




# City of Manassas Police Department

## General Duty Manual



Effective Date: 09-16-2011	<b>GENERAL ORDER</b>	Number: 01-11
Subject: Jurisdiction / Mutual Aid		
<input type="checkbox"/> New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends <input type="checkbox"/> Rescinds <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed 10/01/2024		Reevaluation: <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr. <input type="checkbox"/> 18 months <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 24 Months
Accreditation Standards: 2.1.1 / 2.1.2 / 2.1.3	By Authority Of:  Douglas W. Keen, Chief of Police	Total Pages: 4

### PURPOSE:

To identify the geographical boundaries of jurisdiction, and to provide guidance for the use of mutual aid.

### POLICY:

Officers are authorized to exercise police jurisdiction and authority in accordance with this directive. It is the policy of the Department to comply with all requirements of active Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) regarding mutual aid when either requesting or giving assistance. A copy of all pertinent MOUs and MOAs are maintained by the Office of Professional Standards (OPS) and are available to any member.

### DISCUSSION:

N/A

### PROCEDURE:

#### I. Jurisdiction, Generally

- A. Jurisdictional responsibility of the Department is contained in Chapter I, Section 2 of the City Charter.
  - 1. The boundaries of the City are illustrated on the map found in Attachment "A."
  - 2. The City owns property that is located approximately 5.1 miles west of the City, which is surrounded in its entirety by Prince William County. This property includes Lake Manassas, the City of Manassas Dam at Lake Manassas, and the City of Manassas Water Treatment Facility. Collectively, this property is referred to as "Lake Manassas," and is illustrated on the map found in Attachment "B."
- B. The Department operates and has jurisdiction in the City of Manassas, Virginia, and Lake Manassas. Concurrent jurisdiction exists in certain areas to the extent set forth in Sections III and IV of this General Order.
- C. Thorough familiarization with jurisdictional authority is a part of the Field Training Program for Police Recruits, Probationary Police Officers, and Public Safety Communications Specialists (PSCS).

#### II. Jurisdiction Beyond the City Limits

- A. The Code of Virginia Section 15.2-1725 allows Manassas City Police Officers to go beyond the corporate limits of the City of Manassas to protect property of the City water and sewer systems and enforce the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and City of Manassas Code of Ordinances with respect to such property.
- B. The Code of Virginia Section 19.2-250 extends jurisdiction in criminal matters involving offenses against the Commonwealth of Virginia one mile beyond the corporate limits. In the rare event of the exercise of such jurisdiction where the criminal act occurs outside the City, violation of State law, not City ordinance, shall be charged.
- C. Vehicle pursuits involving jurisdiction beyond the City limits is governed by General Order 06-21.

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### III. Mutual Aid, Generally

- A. On occasion, the need arises to request assistance from, or give assistance to, a neighboring law enforcement agency.
  1. All Northern Virginia jurisdictions are parties to the Mutual Aid Agreement.
- B. Before requesting such assistance, a state of emergency should exist where the requesting jurisdiction has committed or has foreseen the need to commit all its available resources. For the purpose of this directive, a state of emergency includes, but is not limited to:
  1. Fire.
  2. Flood.
  3. Epidemic.
  4. War.
  5. Civil disorder.
  6. Any other public disaster which, in the judgment of the appropriate law enforcement official, is clearly beyond the capacity of their agency to control solely with its own resources.
- C. The Chief of Police or highest ranking official on duty is authorized to request assistance or authorized to approve requests for assistance, which arise from a state of emergency.
- D. Mutual Aid assistance is provided in accordance with the Metropolitan Council of Governments Mutual Aid Plan, the Northern Virginia Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement, Northern Virginia Critical Incident Response Team Memorandum of Understanding, or other applicable MOU or MOA, copies of which remain on file in OPS.
- E. Before granting another law enforcement agency's request for mutual aid assistance, the following information, at a minimum, must be considered:
  1. The name, title, and law enforcement agency of the official making the request.
  2. The nature and location of the emergency.
  3. The number of personnel requested and whether specialized personnel are needed.
  4. The type of equipment needed.
  5. The name, rank, and location of the individual to whom assisting personnel must report.
- F. Deployment of assisting personnel.
  1. Whenever possible, assisting personnel are deployed as a unit with supervision from their own command.
  2. Assisting personnel should be deployed as supporting units whenever possible.
  3. Assisting personnel must respond to all lawful directives issued by the ranking officer of the requesting jurisdiction. Directives which are unlawful or appear contrary to the policies or rules and regulations of either jurisdiction are not recognized unless clarified.
  4. The withdrawal of personnel or equipment should be with the agreement of the requesting and assisting jurisdiction, if possible. Either the requesting or assisting jurisdiction may cause the withdrawal of personnel and equipment if agreement is not reached. Notification must be given upon withdrawal.
- G. Use of Force.
  1. Officers of this Department are accountable for adherence to General Order 02-04 (Use of Force) during such time as they are assisting another jurisdiction.
  2. Assisting jurisdictions are authorized to use deadly force only when necessary to prevent death or serious bodily harm to any person.

Attachments: "A" Map of the City of Manassas.  
"B" Map of Lake Manassas.

Index as: Jurisdiction  
Mutual Aid  
Assisting Other Jurisdictions  
Reciprocal Agreements

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References: The Manassas City Code: [Chapter V, Section 29](#) of the City Charter.

The Code of Virginia Sections: § [15.2-1724](#), [15.2-1725](#), [15.2-1730](#), [15.2-1736](#) and [19.2-250](#).