

Mutual Aid and Outside Agency Assistance

319.1 MUTUAL AID PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members when requesting or responding to a request for mutual aid or when assisting another law enforcement agency.

319.2 MUTUAL AID POLICY

It is the policy of the Unified Police Department to promptly respond to requests for assistance by other law enforcement agencies, subject to available resources and consistent with the Salt Lake County-wide Mutual Aid Agreement signed by the UPD. Members shall cooperate with all agencies engaged in the administration of criminal justice and other public agencies, providing such aid and information they may be authorized to receive.

319.3 ASSISTING OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, requests for any type of assistance from another agency should be routed to the shift supervisor for approval. In some instances, a mutual aid agreement or other established protocol may exist that eliminates the need for approval of individual requests.

When another law enforcement agency requests assistance from the department, the shift supervisor may authorize, if available, an appropriate number of personnel to assist. Members are reminded that their actions when rendering assistance must conform with applicable laws and be consistent with the policies of the department.

Officers may respond to a request for emergency assistance; however, they shall notify a supervisor of their activity as soon as practicable.

Arrestees may be temporarily detained by the department until arrangements for transportation are made by the outside agency. Probation violators who are temporarily detained by the department will not ordinarily be booked by the department. Only in exceptional circumstances, and subject to supervisor approval, will the department provide transportation of arrestees to other facilities on behalf of another agency.

When transportation assistance is rendered, a report shall be prepared and submitted by the handling member unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

319.3.1 PROCEDURE

Requests for assistance by other law enforcement or government agencies will be reviewed by the on-duty watch commander or the immediate supervisor. If approved, assistance will be given using the following guidelines:

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1. Supervisors will ensure dispatchers have obtained the requestor's name, rank, agency name, and agency case number, if any, and a UPD case number is assigned.
2. Following completion of the assist, the assigned member(s) will submit a General Offense report that will include requestor's name, rank, agency name, agency case number, if any; and the nature of the assistance rendered.

319.3.2 INITIATED ACTIVITY

Prior to a member taking any action beyond the limits of their normal jurisdiction, the member shall notify and receive approval of the local law enforcement authority, or if the prior contact is not reasonably possible, notify the local law enforcement authority as soon as reasonably possible (UCA 77-9-3).

Any on-duty member who engages in law enforcement activities of any type that are not part of a mutual aid request and take place outside the jurisdiction of the UPD shall notify their supervisor or the shift supervisor and Dispatch as soon as practicable. This requirement does not apply to special enforcement details or multi-agency units that regularly work in multiple jurisdictions.

319.3.3 REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM OUTSIDE SALT LAKE COUNTY

Requests for aid from law enforcement agencies, such as criminal investigations and search and rescue operations, will be referred to the Chief. It is in the department's interest to assist in these matters; however, they must be properly authorized.

No member(s) shall be sent to another county without proper authorization and notification of the Commander / Administrator of the member(s) assigned. This restriction does not prohibit cooperation in search and rescue operations or continuation of pursuits originating with the department and leaving Salt Lake County.

319.4 REQUESTING OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

If assistance is needed from another agency, the member requesting assistance should, if practicable, first notify a supervisor. The handling member or supervisor should direct assisting personnel to where they are needed and to whom they should report when they arrive.

The requesting member should arrange for appropriate radio communication capabilities, if necessary and available, so that communication can be coordinated between assisting personnel.

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319.5 CRITICISM OF OTHER AGENCIES

In a matter in which a member believes a complaint and / or criticism of another agency is justified, the member will raise their concern through UPD's chain of command.

Public statements criticizing any other agency in the criminal justice system, if appropriate, shall emanate from the Chief or designee.

Members shall not publicly criticize any court concerning disposition of any case.

319.6 LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Members of the department are encouraged to serve on law enforcement planning committees, community, or enforcement liaison groups, etc. All appointment to such groups which do not originate from the Chief shall be submitted through the chain of command for approval. Employee organizations are excluded from this requirement.

319.7 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS - MUTUAL AID

Incidents of outside assistance or law enforcement activities that are not documented in a crime report shall be documented in a general case report or as directed by the shift sergeant.