

Newport News Police Department - Administrative Manual

ADM-325 - INJURY ON/OFF DUTY, FMLA

Amends/Supersedes: ADM-325 (04/12/2018)

Date of Issue: 10/04/2021

I. PROCEDURE

- A. Occupational Injuries/Diseases
 - 1. When an employee is injured on-duty, their on-duty supervisor must be notified of the injury as soon as possible. The on-duty supervisor will ensure that the City Human Resources Department is notified and notify the employee's bureau/precinct/division commander.
 - 2. The procedures for addressing occupational injuries and/or diseases will be followed as outlined in the City Personnel Administrative Manual, section <u>1202 Occupational Injury</u> <u>and Disease Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines</u>.
 - Upon completion, the on-duty supervisor will be responsible for ensuring that any required forms as documented on the appropriate Workers Compensation Checklist (NNPD Form <u>#286</u>) are completed in their entirety. Depending on City contracts, sworn and civilian employees may have different requirements.
 - 4. In **all** cases involving carpal tunnel (suspected or diagnosed through a private physician), the employee shall contact the Support Services Division commander or designee for guidance during normal working hours before seeking medical treatment under workers' compensation.
- B. Non-Occupational Injuries/Diseases
 - 1. Generally, injuries/diseases received by an employee off-duty are not covered by workers' compensation except when received off-duty while responding to an emergency and acting to protect life or property, using the particular authority, training, and skills associated with the employee's job description.
 - **NOTE:** Workers' Compensation does **not** cover injuries sustained in the course of employment for another employer (i.e., as a security guard for a private business). (see <u>ADM-360 Secondary Employment</u>)
 - 2. If an employee believes that an off-duty injury and/or disease is covered by workers' compensation, the same steps for filing a workers' compensation claim for an on-duty injury will be followed.
 - 3. The procedures for addressing non-occupational injuries/diseases will be followed as outlined in the City Personnel Administrative Manual, Section <u>1201 Non-Occupational</u> <u>Disabilities Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines</u>.
- C. Temporary, Limited Duty Assignments
 - 1. All limited duty accommodations shall be made in writing by the Chief of Police, with a copy provided to the City's Human Resources Department. Only the Chief of Police has Departmental authority to place an employee in any temporary, limited duty assignment.

- a. Occupational temporary, limited duty assignments will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis with the City's Human Resources Department per City Policy <u>1202 Occupational</u> <u>Injury and Disease Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines</u>.
- b. The Newport News Police Department's policy limits temporary, limited duty nonoccupational assignments to eight (8) months or less, without exception.
- 2. An employee placed in a temporary, limited duty assignment will report to the Support Services Division commander or designee. The employee must present medical documentation to the commander before placement in a temporary, limited duty assignment. The Chief of Police will have the final decision to place employees in a temporary, limited duty assignment.
- 3. If no temporary, limited duty assignments are available, or the employee, due to their injury/disease, is not able to perform all the essential functions of the temporary, limited duty assignment, the employee will be referred to the City Human Resources Department per City Policy <u>1202</u> Occupational Injury and Disease Policies, Procedures and Guidelines and City Policy <u>1201</u> Non-Occupational Disabilities Policies, Procedures and Guidelines of the Personnel Administrative Manual.
- 4. The Police Department does not establish permanent or long-term temporary modified duty assignments and reserves the right to terminate temporary modified assignments at any time.
- 5. The Department may require periodic medical certification supporting the need for temporary modified duty. The Department may authorize fitness for duty medical evaluations to determine the appropriate assignment of employees.
- 6. While in a temporary, limited duty assignment, an employee will refrain from becoming involved in law enforcement duties, including the execution of arrest warrants.

NOTE: This does not apply to the service of a summonsable warrant in cases where the subject turns themselves in at Headquarters.

- 7. While assigned to a temporary, limited duty assignment, any reference to the employee's status as a sworn officer should be avoided. All sworn personnel performing limited duty functions will be required to wear civilian clothes and not operate a City vehicle. Sworn personnel in direct contact and/or in plain view of the public shall ensure that their weapon and badge are concealed at all times.
- D. Family Medical Leave Act
 - 1. Employees shall request FMLA leave following all applicable City and department policies as soon as the employee knows that leave will be needed (See also: City Personnel Administrative Manual, Section 703 *Family Medical Leave Act Policy (FMLA)*.
 - a. The employee's supervisor will request the employee complete an FMLA Notification Form (NNPD Form #259) located on the Department's Common drive.
 - b. Once completed, the employee will e-mail the completed form to the Department's Financial Management Division and provide a copy to their supervisor.
 - c. Financial Management Division personnel will review the form, provide the employee with instructions and track FMLA leave on any covered employee.
 - d. Intermittent leave, or reduced schedule leave, is defined in the City Personnel Administrative Manual, section 703 *Family Medical Leave Act Policy (FMLA)*.

- 1) In cases of an intermittent FMLA designation, the employee is responsible for noting the dates of FMLA coverage on their timesheet.
- 2) Requests for intermittent leave not medically related (to provide child care after the birth of a healthy child or placement of a healthy child for adoption or foster care will not be approved).
- e. Supervisors receiving medical notes or memos on an employee eligible for FMLA should ensure that these documents are sent to the Financial Management Division.
- f. Supervisors will not retain a copy of any FMLA requests or associated medical records after being forwarded.
- 2. Employee absences covered by FMLA do not constitute an automatic excuse from court attendance. (see <u>ADM-385 *Court Procedures*</u> for procedures relating absence from court appearance.)

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Chief of Police