


Atlanta Police Department Policy Manual		Standard Operating Procedure
Effective Date May 15, 2019		APD.SOP.1070 Coordination with Outside Agencies
Applicable To: Division, section, and unit commanders		Review Due: 2023
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1. PURPOSE

To establish policies and procedures regarding the coordination and interaction with other law enforcement agencies outside the jurisdiction of the Atlanta Police Department (APD).

2. POLICY

Coordination with other agencies is critical to the effective operation of the department. The Chief of Police reserves the right to establish policy and procedures concerning cooperation and interaction with other agencies. However, All APD employees should exercise cooperation with other agencies in the interest of serving and protecting the public.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 Liaison with Other Law Enforcement Agencies

3.1.1 The Chief of Police and division commanders shall maintain a relationship and interact with representatives of other local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to discuss policy and coordination.

1. Section commanders assigned to a zone command shall maintain a relationship with local law enforcement agencies with adjoining jurisdiction.
2. Other section commanders and all unit commanders shall meet with and coordinate their efforts with these agencies, within their respective spheres of responsibility.

3.1.2 The Field Operations Division (FOD) Commander shall meet at least annually with the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Georgia Institute of Technology, Clark Atlanta University (CAU), Morehouse College, Spelman College, Morehouse School of Medicine,



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Georgia State University (GSU), and Emory University police departments and all other agencies that operate within the jurisdiction of the City of Atlanta.

- 3.1.3 The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) Commander shall meet at least annually with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), and the investigative commanders of Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Gwinnett Counties.
- 3.2 Liaison with Other Criminal Justice Agencies
 - 3.2.1 The division commanders shall maintain liaison and meet as needed with representatives of the courts and corrections agencies which receive APD arrestees. The CID and ID Unit commanders shall meet at least semiannually with the judges and prosecutors to coordinate and improve the department's role in prosecutions.
 - 3.2.2 The Field Operations Division (FOD) Commander shall provide formal liaison with the courts regarding attendance of officers and adequacy of case preparation. The FOD Commander shall meet at least annually with representatives of probation, prison, parole, and juvenile corrections agencies; to coordinate, improve the flow of information, and any other interagency matters.
 - 3.2.3 CID and FOD commanders, shall meet at least annually with representatives of the juvenile courts of Fulton, Dekalb, and Clayton Counties to coordinate and improve the department's handling of juveniles.
 - 3.2.4 The Zone Six Commander shall meet at least annually with representatives of the DeKalb County courts and prosecutors.
 - 3.2.5 The Airport Commander shall meet at least annually with representatives of Clayton County courts, prosecutors, and law enforcement agencies.
- 3.3 Liaison with Other Public Safety Agencies
 - 3.3.1 The Chief of Police shall meet regularly with the executives of the Atlanta Fire Rescue (AFR) and the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency (AFCEMA). The division, section, and unit commanders shall meet with appropriate representatives of these agencies and coordinate their efforts within their spheres of responsibility.
 - 3.3.2 The Communication Section Director shall collaborate and coordinate with representatives of Dekalb County, Fulton County, Clayton County, Grady EMS, and Atlanta Fire Rescue concerning emergency medical services.
- 3.4 Liaison with Traffic Agencies
 - 3.4.1 The Motors Unit Commander shall meet at least annually with the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) and the City of Atlanta Bureau of Traffic and Transportation to coordinate traffic safety issues.
 - 3.4.2 The Motors Unit Commander shall meet at least annually with the Department of Public Works (DPW) Office of Transportation to provide liaison in transportation system management planning. The Commander shall meet as needed with regional and state agencies involved with transportation planning.



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4. ACTION

4.1 Joint Jurisdiction

4.1.1 Fulton and DeKalb County police (within their respective counties), Fulton, DeKalb and Clayton County Sheriff's deputies, State Patrol troopers, and GBI agents have police powers within the City equivalent to those of the department. However, the department assumes primary responsibility within the city unless the Chief of Police enters into an agreement in which primary responsibility for certain police actions are shared with or transferred to other agencies. (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 2.1.1)

4.1.2 Other police agencies that exercise limited jurisdiction within the city include:

1. Federal

- a. The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA);
- b. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF);
- c. The Postal Inspection Service (USPS);
- d. Federal Protective Service (FPS);
- e. The Office of Federal Protection and Safety;
- f. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI);
- g. United States Park Police – U. S. National Park Service;
- h. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP);
- i. Transportation Security Administration (TSA);
- j. The U. S. Marshal Service (USMS); and
- k. The Office of Homeland Security (DHS).

2. State and other local

- a. Georgia Building Authority (GBA) Police;
- b. Georgia Capitol Police;
- c. Fulton and DeKalb County Marshals Office;
- d. Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC) Police;
- e. Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office (FCME);
- f. DeKalb County's Medical Examiner's Office (DCME); and



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- g. State Fire Marshal's Investigations Unit (Georgia State Fire Marshal's Office)
- 3. The Police departments for CSX and Norfolk-Southern Railways also share jurisdiction with the APD. These railway police departments exercise primary police responsibility on their respective trains, stations, and track areas. Railway police officers have the power to impound vehicles that are parked on the rail road right of way. The APD assumes primary police responsibility outside these areas and for cases of homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, suicide and other major crimes in which the agency with primary police responsibility requests assistance.
 - a. The CSX Railroad police are responsible for the Seaboard Coastline, the Georgia Railroad, the West Point Railroad, the Atlanta Railroad, the Western Railroad, and the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. The CSX railroad officers use Atlanta Police Department incident reports (Form APD 001); however, they do not use the State's Uniform Accident Reports (DMVS 523).
 - b. The Norfolk-Southern Railway police are responsible for the Central Georgia Railroad. They use their own reporting system.
- 4. MARTA has joint responsibility with the APD for providing police services on MARTA property. MARTA officers exercise primary police responsibility on MARTA trains, stations, buses, and fenced-in track areas. The APD assumes primary police responsibility outside these areas and in cases of homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, suicide, and other major crimes in which MARTA requests assistance.
- 5. Georgia Institute of Technology, GSU, CAU, and Emory University police have joint responsibility with the APD for providing police services on their property and on any property within 500 yards of their property (Ga. Code 20-8-2 & 20-8-3). However, these campus police agencies exercise primary responsibility only in the respective areas owned by the universities. The department exercises primary responsibility outside these areas.

4.1.3 Arrest Responsibilities

- 1. When an arrest or other police action is necessary within the city but within another agency's area of primary responsibility, a department officer shall perform the arrest or action if:
 - a. He/she is the first officer on the scene, and
 - b. No officer from the agency with primary responsibility is present. The arrestee shall be processed like any other city arrestee.
- 2. The arresting agency is responsible for transporting the prisoner, collecting evidence, investigating further, and presenting the case in court; except that the Atlanta Police Department shall investigate certain major crimes in other agencies' jurisdiction. However, for arrests and incidents on CAU, Morehouse College, or Spelman College campus property, a responding APD officer must complete an incident report, if needed, complete the arrest citation if an arrest is involved and transport the prisoner to the appropriate jail.



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4.1.4 MARTA Crowd Control

Crowd control on MARTA property is a shared function of MARTA police and the APD. When MARTA requests the department's assistance, the ranking department officer shall be in charge of the situation for which assistance was requested.

4.2 Reporting

4.2.1 Division, section, and unit commanders shall report to the Chief of Police on their meetings with other agencies. They shall forward these written reports through the chain of command.

4.2.2 Employees shall immediately refer through the chain of command:

1. Interagency problems which cannot be resolved at the employee's level;
2. Interagency problems which are outside the employee's area of responsibility; and
3. Suggestions for improving interagency coordination which are outside the employee's area of responsibility.

4.2.3 Agreements made by the Chief of Police and reports from division, section and unit commanders that are forwarded to the Chief of Police shall be maintained on file by the Office of the Chief of Police.

5. DEFINITIONS

N/A

6. CANCELLATIONS

APD.SOP.1070 "Coordination with Outside Agencies," effective April 15, 2013

7. REFERENCES

Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA, 6th ed. Standards 2.1.2)

8. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

8.1 Revisions to policy

Sections 1, 2, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.3, 4.1.2.