

WOONSOCKET POLICE DEPARTMENT

Thomas f. Oates, III
Chief of Police



TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER/SERIES	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
General Order	110.01	2/13/2024	2/13/2024
SUBJECT		PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DATES	
Jurisdiction and Mutual Aid		2/3/2014, 10/24/2016, 5/15/2019	
ACCREDITATION		RE-EVALUATION DATE	
RIPAC: 2.24 CALEA: 2.1.1-4		6/7/2021	
INDEX		DISTRIBUTION	
Authority		All Sworn and Communications Personnel	

JURISDICTION AND MUTUAL AID

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide professional law enforcement services to the citizens of the City of Woonsocket. This policy establishes the jurisdictional boundaries by which this service will be performed, to include requests for mutual aid from municipal, state and federal law enforcement agencies in the event of natural disasters, mass disorders and other emergency situations.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Woonsocket Police Department to establish a plan on the agency's jurisdiction and mutual aid.

III. DEFINITIONS

Mutual Aid: The request for police assistance for an actual or potential condition that poses a threat to person(s) or property that exceeds the capacity of the requesting agency. Such requests may be for emergency or non-emergency police assistance.

1. Emergency police assistance can be requested under the provision of RIGL [45-42-1](#) where police assistance may be provided to another police department within the state.

- a. Such request will be made by the requesting police chief or designee.
- b. Responding officers shall have the same authority, powers, duties, privileges, and immunities as duly appointed officers of the city/town making the request.
- c. Such aid shall be provided until the requesting agency discharges or releases the assisting officers.

RI 2.24

- 2. Non-emergency police assistance may be provided under the provisions of RIGL [45-42-2](#) in which police agencies have entered into a state-wide agreement to assist with police services.
 - a. Responding officers shall have the same authority, powers, duties, privileges, and immunities for jurisdictional purposes as the requesting agency.
 - b. This agreement provides the following information:
 - 1) Statement of purpose;
 - 2) Defined geographical areas encompassed;
 - 3) Terms and procedures;
 - 4) Enforcement guidelines.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. JURISDICTION

- 1. The Woonsocket Police Department and the Rhode Island State Police have concurrent jurisdiction detection and suppression, as well as traffic control and safety on the highways within the boundaries of the City of Woonsocket.

This department will respond to all requests for service within our jurisdiction. Should any member(s) of the Rhode Island State Police be on the scene of an accident or other occurrence, the Woonsocket Police Department will provide any assistance necessary to the member(s) of the Rhode Island State Police.

B. GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

- 1. The City of Woonsocket is bordered by Cumberland · Lincoln · North Smithfield · Blackstone, MA · Wrentham, MA · and Bellingham, MA.
- 2. The Woonsocket Police Department and the following police departments have entered into a state-wide agreement for mutual aid under the provisions of RIGL [45-42-2](#):
 - a. Town of Barrington
 - b. Town of Bristol
 - c. Town of Burrillville
 - d. City of Central Falls

- e. Town of Charlestown
- f. Town of Coventry
- g. City of Cranston
- h. Town of Cumberland
- i. Town of East Greenwich
- j. City of East Providence
- k. Town of Foster
- l. Town of Glocester
- m. Town of Hopkinton
- n. Town of Jamestown
- o. Town of Johnston
- p. Town of Lincoln
- q. Town of Little Compton
- r. Town of Middletown,
- s. Town of Narragansett
- t. City of Newport
- u. Town of New Shoreham
- v. Town of North Kingstown,
- w. Town of North Providence
- x. Town of North Smithfield
- y. City of Pawtucket
- z. Town of Portsmouth,
- aa. Town of Richmond
- bb. Town of Scituate
- cc. Town of Smithfield
- dd. Town of South Kingstown
- ee. Town of Warren
- ff. City of Warwick
- gg. Town of Westerly
- hh. Town of West Greenwich and
- ii. Town of West Warwick.

C. MUTUAL AID

1. Requests for mutual aid from outside law enforcement agencies.
 - a. When officers respond for mutual aid to outside departments, Woonsocket Police officers will follow the policy, procedures, rules, and regulations of the Woonsocket Police Department. The exception would be in circumstances in which a pursuit exists that travels into an adjoining community. In those situations, the pursuit policy of the entered jurisdiction shall apply, and control of the entered jurisdiction shall have the authority consistent with its policies to terminate the pursuit, as defined under General Order [#320.01 Vehicle Pursuits](#).

- b. If several officers are needed for mutual aid, the ranking Woonsocket officer will be in charge. Any orders given by the outside agency to members of this department will be delegated through the ranking Woonsocket officer at the scene.

RI 2.24.a

- 1) Routine requests, i.e., alarms, domestic disturbances, traffic assistance.
- 2) Special requests, i.e., demonstrations, special events, civil disturbances.
- 3) Temporary requests, i.e., special investigations, narcotic investigations, etc.
- 4) The Chief of Police, or designee, after having received a request for mutual aid from any other jurisdiction, may assign a member or members of the department to that department.
- 5) The procedures outlined in this policy on requests for mutual aid do not apply to the temporary requests for mutual assistance between local law enforcement agencies.

2. Requests for mutual aid from federal law enforcement agencies.

- a. The Chief of Police of the Woonsocket Police Department, after receiving a request for mutual aid from any federal law enforcement agency, may direct and/or assign a member or members of the department to provide the requested assistance to that federal law enforcement agency.

3. Requests for mutual aid initiated by the Woonsocket Police Department.

- a. In the event of an emergency, the Woonsocket Police may request mutual aid from any municipal or federal agency. This request, when authorized by the Chief of Police, will be made by the Chief of Police, or designee, to the Chief executive officer of the agency to which the request is being made.
- b. The Woonsocket Police may request non-emergency mutual aid from departments with whom it has entered into an agreement within the following instances:

RI 2.24.a

- 1) Routine requests, i.e., alarms, domestic disturbances, traffic assistance.
- 2) Special requests, i.e., demonstrations, special events, civil disturbances.
- 3) Temporary requests, i.e., special investigations, narcotic investigations, etc.
- 4) The Chief of Police, or designee, shall make the request for mutual aid and request the assistance of a member or members of the department.
- 5) The procedures outlined in this policy on requests for mutual aid do not apply to the temporary requests for mutual assistance between local law enforcement agencies.

- c. In the event outside agencies and personnel request assistance for mutual aid, this department will be responsible for the deployment and actions of those respective members, who subsequently respond to assist this agency.
- d. An emergency in which the department requires the assistance of the Rhode Island National Guard, the Chief of Police, or designee, will request such aid from the Governor or designee.
- e. In all cases where the Woonsocket police have sought mutual aid, the following will apply:
 - 1) Arrestees will be processed under the direction of the Woonsocket Police.
 - 2) Prisoners will be transported under the direction of the Woonsocket Police. Vehicles for this purpose may be provided by outside agencies.
 - 3) Temporary detention facilities will be operated under the direction of the Woonsocket Police.
 - 4) Radio communications will be coordinated by the Woonsocket Police.
 - 5) The identity of the ranking authority from the Woonsocket police, who is at the scene and requesting mutual aid, will be made known to the commanding officer of the agency assisting.
 - 6) It will be the responsibility of the Officer-in-Charge to obtain estimates of aid and resources available from provider agencies.

RI 2.24.c

- 4. No officers may initiate, self-deploy, or take any law enforcement actions outside the jurisdiction of the City of Woonsocket without permission of the OIC.
 - a. Whenever an on-duty law enforcement officer views or otherwise is called upon to render aid to a motorist or other person in an area encompassed by this agreement, the law enforcement officer may render emergency aid as necessary while awaiting OIC authorization.
- 5. The Chief of Police, or designee, will annually review all mutual aid agreements the department is party to. The concern is drawn to the legal status of the agreements as well as the current information of the provider agency.
- 6. Each cooperating agency shall be responsible for any cost arising from the loss of or damage to that agency's equipment or property while assisting.

D. TRAINING

RI 2.24.b

- 1. Officers shall receive initial training upon implementation of any mutual aid agreement.

RI 2.24.d

- 2. Officers shall receive refresher training on this Jurisdiction and Mutual Aid Policy annually.

V. ATTACHMENT

Non-Emergency Mutual Aid Agreement

Per order,

Thomas F. Oates, III

Chief of Police

Written directives published within PowerDMS are in full force and effect on the referenced dates and have been approved by the Chief of Police