



# Colorado Springs Police Department

## Standard Operating Procedure

### DL-1091-02 Downtown Area Response Team

#### Section 1000 – Patrol Functions

Effective Date: 11/15/2023

Supersedes Date: 8/2/2021

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## .01 Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to outline the responsibilities of the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) Downtown Area Response Teams (DART).

## .02 Cross Reference

[GO 1091 Homeless Outreach & Enforcement](#)

[DL-1860-01 Retention of Personnel in Specialized Units](#)

## .03 Definitions

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## .04 Procedure

### DART Mission

DART Officers provide appropriate law enforcement services to the Central Commercial business district (Downtown area and S. Nevada Corridor) and the Old Colorado City (OCC) business district of Colorado Springs. DART officers provide those services while protecting the rights and dignity of all persons through enforcement of regulations, city code, state statutes, policy, and practices.

For the purpose of this directive, the Central Commercial business district is considered the area of E. Cheyenne Road (south) to Cache La Poudre Street (north), with varying east and west boundaries. The Old Colorado City (OCC) business district is defined as 23<sup>rd</sup> Street (east) to 28<sup>th</sup> Street (west), W. Pikes Peak Avenue (north) to W. Cucharas Street (south).

DART works closely with business owners, employees, residents, non-profit groups, non-

governmental organizations, and other entities in the business districts. Enforcement of laws in the business districts is unique and challenging due to DART officers conducting patrol on bicycles, on foot, in UTVs, and in patrol vehicles. DART officers also regularly interact with the homeless population. Additionally, DART assists with civil demonstrations and civil disturbances in the downtown area.

## **DART Work Schedule**

DART is composed of two teams: DART-1 and DART-2.

### *DART-1 (daytime team)*

- Composed of six officers and one sergeant. The sergeant who oversees DART-1 is responsible for creating and maintaining a work schedule for the team.
  - Officers work four 10-hour shifts, with coverage [REDACTED]
- Conduct proactive patrols and respond on calls for service in the Central Commercial and OCC business districts.
  - The DART I Sergeant assigns [REDACTED] to conduct patrols and enforcement actions in the Central Commercial business district.
  - The DART I Sergeant assigns [REDACTED] to conduct patrols and enforcement actions in and around the OCC business district.

### *DART-2 (nighttime team)*

- DART-2 is composed of six officers and one sergeant. The sergeant who oversees DART-2 is responsible for creating and maintaining a work schedule for the team.
  - Officers work four 10-hour shifts, with coverage [REDACTED]
- Conduct proactive patrols and investigative operations within the business districts and in other crime Hot Spot areas within the Gold Hill Division.
- Respond on calls for service and ensure a safe environment within the Downtown area's entertainment district until the close of business.

## **DART Structure**

### *DART Lieutenant*

The lieutenant assigned to the Peak Station will have oversight of DART-1 and DART-2.

The DART Lieutenant will:

- Be knowledgeable of and evaluate City Ordinances, State Statutes and departmental procedures specifically related to DART enforcement and the mission, for the purpose of updating and making recommendations.
- Develop community partnerships and liaison with entities located or conducting affairs within the business districts.
- Maintain proficiency and departmental certifications in support of the units' mission, to include Police Training Officer (PTO) certification and competency with all computer systems (MFR, NeoGov, and Power DMS).
- Ensure DART officers remain current in their professional and departmental certifications.
- In coordination with the DART Sergeants, develop a strategic plan for the deployment of DART officers to respond to issues within and around the business districts.

### *DART Sergeants*

DART Sergeants will:

- Facilitate the selection process and assignment of DART officers, under the oversight of the DART Lieutenant.
- Supervise all assigned DART officers.
- Attend Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) Subject Matter Expert (SME) training to be knowledgeable of the enforcement of City Ordinances, State Statutes and department procedures related to illegal camping enforcement within the city of Colorado Springs.
- Ensure officers assigned to DART attend HOT SME training to become proficient in enforcing appropriate City Ordinances, State Statutes and department procedures related to illegal camping enforcement.
- Develop a strategic plan, in coordination with the DART Lieutenant, to deploy DART officers to respond to issues in and around the business districts.
- Monitor and maintain statistical information related to their assigned teams.
- Develop liaisons and community partnerships with business owners, business employees, and other entities within the business districts.
- Conduct periodic reviews of DART directives to facilitate necessary changes or updates.
- Oversee their team's PTO program.
- Communicate and coordinate information and investigations with the Strategic Information Center (StIC), Office of the Public Information Officer (PIO), and other CSPD units and sections to ensure a unified approach to criminal investigation.
- Maintain proficiency and departmental certifications in support of the DART mission (e.g., PTO certification, less lethal munitions certifications, Public Order Response training, etc.) and competency with all computer systems (e.g., MFR, NeoGov, and Power DMS).

- Ensure DART officers receive and maintain proficiencies/departmental certifications in support of the DART mission (e.g., PTO certification, less lethal munitions certifications, **Public Order Response training**, etc.) and competency with all computer systems (e.g., MFR, NeoGov, and Power DMS).

### *DART Officers*

The DART officers will:

- Respond to calls for service, to include those assigned by dispatch and those that take place in the Central Commercial and OCC business districts.
- Conduct park checks in and near the Central Commercial and OCC business districts;
- **Work within a team environment and conduct investigations utilizing a team approach to ensure the best possible outcomes.**
- Provide police resources and **community partner** information to business owners, business employees, and other entities in the Central Commercial and OCC business districts.
- Maintain proficiency and departmental certifications in support of the DART mission (e.g., PTO certification, less lethal munitions certifications, **Public Order Response training**, etc.) and competency with all computer systems (e.g., MFR, NeoGov, and Power DMS).
- **Identify, locate, and arrest suspects who are determined to be in violation of applicable City Ordinances or State Statutes.**
- **Provide investigative technical knowledge to the Patrol Operations Bureau concerning applicable City Ordinances and State Statutes.**
- **Complete appropriate HOT SME training to assist with the enforcement of City Ordinances, State Statutes and department procedures related to illegal camping enforcement.**

### **Assignment of Officers**

DART-1 and DART-2 will conduct separate unit testing processes for their respective units on an annual basis, or as necessary. Applicants will only be eligible for the DART assignment for which they applied (e.g., if an applicant only applies for DART-1, they will not be considered for a DART-2 position).

The selection process will include a review, **at a minimum**, of the following **items for each applicant:**

- Case reports / work product
- Personnel files
- Prior performance evaluations (at least the previous two years)
- Formal interview

Officers will be selected for and assigned to DART teams via the Department's transfer policy. Any officer who meets the listed requirements is eligible to apply for posted openings.

## **Retention**

Retention of DART personnel will follow the requirements provided in Standard Operating Procedure [DL-1860-01 Retention of Personnel in Specialized Assignments](#).

## **Attachments**

[Downtown Boundaries](#)