emergency circumstances where our immediate help is critical (can include an event that requires expertise from the SWAT team, K-9, Crime Lab, SDU, SORT, Bomb Squad, etc.), a request for Mutual Aid from another law enforcement agency should be made by that agency's chief executive officer to the Sheriff.

Notifications & Approval by Sheriff

If a request for DCSO personnel or equipment are requested to leave Douglas County to provide Mutual Aid, and that request was not made to our Sheriff by the requesting agency's chief executive, then the request shall be forwarded directly to the on-duty/on-call watch commander of the division whose resources are being requested. That watch commander will assess the request and, if appropriate, will direct the resources to go assist without delay.

That watch commander will then immediately contact the on-call DCSO commander and inform him/her of the request and any resources they have activated. The on-call DCSO commander will immediately contact the Sheriff (or his designee) and seek final approval to provide the Mutual Aid resources. **The Sheriff will have the ultimate decision whether or not DCSO resources participate in the Mutual Aid assist.** If the Sheriff does not approve the request for Mutual Aid assistance, any resources activated will be recalled immediately.

In addition to notifying and seeking authorization of our Sheriff, the on-call DCSO commander will also notify the Undersheriff, or the designated bureau chief as appropriate.

C. Other important considerations:

- When assigning DCSO resources to another agency, those resources shall fall under the direct supervision and command of the requesting chief of police or sheriff.
- However, when assigning DCSO resources outside Douglas County, the DCSO shall also assign a DCSO supervisor to represent the needs of our Office and resources while assigned to another jurisdiction.
- When resources from another jurisdiction are assisting DCSO, those resources fall under the direct supervision and command of our Sheriff or his designee.
- Per CRS, during the time that DCSO personnel are assigned to temporary duty within the jurisdiction of another, any liability on account of the DCSO personnel while performing the duty shall be imposed upon the requesting jurisdiction, and not upon the DCSO. The opposite would apply for other-agency personnel that are assisting DCSO, as we become liable for their personnel and their actions when they are assisting us.
- With regards to Workers Compensation Coverage, DCSO personnel shall remain covered by Douglas County workers' compensation insurance while performing Mutual Aid duty as fully as if they were performing their regular duties within Douglas County.

VII. REQUESTING MUTUAL AID & SHERIFF'S RESPONSIBILITY

In the event Mutual Aid is needed in an emergency, the on-duty supervisor of the affected division shall make the initial request for emergency assistance to the appropriate agency via Dispatch. The Sheriff will then be advised of the situation by that supervisor, and if he approves, will make a formal request for Mutual Aid to the chief executive officer of the responding agency.

In the event that a non-emergency situation requires assistance from outside agencies, the Sheriff will be advised of the need and circumstances by the Undersheriff or Bureau Chief whose division is seeking assistance, and if he approves, will make a formal request for Mutual Aid to the chief executive officer of the responding agency.

When necessary, the Sheriff shall make the request for Federal law enforcement assistance to the officer or agent in charge of the state or regional office of the federal agency and/or make a request for assistance of the Colorado National Guard to the Governor of Colorado. <2.1.4>

Any requests for mutual assistance shall include:

- A. Type and extent of resources needed.
- B. Type of response - emergency or non-emergency.
- C. Command post location.
- D. Identity of persons to whom to report.
- E. Duties to be performed.
- F. Estimated duration of the need.
- G. Procedures for radio communications.
- H. Expenditures, if any, to be borne by the receiving agency. <2.1.2>

VIII. AUTHORITY AND INDEMNIFICATION OF PERSONNEL

Authority and indemnification of personnel assigned to Mutual Aid activities will be as provided by State law: CRS [29-5-103](#), [29-5-104](#), [29-5-106](#), [29-5-108](#), [29-5-109](#) and [29-5-110](#). <2.1.3, 2.1.4>

Designation of Coordinator

Upon approval of a Mutual Aid request, the Sheriff shall designate a member of command staff, or supervisory staff when appropriate, to coordinate activities and resources with the requesting agency.

IX. MASS ARREST

In an emergency situation involving arrests, procedures for the mass processing of arrestees, transportation of prisoners and establishment of temporary detention facilities will be pursuant to sections C-216 of the Patrol Division SOP and D-312 of the Detention Division SOP Manual.

By Order of the Sheriff