



Graham Police Department

Standard Operating Policies and Procedures

Policy 43 Mutual Aid

DEPARTMENT POLICY

It shall be the policy of the Graham Police Department to establish procedures relative to entering into mutual aid assistance agreements with other municipal and county law enforcement agencies.

PURPOSE:

To define the role of the Graham Police Department in requesting and receiving mutual aid assistance.

I. Mutual Assistance

A. Authority.

[North Carolina General Statute 160A section 288](#), authorizes law enforcement agencies to assist each other during natural and man-made disasters and other incidents requiring service beyond the capability of the agency.

B. Mutual Assistance Request by Another Agency

1. The Chief of Police, or his designate, will evaluate all request on providing assistance to another law enforcement agency.
2. All request must be in writing in accordance with the provisions of [N.C.G.S. 160A-288](#).
3. The extent of mutual assistance the Graham Police Department is willing to provide shall be at the level which does not impact significantly on providing police services to the city of Graham.

C. Mutual Assistance Request by the Graham Police Department.

All request for mutual assistance to assist the Graham Police Department will be made by the Chief of Police, or his designate, pursuant to statutory provision.

D. Supervision and Control of Officers on Loan.

1. Police officers assigned to another agency under mutual assistance provisions shall be subject to lawful commands of supervisors of that agency.
2. Personnel and administrative control, including the compensation of the officers, will be retained by the lending agency.
3. Loaned officers will be entitled to full workmen's compensation benefits during their assignment to the requesting agency.

E. Jurisdiction, Powers, Rights and Immunities.

Police officers assigned to another agency under mutual assistance provisions shall have the same jurisdiction, powers, rights and immunities as other officers of that agency.

F. Written agreements – All written mutual aid agreements should address the following:

1. Legal status of agencies and agency personnel responding to mutual aid requests.
2. Procedures for vesting provider agency personnel with the legal authority to act within the receiver agency's jurisdiction.
3. Procedures for requesting mutual aid.
4. Identity of those persons authorized to request mutual aid.
5. Identity of persons to whom outside personnel are to report.
6. Procedures for maintaining radio communication with outside personnel.
7. Expenditures, if any, which should be borne by the receiver agency to compensate for the use of provider agency's resources.
8. Procedures for review and revision of the agreement.

G. Federal Law Enforcement Assistance.

1. Although there is no formal criteria to be met prior to requesting federal law enforcement assistance, there should be an indication that federal laws are involved and that federal assistance is appropriate.
2. In the event emergency law enforcement assistance is required, supervisors may telephone the appropriate agency and request aid.
3. Officers are encouraged to maintain working relationships with members of federal law enforcement for the promotion of inter-agency cooperation and efficient law

enforcement.

4. Request by federal agencies for law enforcement assistance outside the Graham Police Departments jurisdiction by Graham police officers must be approved by the Chief of Police or his designate.

H. Emergency Assistance.

1. In the event of occurrences that require non-law enforcement services or assistance beyond the capabilities of City resources, the Alamance County Emergency Management Assistance agency should be contacted.
2. As a coordinating agency, the Assistance Agency maintains contact with federal, state and local agencies that may be able to offer assistance or support.

I. State of Emergency.

In the event the Mayor of Graham issues a proclamation declaring a state of emergency, the Mayor may request the assistance of the North Carolina National Guard through the office of the Governor.