

## **BEARS FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM**

### **POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Omaha Police Department (OPD) to participate in the Bears for Children program and to provide bears to injured or traumatized children as needed.

### **PROCEDURE:**

#### **I. Bears for Children Program**

- A. Whenever officers encounter an injured or traumatized child, one “teddy bear” may be provided to the child. The child may keep the bear.
- B. The Bears for Children program will be administered by the Neighborhood Services Unit (NSU). Inquiries regarding the Bears for Children program will be directed to the NSU.
  - 1. Bears will be available in sufficient numbers to all applicable Bureaus and Units.
    - a. The Assistance League will continue to provide replacement bears as needed.
    - b. The NSU will be responsible for making certain that an adequate supply of bears is available.
- C. Bears distributed by the NSU will be kept in designated vehicles as follows:
  - 1. All Uniform Patrol Bureau “four wheeled” vehicles will keep two bears in the trunk or appropriate storage compartment of the vehicle. Replacement bears will be kept at the respective assembly areas designated by the Precinct Captain.
- D. Unit and Area Sergeants will be responsible to make certain that two bears are kept in each vehicle and that replacement bears are kept in a secured area

### **REFERENCES:**

#### **I. Previous OPD Orders**

- A. Previous OPD General Orders include the following: #12-89, #6-14, and #59-17.