

Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations

Patrol Function

400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the patrol unit of the Department to ensure intra-organization cooperation and information sharing.

400.1.1 FUNCTION

Officers will generally patrol in clearly marked vehicles, patrol assigned jurisdictional areas of Metro Transit, respond to calls for assistance, act as a deterrent to crime, enforce state, local and, when authorized or empowered by agreement or statute, federal laws and respond to emergencies 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Patrol will generally provide the following services within the limits of available resources:

- (a) Patrol that is directed at the prevention of criminal acts, traffic violations and collisions, the maintenance of public order and the discovery of hazardous situations or conditions.
- (b) Crime prevention activities, such as inspecting Metropolitan Council and Metro Transit property as well as community presentations.
- (c) Calls for service, both routine and emergency.
- (d) Investigation of both criminal and non-criminal acts.
- (e) The apprehension of criminal offenders.
- (f) Community Oriented Policing and problem-solving activities, such as citizen assists and individual citizen contacts of a positive nature.
- (g) The sharing of information between the Patrol Division and other divisions within the Department, as well as other government agencies.
- (h) The application of resources to specific problems or situations within the community that may be improved or resolved by Community Oriented Policing and problem-solving strategies.
- (i) Traffic direction and control.

400.1.2 TERRORISM

It is the goal of the Metro Transit Police Department to make every reasonable effort to accurately and appropriately gather and report any information that may relate to either foreign or domestic terrorism. Officers should advise a supervisor as soon as practicable of any activity believed to be terrorism related and should document such incidents with a written report. The supervisor should ensure that all terrorism-related reports are forwarded to the Investigation Division Supervisor in a timely fashion.

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400.2 PATROL INFORMATION SHARING PROCEDURES

The following guidelines are intended to develop and maintain intra-organization cooperation and information flow between the various commands of the Metro Transit Police Department.

400.2.1 CRIME REPORTS

A crime report may be completed by any patrol officer who receives criminal information. The report will be processed and forwarded to the appropriate unit for retention or follow-up investigation.

400.2.2 PATROL BRIEFINGS

Patrol supervisors, investigative supervisors/officers and special unit supervisors/officers are encouraged to share information as much as reasonably possible. All supervisors and/or officers will be provided an opportunity to share information through daily patrol briefings or via electronic mail.

400.2.3 INFORMATION CLIPBOARDS / BOOKS

Several information clipboards and/or books will be maintained in the roll call room and will be available for review by officers from all divisions within the Department. These will include, but not be limited to, the patrol briefing clipboard, the roll call sheet book and the written directive/administrative announcement clipboard.

400.2.4 BULLETIN BOARDS / INTERNAL WEBSITE

A bulletin board may be kept in the roll call room for display of suspect information, investigative reports and photographs. Roll Call Sheets and other information can also be found on the Department's internal website. Members of the Department can go to: <http://metnet/mt/pd/SitePages/Home.aspx> to be re-directed to the internal website. New Interim Directives will be made available for patrol supervisors and will be discussed at briefings and shift meetings. A copy of the Interim Directive will be placed on the briefing room clipboard.

400.3 CROWDS, EVENTS AND GATHERINGS

Officers may encounter gatherings of people, including but not limited to, civil demonstrations, civic, social and business events, public displays, parades and sporting events. Officers should monitor such events as time permits in an effort to keep the peace and protect the safety and rights of those present. A patrol supervisor should be notified when it becomes reasonably foreseeable that such an event may require increased monitoring, contact or intervention.

Officers responding to an event or gathering that warrants law enforcement involvement should carefully balance the speech and association rights of those present with applicable public safety concerns before taking enforcement action. Officers are encouraged to contact organizers or responsible persons to seek voluntary compliance that may address relevant public safety/order concerns.

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Officers should consider enforcement of applicable state and local laws, when the activity blocks the entrance or egress of a facility or location and when voluntary compliance with the law is not achieved.

Bias-Based Policing

402.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to department members that affirms the Metro Transit Police Department's commitment to policing that is fair and objective.

Nothing in this policy prohibits the use of specified characteristics in law enforcement activities designed to strengthen the department's relationship with its diverse communities (e.g., cultural and ethnicity awareness training, youth programs, community group outreach, partnerships).

402.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Bias-based policing - An inappropriate reliance on actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability, or affiliation with any non-criminal group (protected characteristics) as the basis for providing differing law enforcement service or enforcement.

This includes use of racial or ethnic stereotypes as factors in selecting whom to stop and search. It does not include law enforcement's use of race or ethnicity to determine whether a person matches a specific description of a particular subject (Minn. Stat. § 626.8471).

402.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services to the community with due regard for the racial, cultural or other differences of those served. It is the policy of this department to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally, fairly, objectively and without discrimination toward any individual or group (Minn. Stat. § 626.8471, Subd. 3).

402.3 BIAS-BASED POLICING PROHIBITED

Bias-based policing is strictly prohibited.

However, nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit an officer from considering protected characteristics in combination with credible, timely and distinct information connecting a person or people of a specific characteristic to a specific unlawful incident, or to specific unlawful incidents, specific criminal patterns or specific schemes.

402.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Every member of this department shall perform his/her duties in a fair and objective manner and is responsible for promptly reporting any suspected or known instances of bias-based policing to a supervisor. Members should, when reasonable to do so, intervene to prevent any biased-based actions by another member.

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402.4.1 REASON FOR CONTACT

Officers contacting a person shall be prepared to articulate sufficient reason for the contact, independent of the protected characteristics of the individual.

To the extent that written documentation would otherwise be completed (e.g., arrest report, Field Interview (FI) card), the involved officer should include those facts giving rise to the contact, as applicable.

Except for required data-collection forms or methods, nothing in this policy shall require any officer to document a contact that would not otherwise require reporting.

402.4.2 INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED

Officers shall (Minn. Stat. § 626.8471, Subd. 3):

- (a) Introduce or identify themselves and state the reason for a contact as soon as practicable unless providing the information could compromise officer or public safety.
- (b) Attempt to answer questions the person may have regarding the contact, including relevant referrals to other agencies when appropriate.
- (c) Explain the reason for the contact if it is determined the reasonable suspicion was unfounded.
- (d) When requested, provide their name and badge number and identify this department during routine stops.
- (e) When requested, officers should inform a member of the public of the process to file a misconduct complaint for bias-based policing against a member of the Department, and that bias-based policing complaints may be made by calling the Attorney General's office (Minn. Stat. § 626.9514).

402.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors should monitor those individuals under their command for compliance with this policy and shall handle any alleged or observed violations in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

- (a) Supervisors should discuss any issues with the involved officer and his/her supervisor in a timely manner.
 1. Supervisors should document these discussions, in the prescribed manner.
- (b) Supervisors should periodically review MAV recordings, portable audio/video recordings, Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) data and any other available resource used to document contact between officers and the public to ensure compliance with this policy.
 1. Supervisors should document these periodic reviews.
 2. Recordings that capture a potential instance of bias-based policing should be appropriately retained for administrative investigation purposes.

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- (c) Supervisors shall initiate investigations of any actual or alleged violations of this policy.
- (d) Supervisors should take prompt and reasonable steps to address any retaliatory action taken against any member of this department who discloses information concerning bias-based policing.

402.6 ADMINISTRATION

Each year, the Patrol Division Commander should review the efforts of the Department to provide fair and objective policing and submit an annual report, including public concerns and complaints, to the Chief of Police. The annual report should not contain any identifying information about any specific complaint, citizen or officers. It should be reviewed by the Chief of Police to identify any changes in training or operations that should be made to improve service.

Supervisors should review the annual report and discuss the results with those they are assigned to supervise.

402.7 TRAINING

Training on fair and objective policing and review of this policy should be conducted as directed by the Professional Standards Unit.

The Chief of Police and supervisors should receive and review training materials prepared by the Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) (Minn. Stat. § 626.8471, Subd. 7).

Training should also include in-service training on recognizing and valuing community diversity and cultural differences, including implicit bias, as required by Minn. Stat. § 626.8469, Subd. 1.

Roll Call Training

404.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Roll Call training is generally conducted at the beginning of the officer's assigned shift. Roll Call provides an opportunity for important exchange between employees and supervisors. A supervisor generally will conduct Roll Call. However, officers may conduct Roll Call for training purposes with supervisor approval.

Roll Call should accomplish, at a minimum, the following basic tasks:

- (a) Briefing officers with information regarding daily patrol activity, with particular attention given to unusual situations and changes in the status of wanted persons, stolen vehicles and major investigations.
- (b) Notifying officers of changes in schedules and assignments.
- (c) Notifying officers of new Interim Directives or changes in Interim Directives.
- (d) Reviewing recent incidents for training purposes.
- (e) Providing training on a variety of subjects.

404.2 PREPARATION OF MATERIALS

The supervisor conducting Roll Call, or the officer if the supervisor is unable to participate in a group briefing session, is responsible for collection and preparation of the materials necessary for a constructive briefing. Supervisors may delegate this responsibility to a subordinate officer in his/her absence or for training purposes.

404.3 RETENTION OF BRIEFING TRAINING RECORDS

Roll Call training materials and a curriculum or summary shall be forwarded to the Training Coordinator for inclusion in training records as appropriate.

Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity

406.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in handling a major crime or disaster.

406.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department to secure crime or disaster scenes so that evidence is preserved, and to identify and mitigate the dangers associated with a major crime or disaster scene for the safety of the community and those required to enter or work near the scene.

406.3 SCENE RESPONSIBILITY

The first officer at the scene of a crime or major incident is generally responsible for the immediate safety of the public and preservation of the scene. Officers shall also consider officer safety and the safety of those persons entering or exiting the area, including those rendering medical aid to any injured parties. Once an officer has assumed or been assigned to maintain the integrity and security of the crime or disaster scene, the officer shall maintain the crime or disaster scene until he/she is properly relieved by a supervisor or other designated person.

406.4 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS

The following list generally describes the first responder's function at a crime or disaster scene. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive, is not necessarily in order and may be altered according to the demands of each situation:

- (a) Broadcast emergency information, including requests for additional assistance and resources.
- (b) Provide for the general safety of those within the immediate area by mitigating, reducing or eliminating threats or dangers.
- (c) Locate or identify suspects and determine whether dangerous suspects are still within the area.
- (d) Provide first aid to injured parties if it can be done safely.
- (e) Evacuate the location safely as required or appropriate.
- (f) Secure the inner perimeter.
- (g) Protect items of apparent evidentiary value.
- (h) Secure an outer perimeter.
- (i) Identify potential witnesses.
- (j) Start a chronological log noting critical times and personnel allowed access.

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406.5 SEARCHES

Officers arriving at crime or disaster scenes are often faced with the immediate need to search for and render aid to victims, and to determine if suspects are present and continue to pose a threat. Once officers are satisfied that no additional suspects are present and/or there are no injured persons to be treated, those exigent circumstances will likely no longer exist. Officers should thereafter secure the scene and conduct no further search until additional or alternate authority for the search is obtained, such as consent or a search warrant.

406.5.1 CONSENT

When possible, officers should seek written consent to search from authorized individuals. However, in the case of serious crimes or major investigations, it may be prudent to also obtain a search warrant. Consent as an additional authorization may be sought, even in cases where a search warrant has been granted.

406.6 EXECUTION OF HEALTH ORDERS

Any licensed member of this department may assist in the enforcement of all directives of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease (Minn. Stat. § 144.4195, Subd. 2(c)).

Ride-Along Policy

410.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Ride-Along Program provides an opportunity for persons to experience the law enforcement function first hand. This policy provides the requirements, approval process and hours of operation for the Ride-Along Program.

410.1.1 ELIGIBILITY

The Metro Transit Police Department Ride-Along Program is offered to residents, students and those employed within the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit. Every reasonable attempt will be made to accommodate interested persons. Any applicant may be disqualified with or without cause from participating in the program.

The following factors may be considered in disqualifying an applicant and are not limited to:

- Being under 18 years of age.
- Prior criminal history.
- Pending criminal action.
- Pending lawsuit against the Department.
- Denial by any supervisor.

410.1.2 AVAILABILITY

The Ride-Along Program is available on most days of the week. The ride-along times are from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Exceptions to this schedule may be made as approved by the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief of Police, Patrol Captain or Shift Supervisor.

410.2 PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A RIDE-ALONG

Generally, ride-along requests will be scheduled by the Shift Supervisor. The participant will complete and sign a ride-along waiver form. Information requested will include a valid driver's license, address and telephone number.

The Shift Supervisor will schedule a date, based on availability, sometime after the date of application. If approved, a copy of the ride-along waiver form will be forwarded to the respective Shift Supervisor as soon as possible for his/her scheduling considerations.

If the ride-along is denied after the request has been made, a representative of the Department will contact the applicant and advise him/her of the denial.

410.2.1 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Once approved, civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once every six months. An exception would apply to the following: chaplains, police applicants and all others with approval of the Shift Supervisor.

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An effort will be made to ensure that no more than one citizen will participate in a ride-along during any given time period. Normally, no more than one ride-along will be allowed in the officer's vehicle at a given time.

Ride-along requirements for CSO's are covered in Policy Manual § 1048, "Community Service Officers."

410.2.2 SUITABLE ATTIRE

Any person approved to ride-along is required to be suitably dressed. Sandals, tank tops, shorts and ripped or torn blue jeans are not permitted. Hats and ball caps will not be worn in the police vehicle. The Shift Supervisor or field supervisor may refuse a ride-along to anyone not properly dressed.

410.2.3 PEACE OFFICER RIDE-ALONGS

Off-duty members of this department or any other law enforcement agency will not be permitted to ride-along with on-duty officers without the express consent of the Shift Supervisor. In the event that such a ride-along is permitted, the off-duty employee shall not be considered on-duty and shall not represent him/herself as a peace officer or participate in any law enforcement activity except as emergency circumstances may require or as directed by an on-duty member.

410.2.4 RIDE-ALONG CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK

All ride-along applicants are subject to a criminal history check. The criminal history check may include a local records check and a Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Criminal History System check prior to approval (provided that the ride-along is not an employee of the).

410.3 OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The officer shall advise the dispatcher that a ride-along is present in the vehicle before going into service. Officers shall consider the safety of the ride-along at all times.

Officers should use sound discretion when encountering a potentially dangerous situation, and if feasible, let the participant out of the vehicle in a well-lighted place of safety. The dispatcher will be advised of the situation and as soon as practicable have another police unit respond to pick up the participant at that location. The ride-along may be continued or terminated at this time.

Conduct by a person participating in a ride-along that results in termination of the ride or is otherwise inappropriate should be immediately reported to the Shift Supervisor.

The Shift Supervisor is responsible for maintaining and scheduling ride-alongs. Upon completion of the ride-along, a copy of the ride-along waiver form shall be returned to the Shift Supervisor with any comments that may be offered by the officer.

410.4 CONTROL OF RIDE-ALONG

The assigned employee shall maintain control over the ride-along at all times and instruct him/her in the conditions that necessarily limit participation. These instructions should include:

- (a) The ride-along will follow the directions of the officer.

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- (b) The ride-along will not become involved in any investigation, handling of evidence, discussions with victims or suspects or handling any police equipment.
- (c) The ride-along may terminate the ride at any time and the officer may return the observer to his/her home or to the station if the ride-along interferes with the performance of the officer's duties.
- (d) The officer may terminate the ride-along and return the observer to their home or to the station if the ride-along interferes with the performance of any officer's duties.
- (e) Ride-alongs may be allowed to continue riding during the transportation and booking process provided this does not jeopardize their safety.
- (f) Officers will not allow any ride-alongs to be present in any residence or situation that would jeopardize their safety or cause undue stress or embarrassment to a victim or any other person.
- (g) Under no circumstance shall a civilian ride-along be permitted to enter a private residence with an officer without the expressed consent of the resident or other authorized person.

Hazardous Material Response

412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Hazardous materials present a potential harm to employees as a result of their exposure. To comply with Minnesota law, the following represents the policy of this department.

412.1.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DEFINED

Hazardous material - Any refuse, sludge or other waste material or combinations of refuse, sludge or other waste materials in solid, semisolid, liquid or contained gaseous form, which, because of its quantity, concentration, or chemical, physical or infectious characteristics may (Minn. Stat. § 116.06 Subd. 11):

- (a) Cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness.
- (b) Pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

412.2 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE

Employees may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic collision, chemical spill or fire. When employees come into contact with a suspected hazardous material, certain steps should be taken to protect themselves and other persons.

The fire department is the agency trained and equipped to properly respond and mitigate most hazardous materials and biohazards.

Responders should not perform tasks or use equipment absent proper training. A responder entering the area may require decontamination before he/she is allowed to depart the scene and should be evaluated by appropriate technicians and medical professionals for signs of exposure.

The following steps should be considered at any scene involving suspected hazardous materials:

- (a) Attempt to identify the type of hazardous material. Identification can be determined by placard, driver's manifest or statements from the person transporting the material
- (b) Notify the appropriate fire department.
- (c) Provide first aid to injured parties if it can be done safely and without contamination.
- (d) Begin evacuation of the immediate and surrounding areas dependent on the material. Voluntary evacuation should be considered. Depending on the material, mandatory evacuation may be necessary.
- (e) Contact the Minnesota Duty Officer (800-422-0798).
- (f) Responders should remain uphill and upwind of the hazard until a zone of entry and a decontamination area are established.

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Hazardous Material Response

412.3 REPORTING EXPOSURE(S)

Department personnel who believe that they have been exposed to a hazardous material shall immediately report the exposure to a supervisor. Each exposure shall be documented by the employee in an employee memorandum that shall be forwarded via chain of command to their supervisor. Should the affected employee be unable to document the exposure for any reason, it shall be the responsibility of the notified supervisor to complete the memorandum.

Injury or illness caused or believed to be caused from exposure to hazardous materials shall be reported the same as any other on-duty injury or illness, in addition to a crime report or incident report.

412.3.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

When a supervisor has been informed that an employee has been exposed to a hazardous material, he/she shall ensure that immediate medical treatment is obtained and appropriate action is taken to lessen the exposure.

To ensure the safety of employees, safety equipment is available through supervisory personnel. Safety items not maintained by the Department will be obtained through the appropriate fire department.

Hostage and Barricade Incidents

414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for situations where officers have legal cause to contact, detain or arrest a person, and the person refuses to submit to the lawful requests of the officers by remaining in a structure or vehicle and/or by taking a hostage.

The scope of this policy is not intended to address all variables that officers encounter during their initial response or when a hostage or barricade situation has developed. This policy does not require or purport to recommend specific strategies or tactics for resolution as each incident is a dynamic and rapidly evolving event.

414.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Barricade situation - An incident where a person maintains a position of cover or concealment and ignores or resists law enforcement personnel, and it is reasonable to believe the subject is armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon.

Hostage situation - An incident where it is reasonable to believe a person is unlawfully held by a hostage-taker as security so that specified terms or conditions will be met.

414.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department to address hostage and barricade situations with due regard for the preservation of life and balancing the risk of injury, while obtaining the safe release of hostages, apprehending offenders and securing available evidence.

414.3 COMMUNICATION

When circumstances permit, initial responding officers should try to establish and maintain lines of communication with a barricaded person or hostage-taker. Officers should attempt to identify any additional subjects, inquire about victims and injuries, seek the release of hostages, gather intelligence information, identify time-sensitive demands or conditions and obtain the suspect's surrender.

When available, department-authorized negotiators should respond to the scene as soon as practicable and assume communication responsibilities. Negotiators are permitted to exercise flexibility in each situation based upon their training, the circumstances presented, suspect actions or demands and the available resources.

414.3.1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION

A supervisor with probable cause to believe that a person is being unlawfully confined may order a telephone company to cut, reroute, or divert telephone lines for the purpose of establishing and controlling communications with a suspect (Minn. Stat. § 609.774).

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414.4 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATION

First responding officers should promptly and carefully evaluate all available information to determine whether an incident involves, or may later develop into, a hostage or barricade situation.

The first responding officer should immediately request a supervisor's response as soon as it is determined that a hostage or barricade situation exists. The first responding officer shall assume the duties of the supervisor until relieved by a supervisor or a more qualified responder. The officer shall continually evaluate the situation, including the level of risk to officers, to the persons involved and to bystanders, and the resources currently available.

The handling officer should brief the arriving supervisor of the incident, including information about suspects and victims, the extent of any injuries, additional resources or equipment that may be needed, and current perimeters and evacuation areas.

414.4.1 BARRICADE SITUATION

Unless circumstances require otherwise, officers handling a barricade situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of stabilizing the incident by establishing and maintaining lines of communication while awaiting the arrival of specialized personnel and trained negotiators. During the interim the following options, while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

- Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.
- Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.
- Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).
- Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.
- Evacuate non-injured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.
- Attempt or obtain a line of communication and gather as much information on the subject as possible, including weapons, other involved parties, additional hazards or injuries.
- Establish an inner and outer perimeter as circumstances require and resources permit to prevent unauthorized access.
- Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.
- Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the Department (e.g., command staff and the Public Information Officer etc).

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- If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.
- Establish a command post.

414.4.2 HOSTAGE SITUATION

Officers presented with a hostage situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of controlling the incident in anticipation of the arrival of specialized personnel and trained hostage negotiators. However, it is understood that hostage situations are dynamic and can require that officers react quickly to developing or changing threats. The following options while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

- Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.
- Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.
- Establish a rapid response team in the event it becomes necessary to rapidly enter a building, structure or vehicle, such as when the suspect is using deadly force against any hostages (see the Rapid Response and Deployment Policy).
- Assist hostages or potential hostages to escape if it is reasonably safe to do so. Hostages should be kept separated if practicable pending further interview.
- Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).
- Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.
- Evacuate non-injured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.
- Coordinate pursuit or surveillance vehicles and control of travel routes.
- Attempt or obtain a line of communication and gather as much information about the suspect as possible, including any weapons, victims and their injuries, additional hazards, other involved parties and any other relevant intelligence information.
- Establish an inner and outer perimeter as resources and circumstances permit to prevent unauthorized access.
- Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.
- Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the Department, such as command staff and the Public Information Officer.

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- If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.

414.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Upon being notified that a hostage or barricade situation exists, the supervisor should immediately respond to the scene, assess the risk level of the situation, establish a proper chain of command and assume the role of Incident Commander until properly relieved. This includes requesting a tactical response if appropriate and apprising the Tactical Team Commander of the circumstances. In addition, the following options, listed here in no particular order, should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated and treated by medical personnel.
- (b) Ensure the completion of necessary first responder responsibilities or assignments.
- (c) Request crisis negotiators, specialized units, additional personnel, resources or equipment as appropriate.
- (d) Establish a command post location as resources and circumstances permit.
- (e) Designate assistants who can help with intelligence information and documentation of the incident.
- (f) If it is practicable to do so, arrange for video documentation of the operation.
- (g) Consider contacting utility and communication providers when restricting such services (e.g., restricting electric power, gas, telephone service).
- (h) Ensure adequate law enforcement coverage for the remainder of the Metropolitan Area during the incident. The supervisor should direct non-essential personnel away from the scene unless they have been summoned by the supervisor or Transit Control Center.
- (i) Identify a media staging area outside the outer perimeter and have the department Public Information Officer or a designated temporary media representative provide media access in accordance with the Media Relations Policy
- (j) Identify the need for mutual aid and the transition or relief of personnel for incidents of extended duration.
- (k) Debrief personnel and review documentation as appropriate.

414.6 CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

It will be the Incident Commander's decision, with input from the Emergency Response Unit / Tactical Team Commander, whether to deploy the Unit / Team during a hostage or barricade situation. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the Unit / Team Commander or the authorized designee will be responsible for the tactical portion of the operation. The Incident Commander shall continue supervision of the command post operation, outer perimeter security

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and evacuation, media access and support for the Unit / Team. The Incident Commander and the Unit / Team Commander or the authorized designee shall maintain communications at all times.

414.7 REPORTING

Unless otherwise relieved by a supervisor or Incident Commander, the handling officer at the scene is responsible for completion and/or coordination of incident reports.

Response to Bomb Calls

416.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to assist members of the Metro Transit Police Department in their initial response to incidents involving explosives, explosive devices, explosion/bombing incidents or threats of such incidents. Under no circumstances should these guidelines be interpreted as compromising the safety of first responders or the public. When confronted with an incident involving explosives, safety should always be the primary consideration.

416.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department to place a higher priority on the safety of persons and the public over damage or destruction to public or private property.

416.3 RECEIPT OF BOMB THREAT

Department members receiving a bomb threat should obtain as much information from the individual as reasonably possible, including the type, placement and alleged detonation time of the device.

If the bomb threat is received on a recorded line, reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that the recording is preserved in accordance with established department evidence procedures.

The member receiving the bomb threat should ensure that the Shift Supervisor is immediately advised and informed of the details. This will enable the Shift Supervisor to ensure that the appropriate personnel are dispatched and, as appropriate, the threatened location is given an advance warning.

416.4 GOVERNMENT FACILITY OR PROPERTY

A bomb threat targeting a government facility may require a different response based on the government agency.

416.4.1 METRO TRANSIT POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITY

If the bomb threat is against the Metro Transit Police Department facility, the Shift Supervisor will direct and assign officers as required for coordinating a general building search or evacuation of the police department, as he/she deems appropriate.

416.4.2 OTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL FACILITY OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a county or municipal facility within the jurisdiction of the Metro Transit Police Department that is not the property of this department, the appropriate agency will be promptly informed of the threat. Assistance to the other entity may be provided as the Shift Supervisor deems appropriate.

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416.4.3 FEDERAL BUILDING OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a federal building or property, the Federal Protective Service should be immediately notified. The Federal Protective Service provides a uniformed law enforcement response for most facilities, which may include use of its Explosive Detector Dog teams.

If the bomb threat is against a federal government property where the Federal Protective Service is unable to provide a timely response, the appropriate facility's security or command staff should be notified.

Bomb threats against a military installation should be reported to the military police or other military security responsible for the installation.

416.5 PRIVATE FACILITY OR PROPERTY

When a member of this department receives notification of a bomb threat at a Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit location, the member receiving the notification should obtain as much information as reasonably possible from the notifying individual, including:

- (a) The location of the facility.
- (b) The nature of the threat.
- (c) Whether the type and detonation time of the device is known.
- (d) Whether the facility is occupied, and if so, the number of occupants currently on-scene.
- (e) Whether the individual is requesting police assistance at the facility.
- (f) Whether there are any internal facility procedures regarding bomb threats in place, such as:
 1. No evacuation of personnel and no search for a device.
 2. Search for a device without evacuation of personnel.
 3. Evacuation of personnel without a search for a device.
 4. Evacuation of personnel and a search for a device.

The member receiving the bomb threat information should ensure that the Shift Supervisor is immediately notified so that he/she can communicate with the person in charge of the threatened facility.

416.5.1 ASSISTANCE

The Shift Supervisor should be notified when police assistance is requested. The Shift Supervisor will make the decision whether the Department will render assistance and at what level. Information and circumstances that indicate a reasonably apparent, imminent threat to the safety of either the facility or the public may require a more active approach, including police control over the facility.

Should the Shift Supervisor determine that the Department will assist or control such an incident, he/she will determine:

- (a) The appropriate level of assistance.

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- (b) The plan for assistance.
- (c) Whether to evacuate and/or search the facility.
- (d) Whether to involve facility staff in the search or evacuation of the building.
 - 1. The person in charge of the facility should be made aware of the possibility of damage to the facility as a result of a search.
 - 2. The safety of all participants is the paramount concern.
- (e) The need for additional resources, including:
 - 1. Notification and response, or standby notice, for fire and emergency medical services.

Even though a facility does not request police assistance to clear the interior of a building, based upon the circumstances and known threat, officers may be sent to the scene to evacuate other areas that could be affected by the type of threat, or for traffic and pedestrian control.

416.6 FOUND DEVICE

When handling an incident involving a suspected explosive device, the following guidelines, while not all inclusive, should be followed:

- (a) No known or suspected explosive item should be considered safe regardless of its size or apparent packaging.
- (b) The device should not be touched or moved except by the bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team.
- (c) Personnel should not transmit on any equipment that is capable of producing radio frequency energy within the evacuation area around the suspected device. This includes the following:
 - 1. Two-way radios
 - 2. Cell phones
 - 3. Other personal communication devices
- (d) The appropriate bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team should be summoned for assistance.
- (e) The largest perimeter reasonably possible should initially be established around the device based upon available personnel and the anticipated danger zone.
- (f) A safe access route should be provided for support personnel and equipment.
- (g) Search the area for secondary devices as appropriate and based upon available resources.
- (h) Consider evacuation of buildings and personnel near the device or inside the danger zone and the safest exit route.
- (i) Promptly relay available information to the Shift Supervisor including:
 - 1. The time of discovery.

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2. The exact location of the device.
3. A full description of the device (e.g., size, shape, markings, construction).
4. The anticipated danger zone and perimeter.
5. The areas to be evacuated or cleared.

416.7 EXPLOSION/BOMBING INCIDENTS

When an explosion has occurred, there are multitudes of considerations which may confront the responding officers. As in other catastrophic events, a rapid response may help to minimize injury to victims, minimize contamination of the scene by gathering crowds, or minimize any additional damage from fires or unstable structures.

416.7.1 CONSIDERATIONS

Officers responding to explosions, whether accidental or a criminal act, should consider the following actions:

- (a) Assess the scope of the incident, including the number of victims and extent of injuries.
- (b) Request additional personnel and resources, as appropriate.
- (c) Assist with first aid.
- (d) Identify and take appropriate precautions to mitigate scene hazards, such as collapsed structures, bloodborne pathogens and hazardous materials.
- (e) Assist with the safe evacuation of victims, if possible.
- (f) Establish an inner perimeter to include entry points and evacuation routes. Search for additional or secondary devices.
- (g) Preserve evidence.
- (h) Establish an outer perimeter and evacuate if necessary.
- (i) Identify witnesses.

416.7.2 NOTIFICATIONS

When an explosion has occurred, the following people should be notified as appropriate:

- Fire department
- Bomb squad
- Additional department personnel, such as investigators and forensic services
- Field supervisor
- Shift Supervisor
- Other law enforcement agencies, including local, state or federal agencies, such as the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
- Other government agencies, as appropriate

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416.7.3 CROWD CONTROL

Only authorized members with a legitimate need should be permitted access to the scene. Spectators and other unauthorized individuals should be restricted to a safe distance as is reasonably practicable given the available resources and personnel.

416.7.4 PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE

As in any other crime scene, steps should immediately be taken to preserve the scene. The Shift Supervisor should assign officers to protect the crime scene area, which could extend over a long distance. Consideration should be given to the fact that evidence may be imbedded in nearby structures or hanging in trees and bushes.

Civil Commitments

418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for when officers may place an individual in protective custody and request a 72-hour hold under the Minnesota Commitment and Treatment Act (Minn. Stat. § 253B.051).

418.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department to protect the public and individuals through legal and appropriate use of the 72-hour hold process.

418.3 AUTHORITY

An officer, having probable cause to believe that any individual because of mental illness, chemical dependency, or public intoxication is in danger of injuring him/herself or others if not immediately detained, may take, or cause to be taken, the individual to an appropriate treatment facility for a 72-hour evaluation (Minn. Stat. § 253B.051, Subd. 1).

The officer shall make written application for admission of the individual to an appropriate treatment facility. The application shall contain the officer's reasons for and circumstances under which the individual was taken into custody. If danger to specific individuals is a basis for the requested emergency hold, the statement must include identifying information for those individuals to the extent reasonably practicable. The officer shall also provide the department contact information for purposes of receiving notice if the individual is released prior to the 72-hour admission or leaves the facility without consent. The facility shall make a copy of the statement available to the individual taken into custody (Minn. Stat. § 253B.051, Subd. 1).

418.3.1 VOLUNTARY EVALUATION

If an officer encounters an individual who may qualify for a 72-hour hold, he/she may inquire as to whether the person desires to voluntarily be evaluated at an appropriate facility. If the individual so desires, the officers should:

- (a) Transport the individual to an appropriate facility that is able to conduct the evaluation and admit the person pursuant to the Minnesota Commitment and Treatment Act.
- (b) If at any point the individual changes his/her mind regarding voluntary evaluation, officers should proceed with the application for a 72-hour hold, if appropriate.
- (c) Document the circumstances surrounding the individual's desire to pursue voluntary evaluation and/or admission.

418.4 CONSIDERATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Any officer handling a call involving an individual who may qualify for a 72-hour hold should consider, as time and circumstances reasonably permit:

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- (a) Available information that might assist in determining the cause and nature of the individual's action or stated intentions.
- (b) Community or neighborhood mediation services.
- (c) Conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques.
- (d) Community or other resources available to assist in dealing with mental health issues.

While these steps are encouraged, nothing in this section is intended to dissuade officers from taking reasonable action to ensure the safety of the officers and others.

418.5 TRANSPORTATION

When transporting any individual for a 72-hour hold, the transporting officer should have Transit Control Center notify the receiving facility of the estimated time of arrival, the level of cooperation of the individual and whether any special medical care is needed.

Officers may transport individuals in a patrol unit and shall secure them in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. Should the detainee require transport in a medical transport vehicle and the safety of any person, including the detainee, requires the presence of an officer during the transport, Shift Supervisor approval is required before transport commences.

418.5.1 TYPE OF TRANSPORTATION

When transporting any individual on a Minn. Stat. § 253B.051 admission, and if reasonably practicable, officers should not be in uniform and should not use a vehicle visibly marked as a law enforcement vehicle (Minn. Stat. § 253B.051, Subd. 1(e)).

418.6 TRANSFER TO APPROPRIATE FACILITY

Upon arrival at the facility, the officer will escort the individual into a treatment area designated by a facility staff member. If the individual is not seeking treatment voluntarily, the officer should provide the staff member with the written application for a 72-hour hold and remain present to provide clarification of the grounds for detention, upon request.

Absent exigent circumstances, the transporting officer should not assist facility staff with the admission process, including restraint of the individual. However, if the individual is transported and delivered while restrained, the officer may assist with transferring the individual to facility restraints and will be available to assist during the admission process, if requested. Under normal circumstances, officers will not apply facility-ordered restraints.

418.7 DOCUMENTATION

The officer should complete an application for emergency admission, provide it to the facility staff member assigned to that patient and retain a copy of the application for inclusion in the case report.

The officer should also provide a verbal summary to any evaluating staff member regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary detention.

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418.8 CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Officers investigating an individual who is suspected of committing a minor criminal offense and who is being taken into custody for purposes of a 72-hour hold should resolve the criminal matter by issuing a warning or a citation, as appropriate.

When an individual who may qualify for a 72-hour hold has committed a serious criminal offense that would normally result in an arrest and transfer to a jail facility, the officer should:

- (a) Arrest the individual when there is probable cause to do so.
- (b) Notify the appropriate supervisor of the facts supporting the arrest and the facts that would support the 72-hour hold.
- (c) Facilitate the individual's transfer to jail.
- (d) Thoroughly document in the related reports the circumstances that indicate the individual may qualify for a 72-hour hold.

In the supervisor's judgment, the individual may instead be arrested or booked and transported to the appropriate mental health facility. The supervisor should consider the seriousness of the offense, the treatment options available, the ability of this department to regain custody of the individual, department resources (e.g., posting a guard) and other relevant factors in making this decision.

418.9 FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS

Whenever an individual is taken into custody for a 72-hour hold, the handling officers should seek to determine if the individual owns or has access to any firearm or other deadly weapon. Officers should consider whether it is appropriate and consistent with current search and seizure law under the circumstances to seize any such firearms or other dangerous weapons (e.g., safekeeping, evidence, consent).

Officers are cautioned that a search warrant may be needed before entering a residence or other place to search unless lawful warrantless entry has already been made (e.g., exigent circumstances, consent). A warrant may also be needed before searching for or seizing weapons.

The handling officers should further advise the individual of the procedure for the return of any firearm or other weapon that has been taken into custody.

418.10 TRAINING

This department will endeavor to provide department-approved training on interaction with mentally disabled persons, 72-hour holds and crisis intervention.

Cite and Release Policy

420.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of the Metro Transit Police Department with guidance on when to release adults who are suspected offenders on a citation for a criminal offense, rather than having the person held in custody for a court appearance or released on bail.

This policy also provides guidance on when a court orders that a person be released.

Additional release restrictions may apply to those detained for domestic violence, as outlined in the Domestic Abuse Policy.

420.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department will consider its resources and its mission of protecting the community when exercising any discretion to release suspected offenders on a citation, when authorized to do so.

420.3 RELEASE

A suspected offender shall be released on issuance of a citation:

- (a) When the offender has been arrested without a warrant and either a prosecutor or district court judge orders that the offender should be released (Minn. R. Crim. P. 4.02; Minn. R. Crim. P. 6.01).
 - 1. Release is not required if a reviewing supervisor determines that the offender should be held pursuant to Minn. R. Crim. P. 6.01 Subd. 1.
- (b) When the offender is charged with a petty or fine-only misdemeanor (Minn. R. Crim. P. 6.01).
- (c) In misdemeanor cases unless it reasonably appears to the arresting officer that the offender will (Minn. R. Crim. P. 6.01):
 - 1. Cause bodily injury to him/herself or another if he/she is not detained.
 - 2. Continue engaging in criminal conduct.
 - 3. Not respond to a citation.
- (d) When the offender is from another state which has a reciprocal agreement with Minnesota unless the offense is (Minn. Stat. § 169.91):
 - 1. One which would result in the revocation of the offender's driver's license under Minnesota law upon conviction.
 - 2. A violation of a highway weight limitation.
 - 3. A violation of a law governing the transportation of hazardous materials.
 - 4. That the offender was driving without a valid driver's license.

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Cite and Release Policy

420.4 PROHIBITIONS

The release of a suspected offender on a citation is not permitted when:

- (a) The offender has committed a driving while impaired (DWI) offense (Minn. Stat. § 169A.40; Minn. Stat. § 169.91).
- (b) The offender is arrested for a violation of state law or an ordinance related to the operation or registration of a vehicle punishable as a misdemeanor or felony and (Minn. Stat. § 169.91):
 1. The offender demands an immediate appearance before a judge.
 2. The offender is charged with:
 - (a) An offense involving an accident that resulted in injury or death.
 - (b) Criminal vehicular homicide.
 - (c) Failure to stop after being involved in an accident that resulted in death, personal injuries or damage to property.
 3. There is reasonable cause to believe that the offender may leave the state.

See the Domestic Abuse Policy for release restrictions related to those investigations.

420.5 CONSIDERATIONS

In determining whether to cite and release a person when discretion is permitted, officers should consider:

- (a) The type of offense committed.
- (b) The known criminal history of the suspected offender.
- (c) The ability to identify the suspected offender with reasonable certainty.
- (d) Whether there is any record of the individual failing to appear in previous cases or other articulable indications that the individual may not appear in court for this offense.
- (e) The individual's ties to the area, such as residence, employment or family.
- (f) Whether there is reasonable likelihood that criminal conduct by the individual will continue.

420.6 FISH AND GAME AND ENVIRONMENT-RELATED OFFENSES

In the case of game and fish laws or other environment-related offenses, as specified in Minn. Stat. § 97A.211, officers should release the offender unless there is reason to believe that criminal conduct will continue or that the offender will not respond as required by the citation (Minn. Stat. § 97A.211).

Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Metro Transit Police Department extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

422.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department respects international laws related to the special privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives assigned to the United States.

All foreign diplomatic and consular representatives shall be treated with respect and courtesy, regardless of any privileges or immunities afforded them.

422.3 CLAIMS OF IMMUNITY

If a member comes into contact with a person where law enforcement action may be warranted and the person claims diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, the member should, without delay:

- (a) Notify a supervisor.
- (b) Advise the person that his/her claim will be investigated and he/she may be released in accordance with the law upon confirmation of the person's status.
- (c) Request the person's identification card, either issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Chief of Protocol, or in the case of persons accredited to the United Nations, by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. These are the only reliable documents for purposes of determining privileges and immunities.
- (d) Contact the DOS Diplomatic Security Command Center at 571-345-3146 or toll free at 866-217-2089, or at another current telephone number and inform the center of the circumstances.
- (e) Verify the immunity status with DOS and follow any instructions regarding further detention, arrest, prosecution and/or release, as indicated by the DOS representative. This may require immediate release, even if a crime has been committed.

Identity or immunity status should not be presumed from the type of license plates displayed on a vehicle. If there is a question as to the status or the legitimate possession of a Diplomat or Consul license plate, a query should be run via the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), designating "US" as the state.

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422.4 ENFORCEMENT ACTION

If the DOS is not immediately available for consultation regarding law enforcement action, members shall be aware of the following:

- (a) Generally, all persons with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may be issued a citation or notice to appear. However, the person may not be compelled to sign the citation.
- (b) All persons, even those with a valid privilege or immunity, may be reasonably restrained in exigent circumstances for purposes of self-defense, public safety or the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) An impaired foreign diplomatic or consular representative may be prevented from driving a vehicle, even if the person may not be arrested due to privileges and immunities.
 1. Investigations, including the request for field sobriety tests, chemical tests and any other tests regarding impaired driving may proceed but they shall not be compelled.
- (d) The following persons may not be detained or arrested, and any property or vehicle owned by these persons may not be searched or seized:
 1. Diplomatic-level staff of missions to international organizations and recognized family members
 2. Diplomatic agents and recognized family members
 3. Members of administrative and technical staff of a diplomatic mission and recognized family members
 4. Career consular officers, unless the person is the subject of a felony warrant
- (e) The following persons may generally be detained and arrested:
 1. International organization staff; however, some senior officers are entitled to the same treatment as diplomatic agents.
 2. Support staff of missions to international organizations.
 3. Diplomatic service staff and consular employees; however, special bilateral agreements may exclude employees of certain foreign countries.
 4. Honorary consular officers.

422.5 DOCUMENTATION

All contacts with persons who have claimed privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives should be thoroughly documented and the related reports forwarded to DOS.

422.6 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TABLE

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

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Category	Arrested or Detained	Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures	Issued Traffic Citation	Subpoenaed as Witness	Prosecuted	Recognized Family Members
Diplomatic Agent	No (note b)	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Member of Admin and Tech Staff	No (note b)	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
Service Staff	Yes (note a)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note a)	No immunity or inviolability (note a)
Career Consul Officer	Yes if for a felony and pursuant to a warrant (note a)	Yes (note d)	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note a)	No immunity or inviolability
Honorable Consul Officer	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability
Consulate Employees	Yes (note a)	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note a)	No immunity or inviolability (note a)
Int'l Org Staff (note b)	Yes (note c)	Yes (note c)	Yes	Yes (note c)	No for official acts Yes otherwise (note c)	No immunity or inviolability
Diplomatic-Level Staff of Missions to Int'l Org	No (note b)	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)

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Support Staff of Missions to Int'l Orgs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability
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Notes for diplomatic immunity table:

- (a) This table presents general rules. The employees of certain foreign countries may enjoy higher levels of privileges and immunities on the basis of special bilateral agreements.
- (b) Reasonable constraints, however, may be applied in emergency circumstances involving self-defense, public safety, or in the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) A small number of senior officers are entitled to be treated identically to diplomatic agents.
- (d) Note that consul residences are sometimes located within the official consular premises. In such cases, only the official office space is protected from police entry.

Rapid Response and Deployment

424.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Violence that is committed in schools, workplaces and other locations by individuals or a group of individuals who are determined to target and kill persons and to create mass casualties presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist officers in situations that call for rapid response and deployment.

424.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations, and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those that are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the Department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

424.3 FIRST RESPONSE

If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding officers should consider reasonable options to reduce, prevent or eliminate the threat. Officers must decide, often under a multitude of difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat or wait for additional resources.

If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, officers should take immediate action, if reasonably practicable, while requesting additional assistance.

Officers should remain aware of the possibility that an incident may be part of a coordinated multi-location attack that may require some capacity to respond to other incidents at other locations.

When deciding on a course of action officers should consider:

- (a) Whether to advance on or engage a suspect who is still a possible or perceived threat to others. Any advance or engagement should be based on information known or received at the time.
- (b) Whether to wait for additional resources or personnel. This does not preclude an individual officer from taking immediate action.
- (c) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved or evacuated with reasonable safety.
- (d) Whether the suspect can be contained or denied access to victims.
- (e) Whether the officers have the ability to effectively communicate with other personnel or resources.

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- (f) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.
- (g) The availability of rifles, shields, breaching tools, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.

In a case of a barricaded suspect with no hostages and no immediate threat to others, officers should consider summoning and waiting for additional assistance (special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).

424.4 CONSIDERATIONS

When dealing with a crisis situation members should:

- (a) Assess the immediate situation and take reasonable steps to maintain operative control of the incident.
- (b) Obtain, explore and analyze sources of intelligence and known information regarding the circumstances, location and suspect involved in the incident.
- (c) Attempt to attain a tactical advantage over the suspect by reducing, preventing or eliminating any known or perceived threat.
- (d) Attempt, if feasible and based upon the suspect's actions and danger to others, a negotiated surrender of the suspect and release of the hostages.

424.5 PLANNING

A Patrol Division Commander or designee should coordinate critical incident planning. Planning efforts should consider:

- (a) Identification of likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.
- (b) Availability of building plans and venue schematics of likely critical incident target sites.
- (c) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (d) Training opportunities in critical incident target sites, including joint training with site occupants.
- (e) Evacuation routes in critical incident target sites.
- (f) Patrol first-response training.
- (g) Response coordination and resources of emergency medical and fire services.
- (h) Equipment needs.
- (i) Mutual aid agreements with other agencies.
- (j) Coordination with private security providers in critical incident target sites.

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424.6 TRAINING

The Training Manager should include rapid response to critical incidents in the training plan. This training should address:

- (a) Orientation to likely critical incident target sites, such as schools, shopping centers, entertainment and sporting event venues.
- (b) Communications interoperability with other law enforcement and emergency service agencies.
- (c) Patrol first-response training, including patrol rifle, breaching tool and control device training.
- (d) First aid, including gunshot trauma.
- (e) Reality-based scenario training (e.g., active shooter, disgruntled violent worker).

Immigration Enforcement

427.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of the Metro Transit Police Department to ensure equal enforcement of the law and equal service to all persons regardless of their immigration status. The immigration status of an individual alone is generally not a matter for transit police action.

427.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department that all members make personal and professional commitments to equal enforcement of the law and equal service to the public. Confidence in this commitment will increase the effectiveness of this department in protecting and serving the entire community and recognizing the dignity of all persons, regardless of their immigration status.

The Metro Transit Police Department is concerned for the safety of the public and thus detection of criminal activity is of primary interest in dealing with any person. The decision to arrest shall be based upon those factors which establish probable cause and not on arbitrary aspects. Race, ethnicity or nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, economic status, age, culture, group, disability or affiliation with any other similar identifiable group shall not be used as the basis for providing differing levels of law enforcement service or the enforcement of the law (Minn. Stat. §626.8471, Subd.3).

Metro Transit police officers and staff shall not undertake any law enforcement action for the sole purpose of detecting the presence of an undocumented person or persons or to verify immigration status, including but not limited to questioning any person or persons about their immigration status. Metro Transit police officers and staff shall not question or detain any person for violations of federal civil immigration laws except when immigration status is an element of the crime or when enforcing 8 USC § 1324c.

427.3 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

To encourage crime reporting and cooperation in the investigation of criminal activity, all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure that contacting or being addressed by members of law enforcement will not lead to immigration inquiry. While it may be necessary to determine the identity of a victim or witness, Department members shall treat all individuals equally and without regard to race, color or national origin in any way that would violate the United States or Minnesota Constitutions.

427.4 ENFORCEMENT

The Metro Transit Police Department does not independently conduct sweeps or other concentrated efforts to detain suspected undocumented persons. The Metro Transit Police

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Immigration Enforcement

Department does not participate in ICE or other immigration related sweeps or concentrated efforts to detain suspected undocumented persons.

Unless immigration status is relevant to another criminal offense or investigation (e.g., human trafficking, smuggling, terrorism), the fact that an individual is suspected of being an undocumented person shall not be the sole basis for contact, detention or arrest.

427.4.1 IMMIGRATION CHECKS

Immigration status may be determined through any of the following sources:

- (a) A law enforcement officer who is authorized by the federal government under 8 USC § 1357 to verify or ascertain an alien's immigration status (sometimes referred to as a 287(g) certified officer)
- (b) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- (c) U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

427.5 ARREST NOTIFICATION TO IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

An officer will not notify ICE when booking arrestees at the county jail.

427.6 ICE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

Requests by ICE, or any other federal agency, for assistance from this department should be directed to the Chief of Police. The Department may provide available support services, such as traffic control or peacekeeping efforts, to ICE or other federal agencies if approved by the Chief of Police. The Chief of Police need not be consulted in the event of exigent circumstances such as an imminent loss of life and/or officer safety concerns.

427.7 INFORMATION SHARING

Nothing in this policy is intended to restrict officers from exchanging legitimate law enforcement information with any other federal, state or local government entity (8 USC § 1373).

427.8 U VISA AND T VISA NON-IMMIGRANT STATUS

Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)). A law enforcement certification for a U visa may be completed by an officer in order for a U visa to be issued.

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)). A law enforcement declaration for a T visa may be completed by an officer in order for a T visa to be issued.

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Immigration Enforcement

Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Investigation Division supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Investigation Division supervisor should:

- (a) Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.
- (b) Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.
- (c) Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner.
 - 1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.
- (d) Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.

427.9 TRAINING

The Training Manager shall ensure that all appropriate members receive immigration training.

Emergency Utility Service

430.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The local jurisdiction's Public Works Department and Metro Transit have personnel available to handle emergency calls 24 hours per day. Calls for service during non-business hours are frequently directed to the Police Department. Requests for such service received by this department should be handled in the following manner.

Regardless of what the break or malfunction is (e.g. water line, electrical line, traffic signal etc), if it belongs to a local jurisdiction, that jurisdiction shall be notified. If the break or malfunction belongs to the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit, the proper owner shall be notified. Upon the officer notifying the TCC of the break and/or malfunction, TCC will make the necessary notifications on behalf of the officer.

430.1.1 EMERGENCY NUMBERS

A current list of emergency personnel who are to be called for Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit emergencies will be maintained by the Transit Control Center.

Patrol Rifles

432.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

To more effectively and accurately address the increasing level of firepower and body armor utilized by criminal suspects, the Metro Transit Police Department will make patrol rifles available to qualified officers as an additional and more immediate tactical resource.

432.2 PATROL RIFLE

432.2.1 DEFINITION

Patrol Rifle - An authorized weapon which is owned by the Department and which is made available to properly trained and qualified officers as a supplemental resource to their duty handgun. No personally owned rifles may be carried for patrol duty unless pre-approved in writing by the Chief of Police and the Department armorer.

432.3 SPECIFICATIONS

Only weapons and ammunition that meet agency authorized specifications, approved by the Chief of Police and issued by the Department, may be used by officers in their law enforcement responsibilities. The authorized patrol rifle issued by the Department is the Smith and Wesson M&P 15 and/or Bushmaster M4.

432.4 RIFLE MAINTENANCE

- (a) Primary responsibility for maintenance of patrol rifles shall fall on the Armorer or armorer, who shall inspect and service each patrol rifle on an annual basis.
- (b) Each patrol officer carrying a patrol rifle may be required to field strip and clean an assigned patrol rifle as needed.
- (c) Each patrol officer shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned patrol rifle to a supervisor, the Armorer or armorer.
- (d) Any patrol rifle found to be unserviceable shall also be clearly identified as non-serviceable, including details regarding the unserviceable condition.
- (e) Each patrol rifle shall be subject to inspection by a supervisor, the Armorer or armorer at any time.
- (f) No modification shall be made to any patrol rifle without prior written authorization from the Armorer or armorer.

432.5 TRAINING

Officers shall not carry or utilize the patrol rifle unless they have successfully completed Department training. This training shall consist of a patrol rifle user's course and qualification score

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with a certified patrol rifle instructor. Officers shall thereafter be required to successfully complete a yearly firearms proficiency qualification conducted by a certified patrol rifle instructor.

Any officer who fails to qualify or who fails to successfully complete a Department-sanctioned training/qualification session within a calendar year will no longer be authorized to carry the patrol rifle without successfully passing remedial training and qualification.

432.6 DEPLOYMENT OF THE PATROL RIFLE

Officers may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the officer can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Situations where the officer reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.
- (b) When an officer is faced with a situation that may require the delivery of accurate and effective fire at long range.
- (c) Situations where an officer reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.
- (d) When an officer reasonably believes that there may be a need to deliver fire on a barricaded suspect or a suspect with a hostage.
- (e) When an officer reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor.
- (f) When authorized or requested by a supervisor.
- (g) When appropriate to aid in the dispatch of an animal.

432.7 DISCHARGE OF THE PATROL RIFLE

The discharge of the patrol rifle shall be governed by the Use of Force Policy and the Shooting Policy.

432.8 PATROL READY

Any qualified officer carrying a patrol rifle in the field shall maintain the weapon in a patrol ready condition until deployed. A rifle is considered in a patrol ready condition when it has been inspected by the assigned officer at the start of their shift and the following conditions are met:

- (a) The fire selector switch is in the safe position.
- (b) The chamber is empty.
- (c) The bolt is forward.
- (d) A 20 or 30 round magazine (loaded with 18 or 28 rounds) is inserted into the magazine well.
- (e) The dust cover is closed.

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432.9 RIFLE STORAGE

- (a) When not in use or assigned to a squad, patrol rifles will be stored in the Department armory.
- (b) The last three digits of the assigned patrol rifle serial number will be recorded on the Daily Activity Log.
- (c) In-service patrol rifles should be secured in the vehicle gun lock or cased in the trunk if a gun lock is not available.

Field Training Officer Program

435.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Field Training Officer Program is intended to provide a standardized program to facilitate the officer's transition from the academic setting to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties of the Metro Transit Police Department.

It is the policy of this department to assign all new police officers to a structured Field Training Officer Program that is designed to prepare the new officer to perform in a patrol assignment and to acquire all of the skills needed to operate in a safe, productive and professional manner.

435.2 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER - SELECTION AND TRAINING

The Field Training Officer (FTO) is an experienced officer trained in the art of supervising, training and evaluating entry-level and lateral police officers in the application of their previously acquired knowledge and skills.

435.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

FTOs will be selected based on the following requirements:

- (a) Desire to be an FTO (e.g. submitting a letter of interest).
- (b) Minimum of two years of patrol experience with this department.
- (c) Demonstrated ability as a positive role model.
- (d) Evaluation by supervisors and current FTO's.
- (e) Other criteria may be established at the time of the FTO posting.

435.2.2 CONTINUED TRAINING

All FTOs must complete a POST-approved FTO course every five years while assigned to the position of FTO.

435.3 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

The Field Training Officer Program Supervisor will be selected by the Chief of Police or designee.

The responsibilities of the FTO Program Supervisor include the following:

- (a) Assignment of trainees to FTO's.
- (b) Conduct FTO meetings to ensure understanding and compliance with the Field Training Program requirements.
- (c) Maintain and ensure FTO/trainee performance evaluations are completed through the established review and approval process.
- (d) Maintain, update and issue the Field Training Manual to each trainee.
- (e) Monitor individual FTO performance.

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- (f) Monitor overall FTO Program.
- (g) Maintain liaison with FTO coordinators of other agencies.
- (h) Develop ongoing training for FTO's.
- (i) Conduct an annual program review with the FTO's and provide recommendations for change, if any, to the Chief of Police or designee.

435.4 TRAINEE DEFINED

Trainee - Any entry level or lateral police officer newly appointed to the Metro Transit Police Department who possesses a Minnesota POST license or is eligible to be licensed.

435.5 REQUIRED TRAINING

Entry level officers shall be required to successfully complete the Field Training Program (typically 16 weeks in duration).

The training period for lateral officers may be modified depending on the trainee's demonstrated performance and level of experience.

The required training will take place on at least two different shifts and with at least two different FTO's if reasonably possible.

435.5.1 FIELD TRAINING MANUAL

Each new officer will be issued a Field Training Manual at the beginning of his/her Primary Training Phase. This manual is an outline of the subject matter and skills necessary to properly function as an officer with the Metro Transit Police Department. The officer shall become knowledgeable of the subject matter as outlined. He/she shall also become proficient with those skills as set forth in the manual.

The Field Training Manual will specifically cover those policies, procedures, rules and regulations enacted by the Metro Transit Police Department.

435.6 EVALUATIONS

Evaluations are an important component of the training process and shall be completed as outlined below.

435.6.1 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER

The FTO will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Completing and submitting a written evaluation on the performance of the assigned trainee to the FTO Program Supervisor on a daily basis.
- (b) Reviewing the Daily Observation Report (DOR) with the trainee each day.
- (c) Completing a detailed end-of-phase performance evaluation on the assigned trainee at the end of each phase of training.

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- (d) Signing off all completed topics contained in the Field Training Manual, noting the method of learning and evaluating the performance of the assigned trainee.

435.6.2 IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR

The immediate shift supervisor shall be kept apprised on the progress/status of the trainee assigned to their shift and shall forward any concerns to the FTO Program Supervisor.

435.6.3 TRAINEE

At the completion of the Field Training Program, the trainee shall submit a performance evaluation of each of his/her FTOs and of the Field Training Program.

435.7 DOCUMENTATION

All documentation of the Field Training Program will be retained in the officer's training files and will consist of the following:

- (a) Daily Observation Reports (DOR's).
- (b) End of phase / bi-weekly evaluations.
- (c) Performance Improvement Plans (PIP's).
- (d) A Certificate of Completion, certifying that the trainee has successfully completed the required number of hours of field training.

Obtaining Air Support

437.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The use of air support can be invaluable in certain situations. This policy specifies potential situations where the use of air support may be requested and the responsibilities for making a request.

437.2 REQUEST FOR AIR SUPPORT ASSISTANCE

If a supervisor or officer in charge of an incident determines that the use of air support would be beneficial, a request to obtain air support assistance may be made.

437.2.1 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ANOTHER AGENCY

After consideration and approval of the request for air support, the Shift Supervisor or designee will call the closest agency having air support available. The Shift Supervisor will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

437.2.2 CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE REQUESTED

Law enforcement air support may be requested under any of the following conditions:

- (a) When the aircraft is activated under existing mutual aid agreements.
- (b) Whenever the safety of law enforcement personnel is in jeopardy and the presence of the aircraft may reduce such hazard.
- (c) When the use of aircraft will aid in the capture of a suspected fleeing felon whose continued freedom represents an ongoing threat to the community.
- (d) When an aircraft is needed to locate a person who has strayed or is lost and whose continued absence constitutes a serious health or safety hazard.
- (e) Vehicle pursuits (Minn. Stat. § 626.8458).
- (f) When the Shift Supervisor or equivalent authority determines a reasonable need exists.

While it is recognized that the availability of air support will generally provide valuable assistance to ground personnel, the presence of air support will rarely replace the need for officers on the ground.

Contacts and Temporary Detentions

439.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for temporarily detaining but not arresting persons in the field, conducting field interviews (FI) and pat-down searches, and the taking and disposition of photographs.

439.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Consensual encounter - When an officer contacts an individual but does not create a detention through words, actions, or other means. In other words, a reasonable individual would believe that his/her contact with the officer is voluntary.

Field interview (FI) - The brief detainment of an individual, whether on foot or in a vehicle, based on reasonable suspicion for the purpose of determining the individual's identity and resolving the officer's suspicions.

Field photographs - Posed photographs taken of a person during a contact, temporary detention, or arrest in the field. Undercover surveillance photographs of an individual and recordings captured by the normal operation of a Mobile Video Recorder (MVR) system, body-worn camera, or public safety camera when persons are not posed for the purpose of photographing are not considered field photographs.

Pat-down search - A type of search used by officers in the field to check an individual for dangerous weapons. It involves a thorough patting-down of clothing to locate any weapons or dangerous items that could pose a danger to the [officer_deputy], the detainee, or others.

Reasonable suspicion - When, under the totality of the circumstances, an officer has articulable facts that criminal activity may be afoot and a particular person is connected with that possible criminal activity.

Temporary detention - When an officer intentionally, through words, actions, or physical force, causes an individual to reasonably believe he/she is required to restrict his/her movement without an actual arrest. Temporary detentions also occur when an officer actually restrains a person's freedom of movement.

439.2 FIELD INTERVIEWS

Based on observance of suspicious circumstances or upon information from investigation, an officer may initiate the stop of a person, and conduct an FI, when there is articulable, reasonable suspicion to do so. A person, however, shall not be detained longer than is reasonably necessary to resolve the officer's suspicion.

Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage consensual contacts. Frequent casual contact with consenting individuals is encouraged by the Metro Transit Police Department to strengthen community involvement, community awareness, and problem identification.

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439.2.1 INITIATING A FIELD INTERVIEW

When initiating the stop, the officer should be able to point to specific facts which, when considered with the totality of the circumstances, reasonably warrant the stop. Such facts include but are not limited to an individual's:

- (a) Appearance or demeanor suggesting that he/she is part of a criminal enterprise or is engaged in a criminal act.
- (b) Actions suggesting that he/she is engaged in a criminal activity.
- (c) Presence in an area at an inappropriate hour of the day or night.
- (d) Presence in a particular area is suspicious.
- (e) Carrying of suspicious objects or items.
- (f) Excessive clothes for the climate or clothes bulging in a manner that suggest he/she is carrying a dangerous weapon.
- (g) Location in proximate time and place to an alleged crime.
- (h) Physical description or clothing worn that matches a suspect in a recent crime.
- (i) Prior criminal record or involvement in criminal activity as known by the officer.

439.3 PAT-DOWN SEARCHES

Once a valid stop has been made, and consistent with the officer's training and experience, an officer may pat a suspect's outer clothing for weapons if the officer has a reasonable, articulable suspicion the suspect may pose a safety risk. The purpose of this limited search is not to discover evidence of a crime, but to allow the officer to pursue the investigation without fear of violence. Circumstances that may establish justification for performing a pat-down search include but are not limited to:

- (a) The type of crime suspected, particularly in crimes of violence where the use or threat of weapons is involved.
- (b) Where more than one suspect must be handled by a single officer.
- (c) The hour of the day and the location or area where the stop takes place.
- (d) Prior knowledge of the suspect's use of force and/or propensity to carry weapons.
- (e) The actions and demeanor of the suspect.
- (f) Visual indications which suggest that the suspect is carrying a firearm or other dangerous weapon.

Whenever practicable, a pat-down search should not be conducted by a lone officer. A cover officer should be positioned to ensure safety and should not be involved in the search.

439.4 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS

All available databases should be searched before photographing any field detainee. If a photograph is not located, or if an existing photograph no longer resembles the detainee, the officer shall carefully consider, among other things, the factors listed below.

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439.4.1 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITH CONSENT

Field photographs may be taken when the subject of the photograph knowingly and voluntarily gives consent. When taking a consensual photograph, the officer should note in a report that the subject consented to the photograph being taken.

439.4.2 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITHOUT CONSENT

Field photographs may be taken without consent only if they are taken during a detention that is based upon reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, and the photograph serves a legitimate law enforcement purpose related to the detention. The officer must be able to articulate facts that reasonably indicate that the subject was involved in or was about to become involved in criminal conduct. The subject should not be ordered to remove or lift any clothing for the purpose of taking a photograph.

If, prior to taking a photograph, the officer's reasonable suspicion of criminal activity has been dispelled, the detention must cease and the photograph should not be taken.

All field photographs and related reports shall be submitted to a supervisor and retained in compliance with this policy.

439.4.3 DISPOSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

All detainee photographs must be adequately labeled and submitted to the Shift Supervisor with either an associated FI card or other documentation explaining the nature of the contact. If an individual is photographed as a suspect in a particular crime, the photograph should be submitted as an evidence item in the related case, following standard evidence procedures.

If a photograph is not associated with an investigation where a case number has been issued, the Shift Supervisor should review and forward the photograph to one of the following locations:

- (a) If the photograph and associated FI or documentation is relevant to criminal organization/enterprise enforcement, the Shift Supervisor will forward the photograph and documents to the designated criminal intelligence system supervisor. The supervisor will ensure the photograph and supporting documents are retained as prescribed in the Criminal Organizations Policy.
- (b) Photographs that do not qualify for retention in a criminal intelligence system or temporary information file shall be forwarded to the Records Section.

When a photograph is taken in association with a particular case, the investigator may use such photograph in a photo lineup. Thereafter, the individual photograph should be retained as a part of the case file. All other photographs shall be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

439.4.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

While it is recognized that field photographs often become valuable investigative tools, supervisors should monitor such practices in view of the above listed considerations. This is not to imply that supervisor approval is required before each photograph is taken. Field photographs shall be classified as law enforcement data under Minn. Stat. § 13.82, and shall be collected, maintained,

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and disseminated consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Access to, and use of, field photographs shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

439.5 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department respects the right of the public to be free from unreasonable searches or seizures. Due to an unlimited variety of situations confronting the officer, the decision to temporarily detain a person and complete an FI, pat-down search, or field photograph shall be left to the officer based on the totality of the circumstances, officer safety considerations, and constitutional safeguards.

439.6 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS

Because potential witnesses to an incident may become unavailable or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, officers should, when warranted by the seriousness of the case, take reasonable steps to promptly coordinate with an on-scene supervisor and/or criminal investigator to utilize available members for the following:

- (a) Identifying all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.
 - 1. When feasible, a recorded statement should be obtained from those who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred.
 - 2. Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, officers should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.
- (b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a recorded statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by department members.
 - 1. A written, verbal, or recorded statement of consent should be obtained prior to transporting a witness. When the witness is a minor, consent should be obtained from the parent or guardian, if reasonably available, prior to transport.

Photography of Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit Property

440.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit (herein referred to as "Council") has security and public relations interests in persons wishing to take photographic or video images on, in or of Council property, vehicles and/or employees. Although in most cases there is no particular harm involved in taking photographic or video images on, in or of Council property, vehicles or employees, intelligence indicates that persons who wish to target particular locations for terrorist purposes are likely to use photography as part of their pre-attack surveillance and planning. As such, the Council has not only an obligation to protect its customers, employees, property and to deter and prevent terrorism, but also an inherent responsibility to regulate photography on, in or of Council property, vehicles and employees.

440.2 POLICY

In order to provide the highest level of security to its customers and employees, the Council requires that any person on or in Council property or vehicles taking non-commercial/personal use photographic or video images, including but not limited to, film, digital or video recording (hereinafter referred to as "pictures") of Council property, vehicles and/or employees, must provide proper identification upon request of a Metro Transit Police officer.

Any person observed taking pictures on, in or of Council property, vehicles and/or employees who refuses to provide proper identification to a Metro Transit Police officer or other Council official upon request; or any person observed taking pictures on, in or of a restricted area (i.e. an area not open to the public) will be directed to stop taking pictures and will be subject to additional law enforcement action as appropriate.

Any person wishing to take pictures for any type of commercial purpose or use (e.g. movies, commercials, trade publications etc.) must first obtain permission from the Council Marketing Department.

440.3 TYPES OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography of Council property will typically fall into one of the following three categories:

(a) Non-Commercial / Personal Use Photography

1. No permission is required for non-commercial / personal use pictures taken in public areas. However, any person taking pictures on, in or of Council property, vehicles and/or employees must provide proper identification (preferably in the label of state issued identification) upon request of a Metro Transit Police officer or other Council official. The Metro Transit Police officer or Council official may allow the person to take pictures at the specific location under the following conditions:

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- (a) The person provides proper identification.
 - (b) The circumstances indicate that the subject(s) of the picture(s) does/do not pose a security or safety threat or in any way cause disruption of service or operations of the Council; and
 - (c) The picture(s) is/are for personal or educational use only (e.g. tourist, railroad buff, student, artist etc).
2. Non-commercial / personal use photographers are prohibited from using tripods, monopods, wiring or any like equipment that may have an impact on the safety of customers and/or employees and are prohibited from interfering with the free flow of passengers or disrupting service in any manner.
- (b) Commercial Photography
 - (a) Any person wishing to take pictures for any type of commercial purpose or use must first obtain permission from the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit Marketing Department located at: 560 6th Ave N in the City of Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411 or by calling (612) 349-7525. If permission is granted, it will be valid for a specific location, date and time.
 - (c) News Media Photography
 - (a) News media photographers shall display their Press credentials and will be allowed to take pictures in the public areas on, in or of Council property, vehicles and/or employees so long as they do not interfere with the free flow of passengers or disrupt service in any manner.
 - (b) News media photographers are requested to make prior notification to the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit - Public Information Officer at (612) 373-3333 and to the Metro Transit Police Department at (612) 349-7200.
 - (c) News media photographers are not allowed inside any crime or incident scene without the permission of, and an escort provided by, the on-scene Metro Transit Police Incident Commander or their designee.

440.4 DOCUMENTING PHOTOGRAPHY INCIDENTS

All Metro Transit Police officers operating within the scope of this policy will document all incidents on the appropriate Metro Transit Police report label(s) and/or records management system. Officers may refer to the Report Preparation Policy if further information is needed.

Criminal Gangs

441.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Metro Transit Police Department appropriately utilizes criminal intelligence systems and temporary information files to support investigations of criminal organizations and enterprises.

441.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Criminal intelligence system - Any record system that receives, stores, exchanges or disseminates information that has been evaluated and determined to be relevant to the identification of a criminal organization or enterprise, its members or affiliates. This does not include temporary information files.

441.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department recognizes that certain criminal activities, including but not limited to gang crimes and drug trafficking, often involve some degree of regular coordination and may involve a large number of participants over a broad geographical area.

It is the policy of this department to collect and share relevant information while respecting the privacy and legal rights of the public.

441.3 CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS

No department member may create, submit to or obtain information from a criminal intelligence system unless the Chief of Police has approved the system for department use.

Any criminal intelligence system approved for department use should meet or exceed the standards of 28 CFR 23.20.

A designated supervisor will be responsible for maintaining each criminal intelligence system that has been approved for department use. The supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure the following:

- (a) Members using any such system are appropriately selected and trained.
- (b) Use of every criminal intelligence system is appropriately reviewed and audited.
- (c) Any system security issues are reasonably addressed.

441.3.1 SYSTEM ENTRIES

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information from a report, FI, photo or other relevant document into an authorized criminal intelligence system. If entries are made based upon information that is not on file with this department, such as open or public source documents or documents that are on file at another agency, the designated supervisor should ensure copies of those documents are retained by the Records Section. Any

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supporting documentation for an entry shall be retained by the Records Section in accordance with the established records retention schedule and for at least as long as the entry is maintained in the system.

The designated supervisor should ensure that any documents retained by the Records Section are appropriately marked as intelligence information. The Records Supervisor may not purge such documents without the approval of the designated supervisor.

441.3.2 ENTRIES INTO CRIMINAL GANG INVESTIGATIVE DATA SYSTEM

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information into the criminal gang investigative data system maintained by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and authorized by Minn. Stat. § 299C.091. Entries may be made if the individual is 14 years of age or older and the Department documents the following:

- (a) The Department has reasonable suspicion to believe that the individual has met at least three of the criteria or identifying characteristics of gang membership, developed by the Violent Crime Coordinating Council.
- (b) The individual has been convicted of a gross misdemeanor or felony, or has been adjudicated or has a stayed adjudication as a juvenile for an offense that would be a gross misdemeanor or felony if committed by an adult.

441.4 TEMPORARY INFORMATION FILE

No member may create or keep files on individuals that are separate from the approved criminal intelligence system. However, members may maintain temporary information that is necessary to actively investigate whether a person or group qualifies for entry into the department-approved CIS only as provided in this section. Once information qualifies for inclusion, it should be submitted to the supervisor responsible for consideration of CIS entries.

441.4.1 FILE CONTENTS

A temporary information file may only contain information and documents that, within one year, will have a reasonable likelihood to meet the criteria for entry into an authorized criminal intelligence system.

Information and documents contained in a temporary information file:

- (a) Must only be included upon documented authorization of the responsible department supervisor.
- (b) Should not be originals that would ordinarily be retained by the Records Section or Property and Evidence Office, but should be copies of, or references to, retained documents such as copies of reports, field interview (FI) forms, Transit Control Center records or booking forms.
- (c) Shall not include opinions. No person, organization or enterprise shall be labeled as being involved in crime beyond what is already in the document or information.

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- (d) May include information collected from publicly available sources or references to documents on file with another government agency. Attribution identifying the source should be retained with the information.

441.4.2 FILE REVIEW AND PURGING

The contents of a temporary information file shall not be retained longer than one year. At the end of one year, the contents must be purged or entered in an authorized criminal intelligence system, as applicable.

The designated supervisor shall periodically review the temporary information files to verify that the contents meet the criteria for retention. Validation and purging of files is the responsibility of the supervisor.

441.5 INFORMATION RECOGNITION

Department members should document facts that suggest an individual, organization or enterprise is involved in criminal activity and should forward that information appropriately. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Gang indicia associated with a person or residence.
- (b) Information related to a drug-trafficking operation.
- (c) Vandalism indicating an animus for a particular group.
- (d) Information related to an illegal gambling operation.

Department supervisors who utilize an authorized criminal intelligence system should work with the Training Manager to train members to identify information that may be particularly relevant for inclusion.

441.6 RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Department members shall comply with the rules of an authorized criminal intelligence system regarding inquiries and release of information.

Information from a temporary information file may only be furnished to department members and other law enforcement agencies on a need-to-know basis and consistent with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

When an inquiry is made by the parent or guardian of a juvenile as to whether that juvenile's name is in a temporary information file, such information should be provided by the supervisor responsible for the temporary information file, unless there is good cause to believe that the release of such information might jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation.

441.7 CRIMINAL STREET GANGS

The Investigation Division supervisor should ensure that there are an appropriate number of department members who can:

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- (a) Testify as experts on matters related to criminal street gangs, and maintain an above average familiarity with identification of criminal street gangs, criminal street gang members and patterns of criminal gang activity.
- (b) Coordinate with other agencies in the region regarding criminal street gang crimes and information.
- (c) Train other members to identify gang indicia and investigate criminal street gang-related crimes.

441.8 TRAINING

The Training Manager should provide training on best practices in the use of each authorized criminal intelligence system to those tasked with investigating criminal organizations and enterprises. Training should include:

- (a) The protection of civil liberties.
- (b) Participation in a multi-agency criminal intelligence system.
- (c) Submission of information into a multi-agency criminal intelligence system or the receipt of information from such a system, including any governing federal and state rules and statutes.
- (d) The type of information appropriate for entry into a criminal intelligence system or temporary information file.
- (e) The review and purging of temporary information files.

Shift Supervisors

444.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Each patrol shift must be directed by supervisors who are capable of making decisions and communicating in a manner consistent with Department policies, procedures, practices, functions and objectives. To accomplish this goal, a Lieutenant heads each watch.

444.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING SHIFT SUPERVISOR

When a Lieutenant is unavailable for duty as Shift Supervisor, in most instances the senior qualified sergeant shall be designated as acting Shift Supervisor. This policy does not preclude designating a less senior sergeant as an acting Shift Supervisor when operational needs require or training permits.

Mobile Video Recorders

446.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Metro Transit Police Department has equipped most marked patrol cars with Mobile Video Recording (MVR) systems to provide records of events and assist officers in the performance of their duties. This policy provides guidance on the use of these systems.

446.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Activate - Any process that causes the MVR system to transmit or store video or audio data in an active mode.

In-car camera system and Mobile Video Recorder (MVR) - Synonymous terms - that refer to any system that captures audio and video signals that is capable of installation in a vehicle and that includes at minimum, a camera, microphone, recorder and monitor.

Law Enforcement Operator (LEO) - Primarily a licensed peace officer but on occasion may be a non-licensed representative of the Department who is authorized and assigned to operate MVR-equipped vehicles to the extent consistent with Minn. Stat. § 169.98.

MGDPA - The Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13.

MVR technician - Personnel certified or trained in the operational use and repair of MVRs, duplicating methods, storage and retrieval methods and procedures, and who possess a working knowledge of video forensics and evidentiary procedures.

Recorded media - Audio-video signals recorded or digitally stored on a storage device or portable media.

446.2 POLICY

It is the goal of the Metro Transit Police Department to use mobile video recorder (MVR) technology to more effectively fulfill the department's mission and to ensure these systems are used securely and efficiently.

446.3 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Prior to going into service, each officer working patrol will properly equip him/herself to record audio and video in the field. It may be impractical for some officers to utilize audio/video in the field depending on their assignment (e.g. light rail, beat officers, special details/assignments etc). At the end of the shift, each officer will follow the established procedures for providing to the Department any recordings or used media and any other related equipment.

At the start of each shift, officers should test the MVR system operation in accordance with manufacturer specifications and department operating procedures and training.

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System documentation is accomplished by the officer recording his/her name, vehicle ID, area, shift etc. at the start and again at the end of each shift. If the system is malfunctioning, the officer shall take the vehicle out of service unless a supervisor requests the vehicle remain in service.

446.4 ACTIVATION OF THE MVR

The MVR system is designed to turn on in the following circumstances:

- (a) The vehicle's emergency lights are activated
- (b) The vehicle reaches speeds of 80 mph
- (c) The vehicle is involved in a collision
- (d) Manually activated from the control panel or remotely from the officer's wireless transmitter

The system remains on until it is turned off manually. The audio portion is independently controlled and should be activated manually by the officer whenever appropriate. When audio is being recorded, the video will also record.

Operators are encouraged to narrate events using the audio recording so as to provide the best documentation for pretrial and courtroom presentation.

446.4.1 REQUIRED ACTIVATION OF THE MVR

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the MVR system may be used, although there are many situations where its use is appropriate. An officer may activate the system any time the officer believes its use would be appropriate and/or valuable to document an incident.

In some circumstances it is not possible to capture images of the incident due to conditions or the location of the camera. However the audio portion can be valuable evidence and is subject to the same activation requirements as the MVR. The MVR system should be activated in the following situations. including but not limited to:

- (a) All field contacts involving actual or potential criminal conduct within video or audio range:
 - 1. Traffic stops (to include, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops)
 - 2. Priority responses
 - 3. Vehicle pursuits
 - 4. Suspicious vehicles
 - 5. Arrests
 - 6. Vehicle searches

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7. Physical or verbal confrontations or use of force
 8. Prisoner transports
 9. Non-custody transports
 10. Pedestrian checks
 11. DWI investigations including field sobriety tests
 12. Consensual encounters
 13. Crimes in progress
 14. Responding to an in-progress call
 15. Medical incidents
- (b) All self-initiated activity in which an officer would normally notify Transit Control Center
- (c) Any call for service involving a crime where the recorder may aid in the apprehension and/or prosecution of a suspect:
1. Family violence calls
 2. Disturbance of peace calls
 3. Offenses involving violence or weapons
- (d) Any other contact that becomes adversarial after the initial contact, in a situation that would not otherwise require recording
- (e) Any other circumstance where the officer believes that a recording of an incident would be appropriate

446.4.2 CESSATION OF RECORDING

Once activated the MVR system should remain on until the incident has concluded. For purposes of this section conclusion of an incident has occurred when all arrests have been made, arrestees have been transported and all witnesses and victims have been interviewed. Recording may cease if an officer is simply waiting for a tow truck or a family member to arrive, or in other similar situations.

446.4.3 WHEN ACTIVATION IS NOT REQUIRED

Activation of the MVR system is not required when exchanging information with other officers or during breaks, lunch periods, when not in service or actively on patrol.

No member of this department may surreptitiously use Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit equipment to record a conversation of any other member of this department except with a court order or when lawfully authorized by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee for the purpose of conducting a criminal or administrative investigation.

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446.4.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors should determine if vehicles with non-functioning MVR systems should be placed into service. If these vehicles are placed into service, the appropriate documentation should be made, including notification to the Transit Control Center.

At reasonable intervals, supervisors should validate that:

- (a) Beginning and end-of-shift recording procedures are followed.
- (b) The operation of MVR systems by new employees is assessed and reviewed no less than biweekly.

When an incident arises that requires the immediate retrieval of the recorded media (e.g., serious crime scenes, peace officer-involved shootings, department-involved collisions), a supervisor shall respond to the scene and ensure that they properly retrieve the recorded media. The media may need to be treated as evidence and should be handled in accordance with current evidence procedures for recorded media. Copies may be distributed to investigators as appropriate to the investigation.

Supervisors may activate the MVR system remotely to monitor a developing situation such as a chase, riot or an event that may threaten public safety, officer safety or both, when the purpose is to obtain tactical information to assist in managing the event.

446.5 REVIEW OF MVR RECORDINGS

All recording media, recorded images and audio recordings are the property of the agency and subject to the provisions of the MGDPA. Dissemination outside of the agency is strictly prohibited except to the extent permitted or required under the MGDPA, Peace Officer Disciplinary Procedures Act or other applicable law.

To prevent damage to, or alteration of, the original recorded media, it shall not be copied, viewed or otherwise inserted into any device not approved by the department MVR technician, forensic media staff or other authorized personnel. When reasonably possible, a copy of the original media shall be used for viewing (unless otherwise directed by the courts) to preserve the original media.

Recordings may be reviewed in any of the following situations.

- (a) For use when preparing reports or statements except those related to critical incidents
- (b) By a supervisor investigating a specific act of officer conduct
- (c) By a supervisor to assess officer performance
- (d) To assess proper functioning of MVR systems
- (e) By department investigators, after approval of a supervisor, who are participating in an official investigation such as a personnel complaint, administrative inquiry or a criminal investigation
- (f) By department personnel who request to review recordings

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- (g) By an officer who is captured on or referenced in the video or audio data and reviews and uses the data for any purpose relating to his/her employment
- (h) By court personnel through proper process or with permission of the Chief of Police or the authorized designee
- (i) By the media through proper process or with an MGDPA request (Minn. Stat. § 13.01 et seq.)
- (j) To assess possible training value
- (k) Recordings may be shown for staff or public safety training purposes. If an involved officer objects to showing a recording, his/her objection will be submitted to the staff to determine if the training value outweighs the officer's objection

Employees desiring to view any previously uploaded or archived MVR recording should submit a request in writing to the Shift Supervisor. Approved requests should be forwarded to the MVR technician for processing.

In no event shall any recording be used or shown for the purpose of ridiculing or embarrassing any employee.

446.6 DOCUMENTING MVR USE

If any incident is recorded with either the video or audio system, the existence of that recording shall be documented in the officer's report. If a citation is issued, the officer shall make a notation on the records copy of the citation indicating that the incident was recorded.

446.7 RECORDING MEDIA STORAGE AND INTEGRITY

Once submitted for storage, all recording media will be labeled and stored in a designated secure area. All recording media that is not booked in as evidence will be retained for a minimum of 30 days and disposed of in compliance with the established records retention schedule.

446.7.1 COPIES OF ORIGINAL RECORDING MEDIA

Original recording media shall not be used for any purpose other than for initial review by a supervisor. Upon proper request, a copy of the original recording media will be made for use as authorized in this policy.

Original recording media may only be released in response to a court order or upon approval by the Chief of Police or the authorized designee. In the event an original recording is released to a court, a copy shall be made and placed in storage until the original is returned.

446.7.2 MVR RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE

Officers who reasonably believe that an MVR recording is likely to contain evidence relevant to a criminal offense, potential claim against the officer or against the Metro Transit Police Department, should indicate this in an appropriate report. Officers should ensure relevant recordings are preserved by saving and tagging the incident appropriately.

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446.7.3 CLASSIFICATIONS AND RETENTION SCHEDULE

CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	RETENTION
Academy	For use by Recruit Academy staff and recruits only.	2 years
Administrative Hold	Data related to an Internal Affairs investigation.	2 years
Arrest/Investigative/Evidence	Data related to an in-custody arrest, investigation, or evidence thereof.	2 years
Call for Service/Public Contact	Data related to a general call for service or community contact of interest.	90 days
Critical Incident	Data related to a critical incident as defined in MTPD Policy 310.	11 years
Death or CSC Investigation	Data related to any investigation involving a homicide or criminal sexual conduct.	25 years
Motor Vehicle Flee/Use of Force	Data related to a motor vehicle pursuit or use of force incident.	6 years
Test/Accidental/Non-Evidentiary	Data that is a test, accidental, or has no evidentiary value.	90 days
Traffic/Accident Investigation	Data related to a traffic stop or crash investigation.	2 years

446.8 SYSTEM OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

- (a) MVR system vehicle installations should be based on officer safety requirements and vehicle and device manufacturer recommendations.
- (b) The MVR system should be configured to minimally record for 30 seconds prior to an event.
- (c) The MVR system may not be configured to record audio data occurring prior to activation.
- (d) LEOs using digital transmitters that are individually synchronized to their individual MVR shall activate both audio and video recordings when responding in a support capacity in order to obtain additional perspectives of the incident scene.
- (e) With the exception of law enforcement radios or other emergency equipment other electronic devices should not be used within the law enforcement vehicle in order to intentionally interfere with the capability of the MVR system to record audio data.
- (f) Officers shall not erase, alter or tamper with MVR recordings. Only a supervisor, MVR technician, or other approved designee may erase and reissue previously recorded video and may only do so pursuant to the provisions of this policy.
- (g) To prevent damage original recordings shall not be viewed on any equipment other than the equipment issued or authorized by the MVR technician.

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446.9 MVR TECHNICIAN RESPONSIBILITIES

The MVR technician is responsible for:

- (a) Ordering, issuing, retrieving, storing, erasing and duplicating of all recorded media.
- (b) Collecting all completed media for oversight and verification of wireless downloaded media. Once collected the MVR technician:
 - 1. Ensures it is stored in a secured location with authorized controlled access.
 - 2. Makes appropriate entries in the chain of custody log.
- (c) Erasing of media:
 - 1. Pursuant to a court order.
 - 2. In accordance with established records retention policies, including reissuing all other media deemed to be of no evidentiary value.
- (d) Managing the long-term storage of media that has been deemed to be of evidentiary value in accordance with the department evidence storage protocols and the records retention schedule.

446.10 TRAINING

Users of the MVR systems and supervisors shall successfully complete an approved course of instruction prior to being deployed with MVR systems in operational settings.

Mobile Digital Computer Use

448.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper access, use and application of the Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) system in order to ensure appropriate access to confidential records from local, state and national law enforcement databases, and to ensure effective electronic communications between department members and Transit Control Center.

448.2 POLICY

Metro Transit Police Department members using the MDC shall comply with all appropriate federal and state rules and regulations and shall use the MDC in a professional manner, in accordance with this policy.

448.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to messages accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

448.4 RESTRICTED ACCESS AND USE

MDC use is subject to the Information Technology Use and Protected Information policies.

Members shall not access the MDC system if they have not received prior authorization and the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of the MDC by another member to their supervisors or Shift Supervisors.

Use of the MDC system to access law enforcement databases or transmit messages is restricted to official activities, business-related tasks and communications that are directly related to the business, administration or practices of the Department. In the event that a member has questions about sending a particular message or accessing a particular database, the member should seek prior approval from his/her supervisor.

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive, harassing or any other inappropriate messages on the MDC system is prohibited and may result in discipline.

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message or access a law enforcement database under another member's name or to use the password of another member to log in to the MDC system unless directed to do so by a supervisor. Members are required to log off the MDC or secure the MDC when it is unattended. This added security measure will minimize the potential for unauthorized access or misuse.

448.4.1 USE WHILE DRIVING

Use of the MDC by the vehicle operator should be limited to times when the vehicle is stopped. Information that is required for immediate enforcement, investigative, tactical or safety needs should be transmitted over the radio.

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In no case shall an operator attempt to send or review lengthy messages while the vehicle is in motion.

448.5 EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS

448.5.1 BOMB CALLS

When investigating reports of possible bombs, members should not communicate on their MDCs when in the evacuation area of a suspected explosive device. Radio frequency emitted by the MDC could cause some devices to detonate.

448.5.2 MALFUNCTIONING MDC

Whenever possible, members will not use vehicles with malfunctioning MDCs. Whenever members must drive a vehicle in which the MDC is not working, they shall notify Transit Control Center. It shall be the responsibility of the dispatcher to document all information that will then be transmitted verbally over the police radio.

448.6 DOCUMENTATION OF ACTIVITY

Except as otherwise directed by the Shift Supervisor or other department-established protocol, all calls for service assigned by a dispatcher should be communicated by voice over the police radio and electronically via the MDC unless security or confidentiality prevents such broadcasting.

MDC and voice transmissions are used to document the member's daily activity. To ensure accuracy:

- (a) All contacts or activity shall be documented at the time of the contact.
- (b) Whenever the activity or contact is initiated by voice, it should be documented by a dispatcher.
- (c) Whenever the activity or contact is not initiated by voice, the member shall document it via the MDC.

448.6.1 STATUS CHANGES

All changes in status (e.g., arrival at scene, meal periods, in service) will be transmitted over the police radio or through the MDC system.

Members responding to in-progress calls should advise changes in status over the radio to assist other members responding to the same incident. Other changes in status can be made on the MDC while the vehicle is not in motion.

448.6.2 EMERGENCY ACTIVATION

If there is an emergency activation and the member does not respond to a request for confirmation of the need for emergency assistance or confirms the need, available resources will be sent to assist in locating the member. If the location is known, the nearest available officer should respond in accordance with the Officer Response to Calls Policy.

Members should ensure a field supervisor and the Shift Supervisor are notified of the incident without delay.

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Officers not responding to the emergency shall refrain from transmitting on the police radio until a no-further-assistance broadcast is made or if they are also handling an emergency.

Body-Worn Cameras

451.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The primary purpose of using body-worn cameras (BWCs) is to capture evidence arising from police encounters with the public. BWCs are a tool that is intended to enhance police-community relations, decrease complaints against officers, and assist in successful prosecution of crimes.

This policy sets forth guidelines governing the use of BWCs, as well as administering the resulting data as prescribed in state law. Compliance with these guidelines is mandatory. The Department recognizes that video cannot always show the entire scene and circumstances. This policy has been developed with the knowledge that some situations are tense, uncertain, and can evolve rapidly.

BWC data are not intended to replace detailed written reports and other forms of evidence.

This policy governs the use of BWCs in the course of official duties. It does not apply to or replace the use of mobile video (“dash cam”) recording systems (MTPD Policy 446).

451.2 DEFINITIONS

The following phrases have special meanings as used in this policy:

- (a) **CAD** refers to the Computer-Aided Dispatch system used to manage the resources and details of a call for service.
- (b) **Citizen** is used as a general term and does not infer meaning upon immigration status of any kind.
- (c) **Cloud** is the storage model used for managing data. Data is then made available to appropriate parties using secure login credentials.
- (d) **Critical incident** refers to the definition detailed in MTPD Policy 310.1.1:
 - 1. The use of deadly force by or against a Metro Transit police officer;
 - 2. Death or great bodily harm to a Metro Transit police officer;
 - 3. Death or great bodily harm to a person who is in the custody or control of a Metro Transit police officer; or
 - 4. Any action by a Metro Transit police officer that causes or is intended to cause death or great bodily harm.
- (e) **Evidentiary value** means that the information may be useful as proof in a criminal prosecution, related civil or administrative proceeding, further investigation of an actual or suspected criminal act, or in considering an allegation against a law enforcement agency or officer.
- (f) **General citizen contact** means an informal encounter with a citizen that is not and does not become law enforcement-related or confrontational, and a recording of the event would not yield information relevant to an ongoing investigation. Examples include, but are not limited to, assisting the public with directions, summoning a tow truck, or receiving generalized concerns.

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- (g) **Law enforcement-related information** means information captured or available for capture by use of a BWC that has evidentiary value because it documents events with respect to a stop, arrest, search, citation, or charging decision.
- (h) **MGDPA or Data Practices Act** refers to the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. § Ch. 13.825
- (i) **Officer** is used within this police as a general term referring to any authorized member of the Metro Transit Police Department, regardless of rank or assignment. This includes part-time sworn officers, full-time sworn officers, and non-sworn community service officers.
- (j) **Official duties**, for the purposes of this policy, means that the officer is on-duty and performing authorized law enforcement services on behalf of this agency.
- (k) **Unintentionally recorded footage** is a video recording that results from an officer's inadvertence in operating the officer's BWC, provided that no portion of the resulting recording has evidentiary value. Examples of unintentionally recorded footage include, but are not limited to, recordings made in MTPD locker rooms, restrooms, and recordings made while officers were engaged in conversations of a non-business, personal nature.
- (l) **UOF** refers to Use of Force: when an officer uses any level force to gain compliance from a suspect.

451.3 EQUIPMENT ASSIGNMENT

Officers, as defined in 451.2(i), will use only Metro Transit Police Department-issued BWCs in the performance of official duties for this agency.

451.4 USAGE

451.4.1 WEARING AND OPERATING THE BWC

Officers who have been issued BWCs shall operate and use them in a manner consistent with this policy and training.

- (a) All officers, regardless of rank, are required to wear their BWC when they are on duty for the MTPD in the duty uniform appropriate to their assignment. At the discretion of the Chief of Police, an exception may be made in special circumstances.
- (b) Officers who are in the appropriate MTPD duty uniform but who are working off-duty and compensated by another entity should wear and use their BWC consistent with this policy.
- (c) Officers assigned to Ramsey County SWAT or another law enforcement agency should wear the MTPD-issued BWC unless otherwise agreed upon by that agency and the appropriate representative for the MTPD.
- (d) Officers should wear their BWCs at the location on their body and in the manner specified in training.

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- (e) Officers shall conduct a function test of their BWCs at the beginning of each shift to make sure the devices are operating properly. The officer shall clearly state their name, badge number, and call sign.
- (f) Officers noting a malfunction during testing or at any other time shall promptly report the malfunction to their supervisor. The officer will also notify the Business Technology Unit via email. A supervisor will assign a spare BWC to the officer until such time that the malfunctioning equipment is repaired or replaced.

451.4.2 DOCUMENTING USE

Officers must document BWC use and non-use as follows:

- (a) If enforcement action is taken, the existence of the recording shall be documented in the related report, citation, or CAD call, whichever is the highest level of documentation for the circumstance.
- (b) Every recording will be classified in the BWC software according to the categories listed in 451.7.3, whether or not a report or citation has been issued (e.g., when a fare inspection warning is given, the recording will be categorized as “Call for Service/Public Contact”).
- (c) Whenever an officer fails to record an activity that is required to be recorded under this policy or captures only a part of the activity, the officer must notify their supervisor immediately, as well as document the circumstances and reasons for not recording in an incident report. Supervisors shall review these reports and initiate any corrective action deemed necessary.

451.5 GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR RECORDING

451.5.1 ACTIVATING BWCS

Officers shall activate their BWCs prior to arrival and as soon as practicable when participating in any police actions including, but not limited to:

- (a) Vehicle or person stops (e.g., citations for fare evasions).
- (b) Pursuits.
- (c) Arrests.
- (d) Transports (jail, detox, hospital, etc.).
- (e) Searches (e.g., vehicle, person, structure).
- (f) In-the-field suspect, victim, and witness interviews and interrogations.
- (g) Any police-citizen contacts that become confrontational.
- (h) Holding a perimeter on a crime scene.
- (i) Engaging in crowd control or civil unrest.

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451.5.2 EXCEPTIONS TO ACTIVATION

Officers need not activate their BWCs when it would be unsafe, impossible, or impractical to do so; however, such instances of not recording when otherwise required must be documented as specified in the Usage guideline 451.4.2(a).

451.5.3 PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Officers have no affirmative duty to inform people that a BWC is being operated or that the individuals are being recorded. Officers may make announcements at their discretion.

451.5.4 CONCLUDING RECORDINGS

Once activated, the BWC should remain on until the incident has concluded. For purposes of this section, conclusion of an incident has occurred when any arrests have been made, arrestees or other persons have been transported, and all witnesses and victims have been interviewed. Recording may cease if an officer is simply waiting for a tow truck or in other similar situations.

- (a) If the recording is discontinued while an investigation, response, or incident is ongoing, officers shall state the reasons aloud for ceasing the recording on camera before deactivating their BWC. Officers will also document their reason(s) in an incident report.
- (b) If circumstances change, officers shall reactivate their BWC as required by this policy to capture information having evidentiary value.

Officers who are assigned to crime scene perimeter safety will keep their BWC activated until they have cleared from the scene, unless otherwise instructed by a supervisor or investigator.

Officers monitoring protests or engaged in crowd control or civil unrest (MTPD Policy 474: First Amendment Assemblies) will keep their BWC activated until they are relieved from live action for a break or end-of-shift.

451.5.5 BLOCKING CAMERA AND MUTING AUDIO

Officers shall not intentionally block the BWC's visual recording or mute the audio functionality to defeat the purposes of this policy.

451.5.6 RECORDING AGENCY PERSONNEL

Notwithstanding any other provision in this policy, officers shall not use their BWCs to record other agency personnel during non-enforcement related activities, such as during pre- and post-shift time in locker rooms, during meal breaks, or during other private conversations, unless recording is authorized as part of an administrative or criminal investigation.

451.6 SPECIAL GUIDELINES FOR RECORDING

451.6.1 OTHER REASONS FOR ACTIVATION

Officers may, in the exercise of sound discretion, determine:

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- (a) To use their BWCs to record any police-citizen encounter if there is reason to believe the recording would potentially yield information having evidentiary value, unless such recording is otherwise expressly prohibited.
- (b) To use their BWCs to take recorded statements from persons believed to be victims of or witnesses to crimes as well as persons suspected of committing crimes, considering the needs of the investigation and the circumstances pertaining to the victim, witness, or suspect.

451.6.2 TRANSPORTING SUSPECTS AND OTHER SUBJECTS

Officers shall use both their BWCs and squad-based audio/video systems to record the transportation and physical transfer of persons in their custody to hospitals, detox and mental health care facilities, juvenile detention centers, and jails.

- (a) Officers should cease recording once the transfer of custody is complete unless jail policy indicates otherwise.
- (b) Officers should not record once inside medical facilities (detox, hospitals, or mental health facilities) in order to protect HIPAA rights.
- (c) If an officer feels that the situation may escalate or become confrontational, the BWC may be activated as appropriate.

451.6.3 COURTROOMS

BWCs should be worn but not powered on when in a courtroom or associated areas, unless circumstances indicate otherwise. A courthouse policy regarding recording devices will supersede this policy when appropriate. This does not include an officer who is responding to a call for service for an incident inside a court facility.

451.6.4 PROTECTED PERSONS

BWCs shall be deactivated in order to protect the identities of undercover officers and confidential informants. For security reasons, officers do not need to verbally state the reason for deactivation, but shall document their reason for deactivating the BWC in their written report.

451.6.5 VICTIM AND WITNESS STATEMENTS

An officer may choose to turn off the BWC if its operation is inhibiting a victim or witness from giving a statement. Officers should use good judgment and discretion in activating/deactivating BWCs when dealing with sensitive calls and vulnerable victims (sexual assault or child abuse, for example). Officers shall include their reason for deactivating the BWC in their written report.

451.7 UPLOADING AND CLASSIFYING DATA

451.7.1 END OF SHIFT

Each officer using a BWC is responsible for uploading the data from their BWC at the end of that officer's shift.

- (a) If the officer is involved in a critical incident, the Business Technology Unit shall take custody of the camera from the officer and work in conjunction with the investigating

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agency to upload any BWC data and to preserve the chain of custody. The camera will be inventoried as evidence until the investigating agency or the prosecuting office releases it. In the interim, the officer will be issued a spare BWC pending the return of their original hardware.

451.7.2 SMARTPHONE INTEGRATION

Officers may use the department-issued smartphone in order to access BWC data to flag, categorize, and otherwise manage video while in the field. Policy related to department-issued phones is found under MTPD Policy 702.

451.7.3 CATEGORIZATION

Officers will ensure that the categories on the BWC data files are accurate and include the case number prior to uploading the data. If in doubt, they should consult with a supervisor as to the appropriate categorizing. Officers should assign as many of the following categories as are applicable to each file:

- (a) **Academy:** For use by recruit academy staff and recruits only.
- (b) **Administrative Hold:** Data related to an Internal Affairs investigation.
- (c) **Arrest/Investigative/Evidence:** Data related to an in-custody arrest, investigation, or evidence thereof.
- (d) **Call for Service/Public Contact:** Data related to a general call for service or community contact of interest.
- (e) **Critical Incident:** Data related to a critical incident as defined in MTPD Policy 310.
- (f) **Death or CSC Investigation:** Data related to any investigation involving a homicide or criminal sexual conduct (CSC).
- (g) **Motor Vehicle Flee/Use of Force:** Data related to a motor vehicle pursuit or use of force incident.
- (h) **Test/Accidental/Non-Evidentiary:** Data that is a test, accidental, or has no evidentiary value.
- (i) **Traffic/Accident Investigation:** Data related to a traffic stop or crash investigation.

451.8 ADMINISTERING ACCESS TO BWC DATA

451.8.1 DATA SUBJECTS

Under Minnesota Statutes § 13.825, subd. 4, the following are considered data subjects for purposes of managing public access to BWC data:

- (a) Any person or entity whose image or voice is documented in the data.
- (b) The officer who collected the data.
- (c) Any other officer whose voice or image is documented in the data, regardless of whether that officer is or can be identified by the recording.

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451.8.2 PUBLIC OR CONFIDENTIAL DATA

BWC recordings are classified as private data about the data subjects unless there is a specific law that provides differently. However, some BWC data is classified as confidential or public as addressed below (451.8.4).

451.8.3 DATA IN ACTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

BWC data that is collected or created as part of an active criminal investigation is confidential. This classification takes precedence over the “private” and “public” classifications.

451.8.4 PUBLIC DATA

- (a) Data documenting the discharge of a firearm by a peace officer in the course of duty, other than for training or the killing of an animal that is sick or injured.
- (b) Data that documents the use of force by a peace officer that results in substantial bodily harm.
- (c) Data that a data subject requests to be made accessible to the public, subject to redaction. Data on any data subject (other than a peace officer) who has not consented to the public release must be redacted if practicable. In addition, any data on undercover officers or confidential informants must be redacted.
- (d) However, if another provision of the Data Practices Act classifies data as private or otherwise not public, the data retains that other classification. For instance, data that reveals protected identities under the MGDPA (e.g., certain victims, witnesses, and others) should not be released even if it would otherwise fit into one of the public categories listed above.

451.8.5 DATA REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA

Officers and MTPD employees shall refer members of the media or public seeking access to BWC data to the MTPD’s Records Unit, who shall process the request in accordance with the MGDPA and other governing laws. In particular:

- (a) An individual shall be allowed to review recorded BWC data about themselves and other data subjects in the recording, but access shall not be granted:
 - 1. If the data was collected or created as part of an active investigation
 - 2. To portions of the data that the agency would otherwise be prohibited by law from disclosing to the person seeking access, such as portions that would reveal identities protected by Minn. Stat. § 13.825, subd. 17.
- (b) Unless the data is part of an active investigation, an individual data subject shall be provided with a copy of the recording upon request, but subject to the following guidelines on redaction:
 - 1. Data on other individuals in the recording who do not consent to the release must be redacted.
 - 2. Data that would identify undercover officers or confidential informants must be redacted.

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3. Data on other officers who are not undercover, and who are on duty and engaged in the performance of official duties, may not be redacted.

451.8.6 VIEWING BWC DATA BY EMPLOYEES

- (a) Officers, MTPD employees, and Council employees may access and view stored BWC data only when there is a business need for doing so. Access is reasonably limited by the BWC's system permissions as granted by the Chief of Police or their designee. Reasons for access may include:
 1. When preparing reports or statements.
 2. By a supervisor investigating a specific act of officer conduct.
 3. By a supervisor to assess officer's compliance to policy.
 4. By appropriate department investigators as related to an official investigation such as a criminal act or personnel complaint.
 5. By an officer who is captured on the recording for a purpose related to his/her employment.
 6. To assess potential training value.
- (b) Officers will not be permitted to view body worn camera data prior to giving a statement when involved in a critical incident.
- (c) Officers and MTPD employees may access data in order to assess proper functioning of BWC system. Approved vendors with a clear reason, such as troubleshooting equipment or network infrastructure, may also access data in compliance with the MGDPA and in coordination with the Business Technology Unit.
- (d) Officers and MTPD employees shall document their reasons for accessing stored BWC data within the cloud-based platform.
- (e) Officers and MTPD employees are prohibited from sharing the data for non-law enforcement related purposes, including but not limited to uploading BWC data recorded or maintained by this agency to public and social media websites. Agency personnel shall not use any other recording device such as a smartphone to record a copy of the video.
- (f) Any Metropolitan Council employee who is seeking access to BWC data for non-business reasons may make a request for it to the Records Unit. Data will be provided in compliance with the MGDPA.

451.8.7 DISPLAYING BWC DATA DURING ACTIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Officers may display portions of BWC footage to witnesses as necessary for purposes of investigation as allowed by Minn. Stat. § 13.825, subd. 15. Officers should generally limit these displays in order to protect against the incidental disclosure of individuals whose identities are not public. Such purposes may include showing only a portion of the video, showing only screen shots, muting the audio, or playing the audio but not displaying video.

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Officers may create and share screenshots of video for internal use only, but must have approval from a supervisor before doing so.

451.8.8 DATA SHARING WITH OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

BWC data may be shared with other law enforcement agencies only for legitimate law enforcement purposes that are documented in writing at the time of the disclosure.

451.8.9 DATA SHARING WITH OTHER CRIMINAL JUSTICE ENTITIES

BWC data shall be made available to prosecutors, courts, and other criminal justice entities as provided by law. Data that is shared under these circumstances will be documented in the BWC software and in the records management system.

451.9 DATA SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

451.9.1 ENCRYPTION

Recorded video will be off-loaded from the device once docked at the end of the officer's shift. This dock is supplied by the vendor and provides for charging of the device. CJIS-level encryption standards will be met while data is being transferred to the cloud platform.

451.9.2 REDUNDANCY

Per the negotiated and signed contract, the system vendor is responsible for creating data redundancy and ensuring the survivability of data in the event of disaster.

451.9.3 SYSTEM SAFEGUARDS

Built-in system safeguards including user-based permissions, audit trail, viewing, and limitations on who can transfer copies of video files from the cloud are all part of the overall system configuration.

451.9.4 EDITING OR ALTERING DATA

Officers shall not intentionally edit or alter any BWC recording without a business reason for doing so (451.8.7). Officers will not intentionally erase any BWC recording outside of the retention schedule.

451.9.5 DATA REDACTION

Before releasing video to an individual, the general public, or the media, video may be redacted to protect identities, remove offensive portions, and other reasons as detailed in the Data Practices Act. In the event of a high-profile incident, the Chief of Police must consult with the General Manager of Metro Transit and the Regional Administrator of the Metropolitan Council as part of the decision-making process to the release of BWC recording(s).

451.10 AGENCY USE OF DATA

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451.10.1 AUDIT

At reasonable intervals determined by the Chief of Police or their designee, members of the BWC Review Committee will review randomly selected video in order to ensure compliance with this policy and to identify any performance areas in which additional training or guidance is required.

451.10.2 PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS

Supervisors and other assigned personnel may access BWC data for the purposes of reviewing or investigating a specific incident that has given rise to a complaint or concern about officer misconduct or performance.

451.10.3 DISCIPLINE

Nothing in this policy limits or prohibits the use of BWC data as evidence of misconduct or as a basis for discipline.

451.10.4 TRAINING

Officers should contact the Training Unit to discuss retaining and using BWC footage for department-wide training purposes. Officer objections to preserving or using certain footage for training will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Field Training Officers may also utilize BWC data with trainees for the purpose of providing coaching and feedback on the trainees' performance.

451.11 DATA RETENTION

451.11.1 RETENTION SCHEDULE

The table below shows the retention schedule for each video as classified. It represents the minimum amount of time that data should be preserved and is subject to change as needed.

CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	RETENTION
Academy	For use by Recruit Academy staff & recruits only.	2 years
Administrative Hold	Data related to an Internal Affairs investigation.	2 years
Arrest/Investigative/Evidence	Data related to an in-custody arrest, investigation, or evidence thereof.	2 years
Call for Service/Public Contact	Data related to a general call for service or community contact of interest.	90 days
Critical Incident	Data related to a critical incident as defined in MTPD Policy 310.	11 years
Death or CSC Investigation	Data related to any investigation of a death involving a homicide or criminal sexual conduct.	25 years

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Motor Vehicle Flee/Use of Force	Data related to a motor vehicle pursuit or use of force.	6 years
Test/Accidental/Non-Evidentiary	Data that is a test, accidental, or has no evidentiary value.	90 days
Traffic/Accident Investigation	Data related to a traffic stop or crash investigation.	2 years

451.11.2 MULTIPLE RETENTION PERIODS

Other data having evidentiary value shall be retained for the period specified in the Records Retention Schedule. When a particular recording is subject to multiple retention periods, it shall be maintained for the longest applicable period.

451.11.3 REQUESTING RETENTION EXTENSIONS

Upon written request by a BWC data subject, the MTPD shall retain the data subject's recording for an additional time period as requested, up to 180 days. The MTPD will notify the requestor that the data will be destroyed after 180 days unless a new written request is received.

451.11.4 RECORDS

The department will maintain the following records and documents relating to BWC use, which are classified as public data, pursuant to the Data Practices Act:

- (a) 1. The total number of BWCs owned or maintained by MTPD;
2. A daily record of the total number of BWCs actually deployed and used by officers and which Command they were used in; and
3. The total amount of recorded BWC data collected and maintained.

451.12 COMPLIANCE

451.12.1 BIENNIAL AUDIT

As required by Minn. Stat. § 13.825, subd. 9, the MTPD shall obtain an independent biennial audit of its BWC program. The audit shall be conducted by the Metropolitan Council's Program Evaluation and Audit or an entity designated by Program Evaluation and Audit.

451.12.2 FAILURE TO COMPLY

Failure to follow the policy and procedure as outlined in this document may result in discipline up to and including termination.

451.12.3 UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS OR DISCLOSURE

The unauthorized access to or disclosure of BWC data may constitute misconduct and subject individuals to disciplinary action and criminal penalties pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13.09.

451.12.4 PUBLIC POSTING

The MTPD will post this policy to the department's website.

Bicycle Patrol Unit

452.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Metro Transit Police Department has established an auxiliary Bicycle Patrol Unit (BPU) for the purpose of enhancing patrol efforts in the community. Bicycle patrol has been shown to be an effective way to increase officer visibility in congested areas. A bicycle's quiet operation can provide a tactical approach to crimes in progress. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the safe and effective operation of the patrol bicycle.

452.2 POLICY

Patrol bicycles may be used for regular patrol duty, traffic enforcement, parking control or special events. The use of the patrol bicycle will emphasize its mobility and visibility to the community.

Bicycles may be deployed to any area at all hours of the day or night, according to Department needs and as staffing levels allow.

Requests for specific deployment of bicycle patrol officers shall be coordinated through the BPU supervisor or the Shift Supervisor.

452.3 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Licensed personnel, who are off probation, may submit a letter of interest upon a vacancy being posted. Although typically reserved for officers assigned to either the Minneapolis or St. Paul Beats, interested officers are encouraged to apply. Interested personnel shall be evaluated by the following criteria:

- (a) Desire to be a member of the Bicycle Patrol Unit (e.g. submitting a letter of interest).
- (b) Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.
- (c) Special skills or training as it pertains to the assignment.
- (d) Good physical condition.
- (e) Willingness to perform duties using the bicycle as a mode of transportation.
- (f) Other criteria may be established at the time of the Bicycle Patrol Unit posting.

452.3.1 BICYCLE PATROL UNIT SUPERVISOR

The BPU supervisor will be selected by the Patrol Captain or designee.

The BPU supervisor shall have responsibility for the following:

- (a) Organizing bicycle patrol training.
- (b) Inspecting and maintaining inventory of patrol bicycles and program equipment.
- (c) Scheduling maintenance and repairs.
- (d) Coordinating activities with the Patrol Division.

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- (e) Inspection and documentation that bicycles not in active service are in a serviceable condition.
- (f) Other activities as required to maintain the efficient operation of the unit.

452.4 TRAINING

Participants in the program must complete a Department-approved bicycle-training course after acceptance into the program. Thereafter, bicycle patrol officers should receive yearly in-service training to improve skills and refresh safety, health and operational procedures. The initial training shall minimally include the following:

- Bicycle patrol strategies
- Bicycle safety and accident prevention
- Operational tactics using bicycles

Bicycle patrol officers may be required to qualify with their duty firearm while wearing bicycle safety equipment, including the helmet and riding gloves.

452.5 UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Officers shall wear the department-approved uniform and safety equipment while operating the department bicycle. Safety equipment includes department-approved helmet, riding gloves, protective eye wear and approved footwear.

The bicycle patrol uniform consists of the standard short-sleeve uniform shirt or other department-approved shirt with department badge and patches, and department-approved bicycle patrol pants or shorts. The Uniform and Equipment Specifications Manual shall be consulted for specific uniform requirements.

Bicycle patrol officers shall carry the same equipment on the bicycle patrol duty belt as they would on a regular patrol assignment.

Officers will be responsible for obtaining the necessary labels, citation books and other department equipment needed while on bicycle patrol.

452.6 CARE AND USE OF PATROL BICYCLES

Officers will be assigned a specially marked and equipped patrol bicycle, attached gear bag and accessories.

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be primarily black or white with a "Police" decal affixed to each side of the crossbar or the bike's saddlebag. Every such bicycle shall be equipped with either lamps and/or reflectors and must meet legal requirements.

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be equipped with a rear rack and/or saddle bag(s) sufficient to carry the necessary equipment for handling routine patrol calls, including report writing and citations.

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Each bicycle gear bag shall include a repair tool and tire tube. Recommended, but optional equipment, include security locks, tire pump and a first aid kit. These items shall remain with/on the bicycle at all times.

Bicycle officers shall conduct an inspection of the bicycle and equipment prior to use to ensure proper working order of the equipment. Officers are responsible for the routine care and maintenance of their assigned equipment (e.g., tire pressure, chain lubrication and overall cleaning).

If a needed repair is beyond the ability of the bicycle officer, the program supervisor shall be notified and they shall arrange for repair by an approved technician.

Each bicycle will have scheduled maintenance performed annually by a Department-approved repair shop/technician.

At the end of a bicycle assignment, the bicycle shall be returned clean and ready for the next tour of duty.

Officers shall not modify the patrol bicycle, remove, modify or add components except with the express approval of the bicycle supervisor or in the event of an emergency.

Vehicle bicycle racks are available should the officer need to transport the patrol bicycle. Due to possible component damage, transportation of the patrol bicycle in a trunk or on a patrol car push-bumper is discouraged.

Bicycles shall be properly secured when not in the officer's immediate presence.

452.7 OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Officers are exempt from operating the bicycle in compliance with Minnesota law while performing their duties (Minn. Stat. § 169.222 Subd. 11). Officers may operate the bicycle without lighting equipment during hours of darkness, when such operation reasonably appears necessary for officer safety and tactical considerations. Officers must use caution and care when operating the bicycle without lighting equipment.

Foot Pursuits

456.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to assist officers in making the decision to initiate or continue the pursuit of suspects on foot.

456.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department that officers, when deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, must continuously balance the objective of apprehending the suspect with the risk and potential for injury to department members, the public or the suspect.

Officers are expected to act reasonably based on the totality of the circumstances.

456.3 DECISION TO PURSUE

The safety of department members and the public should be the primary consideration when determining whether a foot pursuit should be initiated or continued. Officers must be mindful that immediate apprehension of a suspect is rarely more important than the safety of the public and department members.

Officers may be justified in initiating a foot pursuit of any individual the officer reasonably believes is about to engage in, is engaging in or has engaged in criminal activity. The decision to initiate or continue such a foot pursuit, however, must be continuously re-evaluated in light of the circumstances presented at the time.

Mere flight by a person who is not suspected of criminal activity shall not serve as the sole justification for engaging in an extended foot pursuit without the development of reasonable suspicion regarding the individual's involvement in criminal activity or being wanted by law enforcement.

Deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit is a decision that an officer must make quickly and under unpredictable and dynamic circumstances. It is recognized that foot pursuits potentially place department members and the public at significant risk. Therefore, no officer or supervisor shall be criticized or disciplined for deciding not to engage in a foot pursuit because of the perceived risk involved.

If circumstances permit, surveillance and containment are generally the safest tactics for apprehending fleeing persons. In deciding whether to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, an officer should continuously consider reasonable alternatives to a foot pursuit based upon the circumstances and resources available, such as the following:

- (a) Containment of the area.
- (b) Saturation of the area with law enforcement personnel, including assistance from other agencies.
- (c) A canine search.

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- (d) Thermal imaging or other sensing technology.
- (e) Air support.
- (f) Apprehension at another time, when the identity of the suspect is known or there is information available that would likely allow for later apprehension, and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect does not reasonably appear to outweigh the risk of continuing the foot pursuit.

456.4 GENERAL GUIDELINES

When reasonably practicable, officers should consider alternatives to engaging in or continuing a foot pursuit when:

- (a) Directed by a supervisor to terminate the foot pursuit; such an order shall be considered mandatory.
- (b) The officer is acting alone.
- (c) Two or more officers become separated, lose visual contact with one another or obstacles separate them to the degree that they cannot immediately assist each other should a confrontation take place. In such circumstances, it is generally recommended that a single officer keep the suspect in sight from a safe distance and coordinate the containment effort.
- (d) The officer is unsure of his/her location and direction of travel.
- (e) The officer is pursuing multiple suspects and it is not reasonable to believe that the officer would be able to control the suspect should a confrontation occur.
- (f) The physical condition of the officers renders him/her incapable of controlling the suspect if apprehended.
- (g) The officer loses radio contact with Transit Control Center or with assisting or backup officers.
- (h) The suspect enters a building, structure, confined space, isolated area or dense or difficult terrain, and there are insufficient officers to provide backup and containment. The primary officer should consider discontinuing the foot pursuit and coordinating containment pending the arrival of sufficient resources.
- (i) The officer becomes aware of unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances that unreasonably increase the risk to officers or the public.
- (j) The officer reasonably believes that the danger to the pursuing officers or public outweighs the objective of immediate apprehension.
- (k) The officer loses possession of his/her firearm or other essential equipment.

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- (l) The officer or a third party is injured during the foot pursuit, requiring immediate assistance, and there are no other emergency personnel available to render assistance.
- (m) The suspect's location is no longer known.
- (n) The identity of the suspect is established or other information exists that will allow for the suspect's apprehension at a later time, and it reasonably appears that there is no immediate threat to Department personnel or the public if the suspect is not immediately apprehended.
- (o) The officer's ability to safely continue the pursuit is impaired by inclement weather, darkness or other environmental conditions.

456.5 RESPONSIBILITIES IN FOOT PURSUITS

456.5.1 INITIATING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Unless relieved by another officer or a supervisor, the initiating officer shall be responsible for coordinating the progress of the pursuit. When acting alone and when practicable, the initiating officer should not attempt to overtake and confront the suspect but should attempt to keep the suspect in sight until sufficient officers are present to safely apprehend the suspect.

Early communication of available information from the involved officers is essential so that adequate resources can be coordinated and deployed to bring a foot pursuit to a safe conclusion. Officers initiating a foot pursuit should broadcast the following information as soon as it becomes practicable and available:

- (a) Location and direction of travel
- (b) Call sign identifier
- (c) Reason for the foot pursuit, such as the crime classification
- (d) Number of suspects and description, to include name if known
- (e) Whether the suspect is known or believed to be armed with a dangerous weapon

Officers should be mindful that radio transmissions made while running may be difficult to understand and may need to be repeated.

Absent extenuating circumstances, any officer unable to promptly and effectively broadcast this information should terminate the foot pursuit. If the foot pursuit is discontinued for any reason, immediate efforts for containment should be established and alternatives considered based upon the circumstances and available resources.

When a foot pursuit terminates, the officer will notify Transit Control Center of his/her location and the status of the foot pursuit termination (e.g., suspect in custody, lost sight of suspect), and will direct further actions as reasonably appear necessary, to include requesting medical aid as needed for officers, suspects or members of the public.

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456.5.2 ASSISTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever any officer announces that he/she is engaged in a foot pursuit, all other officers should minimize nonessential radio traffic to permit the involved officers maximum access to the radio frequency.

456.5.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon becoming aware of a foot pursuit, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to ascertain sufficient information to direct responding resources and to take command, control and coordination of the foot pursuit. The supervisor should respond to the area whenever reasonably possible. The supervisor does not, however, need to be physically present to exercise control over the foot pursuit. The supervisor should continuously assess the situation in order to ensure the foot pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.

The supervisor shall terminate the foot pursuit when the danger to pursuing officers or the public appears to unreasonably outweigh the objective of immediate apprehension of the suspect.

Upon apprehension of the suspect, the supervisor should promptly proceed to the termination point to direct the post-pursuit activity.

456.5.4 TRANSIT CONTROL CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon notification or becoming aware that a foot pursuit is in progress, the dispatcher is responsible for:

- (a) Clearing the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.
- (b) Coordinating pursuit communications of the involved officers.
- (c) Broadcasting pursuit updates as well as other pertinent information as necessary.
- (d) Ensuring that a field supervisor is notified of the foot pursuit.
- (e) Notifying and coordinating with other involved or affected agencies as practicable.
- (f) Notifying the Shift Supervisor as soon as practicable.
- (g) Assigning an incident number and logging all pursuit activities.

456.6 REPORTING

The initiating officer shall complete the appropriate crime/arrest reports documenting, at minimum:

- (a) Date and time of the foot pursuit.
- (b) Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the foot pursuit.
- (c) Course and approximate distance of the foot pursuit.
- (d) Alleged offenses.
- (e) Involved vehicles and officers.
- (f) Whether a suspect was apprehended as well as the means and methods used.

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1. Any use of force shall be reported and documented in compliance with the Use of Force Policy.
 - (g) Arrestee information, if applicable.
 - (h) Any injuries and/or medical treatment.
 - (i) Any property or equipment damage.
 - (j) Name of the supervisor at the scene or who handled the incident.

Assisting officers taking an active role in the apprehension of the suspect shall complete supplemental reports as necessary or as directed.

The supervisor reviewing the report will make a preliminary determination that the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy or that additional review and/or follow-up is warranted.

In any case in which a suspect is not apprehended and there is insufficient information to warrant further investigation, a supervisor may authorize that the initiating officer need not complete a formal report.

Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR)

458.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the capture, storage and use of digital data obtained through the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology (Minn. Stat. § 626.8472).

458.2 ADMINISTRATION

The ALPR technology, also known as License Plate Recognition (LPR), allows for the automated detection of license plates. It may be used by the Metro Transit Police Department to convert data associated with vehicle license plates for official law enforcement purposes, including identifying stolen or wanted vehicles, stolen license plates and missing persons. It may also be used to gather information related to active warrants, homeland security, electronic surveillance, suspect interdiction and stolen property recovery.

All installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Business Technology Manager. The Business Technology Manager will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

458.3 OPERATIONS

Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department members shall not use, or allow others to use, the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose.

- (a) An ALPR shall only be used for official law enforcement business.
- (b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation. Reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not necessary before using an ALPR.
- (c) While an ALPR may be used to canvass license plates around any crime scene, particular consideration should be given to using ALPR-equipped cars to canvass areas around homicides, shootings and other major incidents.
- (d) No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.
- (e) No ALPR operator may access confidential department, state or federal data unless authorized to do so.
- (f) The officer shall verify an ALPR response through the Minnesota Justice Information Services (MNJIS) and National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) databases before taking enforcement action that is based solely upon an ALPR alert.

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458.3.1 RESTRICTIONS, NOTIFICATIONS AND AUDITS

The Metro Transit Police Department will observe the following guidelines regarding ALPR use (Minn. Stat. § 13.824):

- (a) Data collected by an ALPR will be limited to:
 - (a) License plate numbers.
 - (b) Date, time and location of data on vehicles.
 - (c) Pictures of license plates, vehicles and areas surrounding the vehicle.
- (b) ALPR data may only be matched with the Minnesota license plate data file, unless additional sources are needed for an active criminal investigation.
- (c) ALPRs shall not be used to monitor or track an individual unless done so under a search warrant or because of exigent circumstances.
- (d) The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension shall be notified within 10 days of any installation or use and of any fixed location of an ALPR.

458.4 DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION

The Administrative Division Supervisor is responsible for ensuring systems and processes are in place for the proper collection and retention of ALPR data. Data will be transferred from vehicles to the designated storage in accordance with department procedures.

ALPR data received from another agency shall be maintained securely and released in the same manner as ALPR data collected by this department (Minn. Stat. § 13.824).

ALPR data not related to an active criminal investigation must be destroyed no later than 60 days from the date of collection with the following exceptions (Minn. Stat. § 13.824):

- (a) Exculpatory evidence - Data must be retained until a criminal matter is resolved if a written request is made from a person who is the subject of a criminal investigation asserting that ALPR data may be used as exculpatory evidence.
- (b) Address Confidentiality Program - Data related to a participant of the Address Confidentiality Program must be destroyed upon the written request of the participant. ALPR data already collected at the time of the request shall be destroyed and future related ALPR data must be destroyed at the time of collection. Destruction can be deferred if it relates to an active criminal investigation.

All other ALPR data should be retained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

458.4.1 LOG OF USE

A public log of ALPR use will be maintained that includes (Minn. Stat. § 13.824):

- (a) Specific times of day that the ALPR collected data.
- (b) The aggregate number of vehicles or license plates on which data are collected for each period of active use and a list of all state and federal public databases with which the data were compared.

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- (c) For each period of active use, the number of vehicles or license plates related to:
 - 1. A vehicle or license plate that has been stolen.
 - 2. A warrant for the arrest of the owner of the vehicle.
 - 3. An owner with a suspended or revoked driver's license or similar category.
 - 4. Active investigative data.
- (d) For an ALPR at a stationary or fixed location, the location at which the ALPR actively collected data and is installed and used.

A publicly accessible list of the current and previous locations, including dates at those locations, of any fixed ALPR or other surveillance devices with ALPR capability shall be maintained. The list may be kept from the public if the data is security information as provided in Minn. Stat. § 13.37, Subd. 2.

458.5 ACCOUNTABILITY

All saved data will be closely safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Metro Transit Police Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data (Minn. Stat. § 13.824; Minn. Stat. § 13.05):

- (a) All ALPR data downloaded to the mobile workstation and in storage shall be accessible only through a login/password-protected system capable of documenting all access of information by name, date and time.
- (b) Members approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action.
- (c) Biennial audits and reports shall be completed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13.824, Subd. 6.
- (d) Breaches of personal data are addressed as set forth in the Protected Information Policy (Minn. Stat. § 13.055).
- (e) All queries and responses, and all actions, in which data are entered, updated, accessed, shared or disseminated, must be recorded in a data audit trail.
- (f) Any member who violates Minn. Stat. § 13.09 through the unauthorized acquisition or use of ALPR data will face discipline and possible criminal prosecution (Minn. Stat. § 626.8472).

458.6 POLICY

The policy of the Metro Transit Police Department is to utilize ALPR technology to capture and store digital license plate data and images while recognizing the established privacy rights of the public.

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All data and images gathered by the ALPR are for the official use of this department. Because such data may contain confidential information, it is not open to public review.

458.7 RELEASING ALPR DATA

The ALPR data may be shared only with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law, using the following procedures (Minn. Stat. § 13.824):

- (a) The agency makes a written request for the ALPR data that includes:
 - 1. The name of the agency.
 - 2. The name of the person requesting.
 - 3. The intended purpose of obtaining the information.
 - 4. A record of the factual basis for the access and any associated case number, complaint or incident that is the basis for the access.
 - 5. A statement that the request is authorized by the head of the requesting law enforcement agency or his/her designee.
- (b) The request is reviewed by the Administrative Division Supervisor or the authorized designee and approved before the request is fulfilled.
 - 1. A release must be based on a reasonable suspicion that the data is pertinent to an active criminal investigation.
- (c) The approved request is retained on file.

Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

Homeless Persons

462.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that personnel understand the needs and rights of the homeless and to establish procedures to guide officers during all contacts with the homeless, whether consensual or for enforcement purposes. The Metro Transit Police Department recognizes that members of the homeless community are often in need of special protection and services. The Metro Transit Police Department will address these needs in balance with the overall missions of this department. Therefore, officers will consider the following policy when serving the homeless community.

462.2 HOMELESS COMMUNITY LIAISON

The Chief of Police will designate a member of this department to act as the Homeless Liaison Officer. The responsibilities of the Homeless Liaison Officer include the following:

- (a) Maintain and make available to all Department employees a list of assistance programs and other resources that are available to the homeless.
- (b) Meet with social services and representatives of other organizations that render assistance to the homeless.
- (c) Maintain a list of those areas within and near this jurisdiction that are used as frequent homeless encampments.
- (d) Remain abreast of laws dealing with the removal and/or destruction of the personal property of the homeless. This will include the following:
 1. Proper posting of notices of trespass and clean-up operations.
 2. Proper retention of property after clean up, to include procedures for owners to reclaim their property in accordance with the Property Procedures Policy and other established procedures.
- (e) Be present during any clean-up operation conducted by this department involving the removal of personal property of the homeless to ensure the rights of the homeless are not violated.
- (f) Develop training to assist officers in understanding current legal and social issues relating to the homeless.

462.3 FIELD CONTACTS

Officers are encouraged to contact the homeless for purposes of rendering aid, support and for community-oriented policing purposes. Nothing in this policy is meant to dissuade an officer from taking reasonable enforcement action when facts support a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity. However, when encountering a homeless person who has committed a non-violent misdemeanor and continued freedom is not likely to result in a continuation of the offense or a

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breach of the peace, officers are encouraged to consider long-term solutions to problems that may relate to the homeless, such as shelter referrals and counseling in lieu of physical arrest. Officers should provide homeless persons with resource and assistance information whenever it is reasonably apparent such services may be appropriate.

462.3.1 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Homeless members of the community will receive the same level and quality of service provided to other members of our community. The fact that a victim or witness is homeless can, however, require special considerations for a successful investigation and prosecution. Officers should consider the following when handling investigations involving homeless victims, witnesses or suspects:

- (a) Documenting alternate contact information. This may include obtaining addresses and telephone numbers of relatives and friends.
- (b) Document places the homeless person may frequent.
- (c) Provide homeless victims with victim/witness resources when appropriate.
- (d) Obtain statements from all available witnesses in the event a homeless victim is unavailable for a court appearance.
- (e) Consider whether the person may be a dependent adult or elder and if so proceed in accordance with the Adult Abuse Policy.
- (f) Arrange for transportation for investigation-related matters, such as medical exams and court appearances.
- (g) Consider whether a crime should be reported and submitted for prosecution even when a homeless victim indicates he/she does not desire prosecution.

462.4 PERSONAL PROPERTY

The personal property of homeless persons must not be treated differently than the property of other members of the public. Officers should use reasonable care when handling, collecting and retaining the personal property of homeless persons and should not destroy or discard the personal property of a homeless person.

When a homeless person is arrested or otherwise removed from a public place, officers should make reasonable accommodations to permit the person to lawfully secure his/her personal property. Otherwise, the arrestee's personal property should be collected for safekeeping. If the arrestee has more personal property than can reasonably be collected and transported by the officer, a supervisor should be consulted. The property should be photographed and measures should be taken to remove or secure the property. It will be the supervisor's responsibility to coordinate the removal and safekeeping of the property.

Officers should not conduct or assist in clean-up operations of belongings that reasonably appear to be the property of homeless persons without the prior authorization of a supervisor or the

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Department Homeless Liaison Officer. When practicable, requests by the public for clean-up operations of a homeless encampment should be referred to the Homeless Liaison Officer.

Officers who encounter unattended encampments, bedding or other personal property in public areas that reasonably appears to belong to a homeless person should not remove or destroy such property and should inform the Department Homeless Liaison Officer if such property appears to involve a trespass, blight to the community or is the subject of a complaint. It will be the responsibility of the Homeless Liaison Officer to address the matter in a timely fashion.

462.5 MENTAL ILLNESSES AND MENTAL IMPAIRMENTS

Some homeless persons may suffer from a mental illness or a mental impairment. Officers shall not detain a homeless person under a 72-hour emergency medical hold unless facts and circumstances warrant such a detention.

462.6 ECOLOGICAL ISSUES

Sometimes homeless encampments can affect the ecology and natural resources of the community and may involve criminal offenses beyond mere littering. Officers are encouraged to notify other appropriate agencies or departments when a significant impact to the environment has or is likely to occur. Significant impacts to the environment may warrant a crime report, investigation, supporting photographs and supervisor notification.

462.7 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department to provide law enforcement services to all members of the community while protecting the rights, dignity and private property of the homeless. Homelessness is not a crime and members of this department will not use homelessness solely as a basis for detention or law enforcement action.

Passenger / Customer Eviction

463.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the goal of the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit to provide the Metro Transit passenger a conveyance which is safe, clean and responsive to the passengers riding experience. It is the policy of the Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit to evict passengers from a conveyance when a Metro Transit Police officer or Metro Transit operator has reason to believe that the passenger presents an immediate threat to the peace and/or safety of other passengers and/or the operator.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for evicting passengers/customers from Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit conveyances/property and to establish reporting requirements for such actions.

463.2 CONSIDERATIONS WHEN EVICTING OR REMOVING PASSENGERS/CUSTOMERS

When considering whether or not to evict/remove a passenger(s) or customer(s), Metro Transit Police officers shall consider the totality of the circumstances presented at the time. These circumstances may include one or more of the following:

- (a) The safety of other passengers, the operator, the responding officer, other Metro Transit and/or Metro Transit Police personnel.
- (b) The safety of other motorists and/or public.
- (c) The preservation of Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit property.
- (d) Whether reasonable belief exists that the passenger/customer violated any Minnesota State Statute, law, ordinance, Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit policy or rule.
 - 1. The above includes but is not limited to the interference, interruption, disruption or obstruction by the passenger/customer.
- (e) The time of day, location, weather conditions, age of passenger(s), number of passengers and the condition of the passenger(s) at the time of eviction/removal.
- (f) Any other factor(s) which reasonably assist Metro Transit Police officers in concluding that the removal or eviction of the passenger(s) is warranted.

463.3 DOCUMENTING AN EVICTION OR REMOVAL

All Metro Transit Police officers operating within the scope of this policy will document all incidents on the appropriate Metro Transit Police report label(s) and/or records management system. Officers may refer to the Report Preparation Policy if further information is needed.

Fare Enforcement

465.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of Metro Transit that reasonable, non-discriminatory fares shall be charged for all public transportation services operated by the agency. The fare structure will be a "Service Based Structure" with fare levels determined by the type of service provided. Passengers will pay specified rates accordingly, unless they qualify for a reduced fare.

The purpose of this policy is to define the role of Metro Transit Police officers as it relates to fare inspection.

465.2 ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement of the "Proof of Payment" fare collection process will be accomplished by Metro Transit Police officers. The role of Metro Transit Police officers, conducting fare inspection duty, is to educate customers on the proof-of-payment system and to take enforcement action against fare violators. These steps are implemented in an attempt to gain compliance within the established system.

Metro Transit Police officers will be the primary point of contact with passengers. As such, the highest standards of integrity, fairness, impartiality and professionalism are expected of them. In terms of public acceptance and enforcement of the proof-of-payment system, the fare inspections are essential to the success of the system. The philosophy for fare inspection will be high visibility, with pleasant, yet firm enforcement. This philosophy dictates that Metro Transit Police officers apply interpersonal relationship skills and law enforcement authority to gain acceptance of and compliance with the proof-of-payment system.

465.2.1 INSPECTIONS

Metro Transit Police officers will randomly inspect passengers both onboard the conveyance and off while located in a "Paid Fare Zone." Officers shall announce their intent to inspect fares by stating something similar to, "Fare inspection" or "Please display your ticket for fare inspection." Passengers without proof of payment will be asked if they understand the fare system or have some other reason for not having a valid proof of payment (e.g. a malfunction with the ticket vending machine (TVM)). Officers will request appropriate documentation from passengers using disability cards, reduced fare cards and/or stored value cards.

- (a) If the officer is satisfied that the passenger did not intentionally evade payment of fare, the officer will explain the fare system to the passenger, issue a verbal warning and may ask the passenger to exit the conveyance to pay the proper fare. The officer may also allow the passenger to ride to their destination and ensure that the fare is paid at that time.
- (b) If the officer decides that fare payment was intentionally avoided, a citation should be issued to the passenger. The officer may ask that the passenger exit the conveyance

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or may allow the passenger to ride to their destination and ensure that the fare is paid at that time.

1. If the passenger is found to be in violation for a second time, in addition to issuing a citation, the passenger may be trespassed for 30 days.
2. If the passenger is found to be in violation for a third time (or more), he/she may be booked for the continued offense and if applicable, a trespass violation.

465.3 DOCUMENTING FARE ENFORCEMENT

All Metro Transit Police officers operating within the scope of this policy will document all incidents on the appropriate Metro Transit Police report label(s) and/or records management system (including patrol logs). Officers may refer to the Report Preparation Policy if further information is needed.

465.4 POLICE PRESENCE

The presence of Metro Transit Police officers while conducting fare inspections will provide security to passengers and Metro Transit personnel. Officers may also be asked to support revenue collection personnel while they, or a vendor, service the TVM's.

Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity

466.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for handling situations in which members of the public photograph or audio/video record law enforcement actions and other public activities that involve members of this department. In addition, this policy provides guidelines for situations where the recordings may be evidence.

466.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department recognizes the right of persons to lawfully record members of this department who are performing their official duties. Members of this department will not prohibit or intentionally interfere with such lawful recordings. Any recordings that are deemed to be evidence of a crime or relevant to an investigation will only be collected or seized lawfully.

Officers should exercise restraint and should not resort to highly discretionary arrests for offenses such as interference, failure to comply or disorderly conduct as a means of preventing someone from exercising the right to record members performing their official duties.

466.3 RECORDING LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Members of the public who wish to record law enforcement activities are limited only in certain aspects.

- (a) Recordings may be made from any public place or any private property where the individual has the legal right to be present.
- (b) Beyond the act of photographing or recording, individuals may not interfere with the law enforcement activity. Examples of interference include, but are not limited to:
 - 1. Tampering with a witness or suspect.
 - 2. Inciting others to violate the law.
 - 3. Being so close to the activity as to present a clear safety hazard to the officers.
 - 4. Being so close to the activity as to interfere with an officer's effective communication with a suspect or witness.
- (c) The individual may not present an undue safety risk to the officers, him/herself or others.

466.4 OFFICER RESPONSE

Officers should promptly request that a supervisor respond to the scene whenever it appears that anyone recording activities may be interfering with an investigation or it is believed that the recording may be evidence. If practicable, officers should wait for the supervisor to arrive before taking enforcement action or seizing any cameras or recording media.

Whenever practicable, officers or supervisors should give clear and concise warnings to individuals who are conducting themselves in a manner that would cause their recording or

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behavior to be unlawful. Accompanying the warnings should be clear directions on what an individual can do to be compliant; directions should be specific enough to allow compliance. For example, rather than directing an individual to clear the area, an officer could advise the person that he/she may continue observing and recording from the sidewalk across the street.

If an arrest or other significant enforcement activity is taken as the result of a recording that interferes with law enforcement activity, officers shall document in a report the nature and extent of the interference or other unlawful behavior and the warnings that were issued.

466.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor should respond to the scene when requested or any time the circumstances indicate a likelihood of interference or other unlawful behavior.

The supervisor should review the situation with the officer and:

- (a) Request any additional assistance as needed to ensure a safe environment.
- (b) Take a lead role in communicating with individuals who are observing or recording regarding any appropriate limitations on their location or behavior. When practical, the encounter should be recorded.
- (c) When practicable, allow adequate time for individuals to respond to requests for a change of location or behavior.
- (d) Ensure that any enforcement, seizure or other actions are consistent with this policy and constitutional and state law.
- (e) Explain alternatives for individuals who wish to express concern about the conduct of department members, such as how and where to file a complaint.

466.6 SEIZING RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE

Officers should not seize recording devices or media unless (42 USC § 2000aa):

- (a) There is probable cause to believe the person recording has committed or is committing a crime to which the recording relates, and the recording is reasonably necessary for prosecution of the person.
 1. Absent exigency or consent, a warrant should be sought before seizing or viewing such recordings. Reasonable steps may be taken to prevent erasure of the recording.
- (b) There is reason to believe that the immediate seizure of such recordings is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death of any person.
- (c) The person consents.
 1. To ensure that the consent is voluntary, the request should not be made in a threatening or coercive manner.
 2. If the original recording is provided, a copy of the recording should be provided to the recording party, if practicable. The recording party should be permitted to be present while the copy is being made, if feasible. Another way to obtain the

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evidence is to transmit a copy of the recording from a device to a department-owned device.

Recording devices and media that are seized will be submitted within the guidelines of the Property and Evidence Office Policy.

Medical Aid and Response

467.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy recognizes that members often encounter persons in need of medical aid and establishes a law enforcement response to such situations.

467.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department that all officers and other designated members be trained to provide emergency medical aid and to facilitate an emergency medical response.

467.3 FIRST RESPONDING MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever practicable, members should take appropriate steps to provide initial medical aid (e.g., first aid, CPR, use of an automated external defibrillator (AED)) in accordance with their training and current certification levels. This should be done for those in need of immediate care and only when the member can safely do so.

Prior to initiating medical aid, the member should contact Transit Control Center and request response by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) as the member deems appropriate.

Members should follow universal precautions when providing medical aid, such as wearing gloves and avoiding contact with bodily fluids, consistent with the Communicable Diseases Policy. Members should use a barrier or bag device to perform rescue breathing.

When requesting EMS, the member should provide Transit Control Center with information for relay to EMS personnel in order to enable an appropriate response, including:

- (a) The location where EMS is needed.
- (b) The nature of the incident.
- (c) Any known scene hazards.
- (d) Information on the person in need of EMS, such as:
 1. Signs and symptoms as observed by the member.
 2. Changes in apparent condition.
 3. Number of patients, sex, and age, if known.
 4. Whether the person is conscious, breathing, and alert, or is believed to have consumed drugs or alcohol.
 5. Whether the person is showing signs or symptoms of excited delirium or other agitated chaotic behavior.

Members should stabilize the scene whenever practicable while awaiting the arrival of EMS.

Members should not direct EMS personnel whether to transport the person for treatment.

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467.4 TRANSPORTING ILL AND INJURED PERSONS

Except in extraordinary cases where alternatives are not reasonably available, members should not transport persons who are unconscious, who have serious injuries or who may be seriously ill. EMS personnel should be called to handle patient transportation.

Officers should search any person who is in custody before releasing that person to EMS for transport.

An officer should accompany any person in custody during transport in an ambulance when requested by EMS personnel, when it reasonably appears necessary to provide security, when it is necessary for investigative purposes or when so directed by a supervisor.

Members should not provide emergency escort for medical transport or civilian vehicles.

467.5 PERSONS REFUSING EMS CARE

If a person who is not in custody refuses EMS care or refuses to be transported to a medical facility, an officer shall not force that person to receive care or be transported. However, members may assist EMS personnel when EMS personnel determine the person lacks mental capacity to understand the consequences of refusing medical care or to make an informed decision and the lack of immediate medical attention may result in serious bodily injury or the death of the person.

In cases where mental illness may be a factor, the officer should consider proceeding with a 72-hour hold in accordance with the Civil Commitments Policy.

If an officer believes that a person who is in custody requires EMS care and the person refuses, he/she should encourage the person to receive medical treatment. The officer may also consider contacting a family member to help persuade the person to agree to treatment or who may be able to authorize treatment for the person.

If the person who is in custody still refuses, the officer will require the person to be transported to the nearest medical facility. In such cases, the officer should consult with a supervisor prior to the transport.

Members shall not sign refusal-for-treatment forms or forms accepting financial responsibility for treatment.

467.6 MEDICAL ATTENTION RELATED TO USE OF FORCE

Specific guidelines for medical attention for injuries sustained from a use of force may be found in the Use of Force, Handcuffing and Restraints, Control Devices and Conducted Energy Device policies.

467.7 AIR AMBULANCE

Generally, when on-scene, EMS personnel will be responsible for determining whether an air ambulance response should be requested. An air ambulance may be appropriate when there are victims with life-threatening injuries or who require specialized treatment (e.g., gunshot wounds, burns, obstetrical cases), and distance or other known delays will affect the EMS response.

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The Patrol Division Commander should develop guidelines for air ambulance landings or enter into local operating agreements for the use of air ambulances, as applicable. In creating those guidelines, the Department should identify:

- Responsibility and authority for designating a landing zone and determining the size of the landing zone.
- Responsibility for securing the area and maintaining that security once the landing zone is identified.
- Consideration of the air ambulance provider's minimum standards for proximity to vertical obstructions and surface composition (e.g., dirt, gravel, pavement, concrete, grass).
- Consideration of the air ambulance provider's minimum standards for horizontal clearance from structures, fences, power poles, antennas, or roadways.
- Responsibility for notifying the appropriate highway or transportation agencies if a roadway is selected as a landing zone.
- Procedures for ground personnel to communicate with flight personnel during the operation.

One department member at the scene should be designated as the air ambulance communications contact. Headlights, spotlights, and flashlights should not be aimed upward at the air ambulance. Members should direct vehicle and pedestrian traffic away from the landing zone.

Members should follow these cautions when near an air ambulance:

- Never approach the aircraft until signaled by the flight crew.
- Always approach the aircraft from the front.
- Avoid the aircraft's tail rotor area.
- Wear eye protection during landing and take-off.
- Do not carry or hold items, such as IV bags, above the head.
- Ensure that no one smokes near the aircraft.

467.8 AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) USE

467.8.1 AED USER RESPONSIBILITY

Members who are issued AEDs for use in department vehicles should check the AED at the beginning of the shift to ensure it is properly charged and functioning. Any AED that is not functioning properly will be taken out of service and given to the Training Manager who is responsible for ensuring appropriate maintenance.

Following use of an AED, the device shall be cleaned and/or decontaminated as required. The electrodes and/or pads will be replaced as recommended by the AED manufacturer.

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Any member who uses an AED should contact Transit Control Center as soon as possible and request response by EMS.

467.8.2 AED REPORTING

Any member using an AED will complete an incident report detailing its use.

467.8.3 AED TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE

The Training Supervisor should ensure appropriate training is provided to members authorized to use an AED.

The Inspections Unit is responsible for ensuring AED devices are appropriately maintained and will retain records of all maintenance in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

467.9 SICK OR INJURED ARRESTEE

If an arrestee appears ill or injured, or claims illness or injury, he/she should be medically cleared prior to booking. If the officer has reason to believe the arrestee is feigning injury or illness, the officer should allow EMS personnel to make that determination.

If the jail or detention facility refuses to accept custody of an arrestee based on medical screening, the officer should note the name of the facility person refusing to accept custody and the reason for refusal, and should notify a supervisor to determine the appropriate action.

Arrestees who appear to have a serious medical issue should be transported by ambulance. Officers shall not transport an arrestee to a hospital without a supervisor's approval.

Nothing in this section should delay an officer from requesting EMS when an arrestee reasonably appears to be exhibiting symptoms that appear to be life threatening, including breathing problems or an altered level of consciousness, or is claiming an illness or injury that reasonably warrants an EMS response in accordance with the officer's training.

467.10 FIRST AID TRAINING

Subject to available resources, the Training Manager should ensure officers receive periodic first aid training appropriate for their position.

Administration of Opioid Overdose Medication

468.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide approved members with guidelines to utilize opioid overdose medication in order to reduce fatal opiate/opioid overdoses.

468.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department for trained members to administer Naloxone (Narcan), in accordance with State law and the administrative medical director's guidelines and oversight, to persons suffering from opiate/opioid overdose at the earliest possible time to minimize chances of death (Minn. Stat. § 151.37; Minn. Stat. § 604A.04)..

Only officers who receive training in the recognition of signs of opiate overdose and the use of opiate antagonists may administer opioid overdose medication.

468.3 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Evzio 2mg Injection Cartridge - A method of medication administration where medication is injected into the middle of the outer thigh - holding the cartridge in place for five (5) seconds.

Naloxone - A prescription medication that can be used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. Specifically, Naloxone is an opioid antagonist. It binds to chemical receptors in the body; slowing or stopping the effects of opioids. Naloxone is the generic name whereas Narcan is the trade name for this drug.

Opioid - A medication or drug that is derived from the opium poppy or that mimics the effect of an opiate. Opiate drugs are narcotic sedatives that depress activity of the central nervous system; these will reduce pain, induce sleep, and in an overdose will cause people to stop breathing. Commonly called, but not limited to, Heroin, Morphine, Dilaudid, Oxycodone, Methadone, Hydrocodone, Fentanyl, and Codeine.

468.4 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION USER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members who are qualified to administer opioid overdose medication, such as Naloxone, should handle, store and administer the medication consistent with their training. Members should check the medication at the beginning of their shift to ensure they are serviceable and not expired. Any expired medication should be removed from service and given to the Naloxone Program Administrator. Any member who provides an opioid antagonist shall contact the Transit Control Center as soon as possible and request response by EMS. Members shall contact the Naloxone Program Administrator whenever they need to obtain a new cartridge.

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468.5 DEPLOYMENT PROCEDURES

- (a) Naloxone shall only be administered according to training (currently intramuscular injection).
- (b) Request standard EMS response if not already in progress.
- (c) Maintain scene safety and follow universal precautions.
- (d) Perform patient/victim assessment to determine unresponsiveness, inadequate breathing, pinpoint pupils, and/or no pulse.
- (e) Provide basic life support techniques as needed.
- (f) Perform a situational assessment to determine whether it is more likely than not the patient/victim's condition is an opiate overdose.
- (g) If it is more likely than not the patient/victim's condition is an opioid overdose, administer one 2mg Evzio Naloxone cartridge by injection into the middle of the outer thigh - holding the cartridge in place for five (5) seconds.
 - 1. If the patient/victim has no improvement in breathing or has not regained consciousness in 2-5 minutes, a second dose of Naloxone may be administered into the other outer thigh.
 - 2. If the patient/victim's condition markedly improves prior to the administration of the second dose of Naloxone, the second dose need not be administered.
- (h) Continue to provide basic life support to the patient/victim.
- (i) Update responding paramedics of amount of Naloxone given, and any change in the patient/victim's condition.
- (j) Members administering Naloxone shall make every effort to complete the Application by Peace Officer for Emergency Evaluation (i.e., transport hold) form. Paramedics are advised to get a signed hold form so they can legally prevent the person from leaving and obtain medical treatment.
- (k) Members shall dispose of used Evzio cartridges in an approved sharps container (e.g., located in an ambulance, hospital, police department etc).

468.6 DOCUMENTATION AND REPORTING

Any member who administers Naloxone shall complete the following documentation prior to the end of their shift:

- (a) Offense / Incident Report to include narrative.
- (b) Naloxone (Narcan) Reporting Form. The report form shall include:
 - 1. Signs of overdose present in the patient.
 - 2. Suspected overdose drugs.
 - 3. Amount of Naloxone administered.
 - 4. Overdosed individual's response to Naloxone.

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5. Additional efforts to revive the overdosed individual (e.g., rescue breathing, chest compressions, administered Naloxone, other).
6. Withdrawl symptoms.
7. Pertinent EMS information (i.e., ambulance service provider, hold information, run number, and hospital to which the individual was transported).
8. Additional notes if necessary.

468.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors shall:

- (a) Whenever possible, respond to calls when Naloxone is being administered.
- (b) Ensure proper protocols are being followed.
- (c) Review reports documenting the use of Naloxone.
- (d) Ensure that subordinates attend Naloxone training when required.
- (e) Notify the Naloxone Program Administrator after being notified by a subordinate of any used, expired, damaged or missing Naloxone kits.

468.8 NALOXONE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief of Police will designate a member of this department to act as the Naloxone Program Administrator. The responsibilities of the Naloxone Program Administrator include the following:

- (a) Coordinate with the Training Manager to implement initial Naloxone training for personnel, as well as re-certification training as required per policy.
- (b) Ensure members have successfully completed Naloxone training prior to treating individuals with Department issued Naloxone.
- (c) Maintain training records of personnel allowed to carry and administer department issued Naloxone.
- (d) Ensure an adequate, non-expired supply of Naloxone is available for member use.
- (e) Replace Naloxone cartridges that are damaged, unusable, expired or deployed after being made aware of issues with any Evzio cartridge by a member or supervisor.
- (f) Document and dispose of expired and/or damaged Naloxone cartridges.
- (g) Maintain records to comply with the requirements of reporting the receipt and administration of Naloxone in accordance with the State of Minnesota and the Metro Transit Police Department Medical Director.
- (h) Maintain administrative records regarding departmental use of Naloxone and disseminate the records to the appropriate authorities.

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468.9 TRAINING

The Training Manager should ensure that training is provided to members authorized to administer Naloxone. The training shall be consistent with the standards set forth by the Metro Transit Police Department Medical Director.

Training shall be conducted by a provider approved by the Metro Transit Police Department Medical Director. Training shall be completed every two years.

Crisis Intervention Incidents

469.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for interacting with those who may be experiencing a mental health or emotional crisis. Interaction with such individuals has the potential for miscommunication and violence. It often requires an officer to make difficult judgments about a person's mental state and intent in order to effectively and legally interact with the individual.

469.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Person in crisis - A person whose level of distress or mental health symptoms have exceeded the person's internal ability to manage his/her behavior or emotions. A crisis can be precipitated by any number of things, including an increase in the symptoms of mental illness despite treatment compliance; non-compliance with treatment, including a failure to take prescribed medications appropriately; or any other circumstance or event that causes the person to engage in erratic, disruptive or dangerous behavior that may be accompanied by impaired judgment.

469.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department is committed to providing a consistently high level of service to all members of the community and recognizes that persons in crisis may benefit from intervention. The Department will collaborate, where feasible, with mental health professionals to develop an overall intervention strategy to guide its members' interactions with those experiencing a mental health crisis. This is to ensure equitable and safe treatment of all involved.

469.3 SIGNS

Members should be alert to any of the following possible signs of mental health issues or crises:

- (a) A known history of mental illness
- (b) Threats of or attempted suicide
- (c) Loss of memory
- (d) Incoherence, disorientation or slow response
- (e) Delusions, hallucinations, perceptions unrelated to reality or grandiose ideas
- (f) Depression, pronounced feelings of hopelessness or uselessness, extreme sadness or guilt
- (g) Social withdrawal
- (h) Manic or impulsive behavior, extreme agitation, lack of control
- (i) Lack of fear
- (j) Anxiety, aggression, rigidity, inflexibility or paranoia

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Members should be aware that this list is not exhaustive. The presence or absence of any of these should not be treated as proof of the presence or absence of a mental health issue or crisis.

469.4 COORDINATION WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The Chief of Police should designate an appropriate Division Commander to collaborate with mental health professionals to develop an education and response protocol. It should include a list of community resources to guide department interaction with those who may be suffering from mental illness or who appear to be in a mental health crisis.

469.5 FIRST RESPONDERS

Safety is a priority for first responders. It is important to recognize that individuals under the influence of alcohol, drugs or both may exhibit symptoms that are similar to those of a person in a mental health crisis. These individuals may still present a serious threat to officers; such a threat should be addressed with reasonable tactics. Nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit an officer's authority to use reasonable force when interacting with a person in crisis.

Officers are reminded that mental health issues, mental health crises and unusual behavior alone are not criminal offenses. Individuals may benefit from treatment as opposed to incarceration.

An officer responding to a call involving a person in crisis should:

- (a) Promptly assess the situation independent of reported information and make a preliminary determination regarding whether a mental health crisis may be a factor.
- (b) Request available backup officers and specialized resources as deemed necessary and, if it is reasonably believed that the person is in a crisis situation use conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques to stabilize the incident as appropriate.
- (c) If feasible, and without compromising safety, turn off flashing lights, bright lights or sirens.
- (d) Attempt to determine if weapons are present or available.
- (e) Take into account the person's mental and emotional state and potential inability to understand commands or to appreciate the consequences of his/her action or inaction, as perceived by the officer.
- (f) Secure the scene and clear the immediate area as necessary.
- (g) Employ tactics to preserve the safety of all participants.
- (h) Determine the nature of any crime.
- (i) Request a supervisor, as warranted.
- (j) Evaluate any available information that might assist in determining cause or motivation for the person's actions or stated intentions.
- (k) If circumstances reasonably permit, consider and employ alternatives to force.

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469.6 DE-ESCALATION

Officers should consider that taking no action or passively monitoring the situation may be the most reasonable response to a mental health crisis.

Once it is determined that a situation is a mental health crisis and immediate safety concerns have been addressed responding members should be aware of the following considerations and should generally:

- Evaluate safety conditions.
- Introduce themselves and attempt to obtain the person's name.
- Be patient, polite, calm, courteous and avoid overreacting.
- Speak and move slowly and in a non-threatening manner.
- Moderate the level of direct eye contact.
- Remove distractions or disruptive people from the area.
- Demonstrate active listening skills (e.g., summarize the person's verbal communication).
- Provide for sufficient avenues of retreat or escape should the situation become volatile.

Responding officers generally should not:

- Use stances or tactics that can be interpreted as aggressive.
- Allow others to interrupt or engage the person.
- Corner a person who is not believed to be armed, violent or suicidal.
- Argue, speak with a raised voice or use threats to obtain compliance.

469.7 INCIDENT ORIENTATION

When responding to an incident that may involve mental illness or a mental health crisis, the officer should request that the dispatcher provide critical information as it becomes available. This includes:

- (a) Whether the person relies on drugs or medication, or may have failed to take his/her medication.
- (b) Whether there have been prior incidents, suicide threats/attempts, and whether there has been previous police response.
- (c) Contact information for a treating physician or mental health professional.

Additional resources (e.g. personnel with additional/advanced crisis intervention training) and a supervisor should be requested as warranted.

469.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor should respond to the scene of any interaction with a person in crisis. Responding supervisors should:

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- (a) Attempt to secure appropriate and sufficient resources (e.g. personnel with additional/ advanced crisis intervention training and/or medical personnel).
- (b) Closely monitor any use of force, including the use of restraints, and ensure that those subjected to the use of force are provided with timely access to medical care (see the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy).
- (c) Consider strategic disengagement. Absent an imminent threat to the public and, as circumstances dictate, this may include removing or reducing law enforcement resources or engaging in passive monitoring.
- (d) Ensure that all reports are completed and that incident documentation uses appropriate terminology and language.
- (e) Conduct an after-action tactical and operational debriefing, and prepare an after-action evaluation of the incident to be forwarded to the Division Commander.
- (f) Evaluate whether a critical incident stress management debriefing for involved members is warranted.

469.9 INCIDENT REPORTING

Members engaging in any oral or written communication associated with a mental health crisis should be mindful of the sensitive nature of such communications and should exercise appropriate discretion when referring to or describing persons and circumstances.

Members having contact with a person in crisis should keep related information confidential, except to the extent that revealing information is necessary to conform to department reporting procedures or other official mental health or medical proceedings.

469.9.1 DIVERSION

Individuals who are not being arrested should be processed in accordance with the Civil Commitments Policy.

469.10 CIVILIAN INTERACTION WITH PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Civilian members may be required to interact with persons in crisis in an administrative capacity, such as dispatching, records request, and animal control issues.

- (a) Members should treat all individuals equally and with dignity and respect.
- (b) If a member believes that he/she is interacting with a person in crisis, he/she should proceed patiently and in a calm manner.
- (c) Members should be aware and understand that the person may make unusual or bizarre claims or requests.

If a person's behavior makes the member feel unsafe, if the person is or becomes disruptive or violent, or if the person acts in such a manner as to cause the member to believe that the person may be harmful to him/herself or others, an officer should be promptly summoned to provide assistance.

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469.11 EVALUATION

The Division Commander designated to coordinate the crisis intervention strategy for this department should ensure that a thorough review and analysis of the department response to these incidents is conducted annually. The report will not include identifying information pertaining to any involved individuals, officers or incidents and will be submitted to the Chief of Police through the chain of command.

469.12 TRAINING

In coordination with the mental health community and appropriate stakeholders, the Department will develop and provide comprehensive education and training to all department members to enable them to effectively interact with persons in crisis.

Additionally, the Training Manager will provide officers, including part-time officers, with in-service training in crisis intervention and mental illness crisis as required by Minn. Stat. § 626.8469 and Minn. Stat. § 626.8474.

Civil Disputes

470.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides members of the Metro Transit Police Department with guidance for addressing conflicts between persons when no criminal investigation or enforcement action is warranted (e.g., civil matters), with the goal of minimizing any potential for violence or criminal acts.

The Domestic Abuse Policy will address specific legal mandates related to domestic violence court orders. References in this policy to “court orders” apply to any order of a court that does not require arrest or enforcement by the terms of the order or by Minnesota law.

470.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department recognizes that a law enforcement presence at a civil dispute can play an important role in the peace and safety of the community. Subject to available resources, members of this department will assist at the scene of civil disputes with the primary goal of safeguarding persons and property, preventing criminal activity and maintaining the peace. When handling civil disputes, members will remain impartial, maintain a calm presence, give consideration to all sides and refrain from giving legal or inappropriate advice.

470.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

When appropriate, members handling a civil dispute should encourage the involved parties to seek the assistance of resolution services or take the matter to the civil courts. Members must not become personally involved in disputes and shall at all times remain impartial.

While not intended to be an exhaustive list, members should give considerations to the following when handling civil disputes:

- (a) Civil disputes tend to be confrontational and members should be alert that they can escalate to violence very quickly. De-escalation techniques should be used when appropriate.
- (b) Members should not dismiss alleged or observed criminal violations as a civil matter and should initiate the appropriate investigation and report when criminal activity is apparent.
- (c) Members shall not provide legal advice, however, when appropriate, members should inform the parties when they are at risk of violating criminal laws.
- (d) Members are reminded that they shall not enter a residence or other non-public location without legal authority including valid consent.
- (e) Members should not take an unreasonable amount of time assisting in these matters and generally should contact a supervisor if it appears that peacekeeping efforts longer than 30 minutes are warranted.

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470.4 COURT ORDERS

Disputes involving court orders can be complex. Where no mandate exists for an officer to make an arrest for a violation of a court order, the matter should be addressed by documenting any apparent court order violation in a report. If there appears to be a more immediate need for enforcement action, the investigating officer should consult a supervisor prior to making any arrest.

If a person appears to be violating the terms of a court order but is disputing the validity of the order or its applicability, the investigating officer should document the following:

- (a) The person's knowledge of the court order or whether proof of service exists.
- (b) Any specific reason or rationale the involved person offers for not complying with the terms of the order.

A copy of the court order should be attached to the report when available. The report should be forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. The report should also be forwarded to the court issuing the order with a notice that the report was also forwarded to the prosecutor for review.

470.4.1 STANDBY REQUESTS

Officers responding to a call for standby assistance to retrieve property should meet the person requesting assistance at a neutral location to discuss the process. The person should be advised that items that are disputed will not be allowed to be removed. The member may advise the person to seek private legal advice as to the distribution of disputed property.

Members should accompany the person to the location of the property. Members should ask if the other party will allow removal of the property or whether the other party would remove the property.

If the other party is uncooperative, the person requesting standby assistance should be instructed to seek private legal advice and obtain a court order to obtain the items. Officers should not order the other party to allow entry or the removal of any items. If there is a restraining or similar order against the person requesting standby assistance, that person should be asked to leave the scene or they may be subject to arrest for violation of the order.

If the other party is not present at the location, the member will not allow entry into the location or the removal of property from the location.

470.5 VEHICLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY

Officers may be faced with disputes regarding possession or ownership of vehicles or other personal property. Officers may review documents provided by parties or available databases (e.g., vehicle registration), but should be aware that legal possession of vehicles or personal property can be complex. Generally, officers should not take any enforcement action unless a crime is apparent. The people and the vehicle or personal property involved should be identified and the incident documented.

470.6 REAL PROPERTY

Disputes over possession or occupancy of real property (e.g., land, homes, apartments) should generally be handled through a person seeking a court order.

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Suspicious Activity Reporting

471.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for reporting and investigating suspicious and criminal activity.

471.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Involved party - An individual who has been observed engaging in suspicious activity, as defined in this policy, when no definitive criminal activity can be identified, thus precluding the person's identification as a suspect.

Suspicious activity - Any reported or observed activity that a member reasonably believes may have a nexus to any criminal act or attempted criminal act, or to foreign or domestic terrorism. Actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability should not be considered as factors that create suspicion (although these factors may be used as specific suspect descriptions). Examples of suspicious activity may include but are not limited to:

- Suspected pre-operational surveillance or intelligence gathering (e.g., photographing security features, asking questions about sensitive security-related subjects).
- Tests of security measures and response to incidents (e.g., "dry run," creating false alarms, attempts to enter secure areas without authorization).
- Suspicious purchases (e.g., purchasing large quantities of otherwise legal items, such as fertilizer, that could be used to create an explosive or other dangerous device).
- An individual in possession of such things as a hoax explosive or dispersal device, sensitive materials (e.g., passwords, access codes, classified government information), or coded or ciphered literature or correspondence.

Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) - An incident report used to document suspicious activity.

471.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department recognizes the need to protect the public from criminal conduct and acts of terrorism and shall lawfully collect, maintain and disseminate information regarding suspicious activities, while safeguarding civil liberties and privacy protections.

471.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Criminal Investigations supervisor and authorized designees will manage SAR activities. Authorized designees should include supervisors who are responsible for department participation in criminal intelligence systems as outlined in the Criminal Organizations Policy.

The responsibilities of the Criminal Investigations supervisor include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Remaining familiar with those databases available to the Department that would facilitate the purpose of this policy.

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- (b) Maintaining adequate training in the area of intelligence gathering to ensure no information is being maintained that would violate the law or civil rights of any individual.
- (c) Ensuring a process is available that would allow members to report relevant information. The process should be designed to promote efficient and quick reporting, and should not be cumbersome, duplicative or complicated.
- (d) Ensuring that members are made aware of the purpose and value of documenting information regarding suspicious activity, as well as the databases and other information resources that are available to the Department.
- (e) Ensuring that SAR information is appropriately disseminated to members in accordance with their job responsibilities.
- (f) Coordinating investigative follow-up, if appropriate.
- (g) Coordinating with any appropriate agency or fusion center.
- (h) Ensuring that, as resources are available, the Department conducts outreach that is designed to encourage members of the community to report suspicious activity and that outlines what they should look for and how they should report it (e.g., website, public service announcements).

471.4 REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION

Any department member receiving information regarding suspicious activity should take any necessary immediate and appropriate action, including a request for tactical response or immediate notification of specialized entities, when applicable. Any civilian member who receives such information should ensure that it is passed on to an officer in a timely manner.

If the suspicious activity is not directly related to a reportable crime, the member should prepare a SAR and include information about involved parties and the circumstances of the incident. If, during any investigation, an officer becomes aware of suspicious activity that is unrelated to the current investigation, the information should be documented separately in a SAR and not included in the original incident report. The report number of the original incident should be included in the SAR as a cross reference. A SAR should be processed as any other incident report.

471.5 HANDLING INFORMATION

The Records Section will forward copies of SARs, in a timely manner, to the following:

- Investigation Division supervisor
- Crime Analysis Unit
- Other authorized designees

First Amendment Assemblies

472.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for responding to public assemblies or demonstrations.

472.2 POLICY

The Metro Transit Police Department respects the rights of people to peaceably assemble. It is the policy of this department not to unreasonably interfere with, harass, intimidate or discriminate against persons engaged in the lawful exercise of their rights, while also preserving the peace, protecting life and preventing the destruction of property.

472.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Individuals or groups present on the public way, such as public facilities, streets or walkways, generally have the right to assemble, rally, demonstrate, protest or otherwise express their views and opinions through varying forms of communication, including the distribution of printed matter. These rights may be limited by laws or ordinances regulating such matters as the obstruction of individual or vehicle access or egress, trespass, noise, picketing, distribution of handbills, leafleting and loitering. However, officers shall not take action or fail to take action based on the opinions being expressed.

Participant behavior during a demonstration or other public assembly can vary. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Lawful, constitutionally protected actions and speech.
- Civil disobedience (typically involving minor criminal acts).
- Rioting.

All of these behaviors may be present during the same event. Therefore, it is imperative that law enforcement actions are measured and appropriate for the behaviors officers may encounter. This is particularly critical if force is being used. Adaptable strategies and tactics are essential. The purpose of a law enforcement presence at the scene of public assemblies and demonstrations should be to preserve the peace, to protect life and prevent the destruction of property.

Officers should not:

- (a) Engage in assembly or demonstration-related discussion with participants.
- (b) Harass, confront or intimidate participants.
- (c) Seize the cameras, cell phones or materials of participants or observers unless an officer is placing a person under lawful arrest.

Supervisors should continually observe department members under their commands to ensure that members' interaction with participants and their response to crowd dynamics is appropriate.

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472.3.1 PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEO RECORDINGS

Photographs and video recording, when appropriate, can serve a number of purposes, including support of criminal prosecutions by documenting criminal acts; assistance in evaluating department performance; serving as training material; recording the use of dispersal orders; and facilitating a response to allegations of improper law enforcement conduct.

Photographs and videos will not be used or retained for the sole purpose of collecting or maintaining information about the political, religious or social views of associations, or the activities of any individual, group, association, organization, corporation, business or partnership, unless such information directly relates to an investigation of criminal activities and there is reasonable suspicion that the subject of the information is involved in criminal conduct.

472.4 UNPLANNED EVENTS

When responding to an unplanned or spontaneous public gathering, the first responding officer should conduct an assessment of conditions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Location
- Number of participants
- Apparent purpose of the event
- Leadership (whether it is apparent and/or whether it is effective)
- Any initial indicators of unlawful or disruptive activity
- Indicators that lawful use of public facilities, streets or walkways will be impacted
- Ability and/or need to continue monitoring the incident

Initial assessment information should be promptly communicated to Transit Control Center, and the assignment of a supervisor should be requested. Additional resources should be requested as appropriate. The responding supervisor shall assume command of the incident until command is expressly assumed by another, and the assumption of command is communicated to the involved members. A clearly defined command structure that is consistent with the Incident Command System (ICS) should be established as resources are deployed.

472.5 PLANNED EVENT PREPARATION

For planned events, comprehensive, incident-specific operational plans should be developed. The ICS should be considered for such events.

472.5.1 INFORMATION GATHERING AND ASSESSMENT

In order to properly assess the potential impact of a public assembly or demonstration on public safety and order, relevant information should be collected and vetted. This may include:

- Information obtained from outreach to group organizers or leaders.
- Information about past and potential unlawful conduct associated with the event or similar events.

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- The potential time, duration, scope, and type of planned activities.
- Any other information related to the goal of providing a balanced response to criminal activity and the protection of public safety interests.

Information should be obtained in a transparent manner, and the sources documented. Relevant information should be communicated to the appropriate parties in a timely manner.

Information will be obtained in a lawful manner and will not be based solely on the purpose or content of the assembly or demonstration, or actual or perceived characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, or disability of the participants (or any other characteristic that is unrelated to criminal conduct or the identification of a criminal subject).

472.5.2 OPERATIONAL PLANS

An operational planning team with responsibility for event planning and management should be established. The planning team should develop an operational plan for the event.

The operational plan will minimally provide for the following:

- (a) Command assignments, chain of command structure, roles and responsibilities
- (b) Staffing and resource allocation
- (c) Management of criminal investigations
- (d) Designation of uniform of the day and related safety equipment (e.g., helmets, shields)
- (e) Deployment of specialized resources
- (f) Event communications and interoperability in a multijurisdictional event
- (g) Liaison with demonstration leaders and external agencies
- (h) Liaison with Metropolitan Area government and legal staff
- (i) Media relations
- (j) Logistics: food, fuel, replacement equipment, duty hours, relief and transportation
- (k) Traffic management plans
- (l) First aid and emergency medical service provider availability
- (m) Prisoner transport and detention
- (n) Review of policies regarding public assemblies and use of force in crowd control
- (o) Parameters for declaring an unlawful assembly
- (p) Arrest protocol, including management of mass arrests
- (q) Protocol for recording information flow and decisions
- (r) Rules of engagement, including rules of conduct, protocols for field force extraction and arrests, and any authorization required for the use of force
- (s) Protocol for handling complaints during the event

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- (t) Parameters for the use of body-worn cameras and other portable recording devices.

472.5.3 MUTUAL AID AND EXTERNAL RESOURCES

The magnitude and anticipated duration of an event may necessitate interagency cooperation and coordination. The assigned Incident Commander should ensure that any required memorandums of understanding or other agreements are properly executed, and that any anticipated mutual aid is requested and facilitated (see the Outside Agency Assistance Policy).

472.6 UNLAWFUL ASSEMBLY DISPERSAL ORDERS

If a public gathering or demonstration remains peaceful and nonviolent, and there is no reasonably imminent threat to persons or property, the Incident Commander should generally authorize continued monitoring of the event.

Should the Incident Commander make a determination that public safety is presently or is about to be jeopardized, he/she or the authorized designee should attempt to verbally persuade event organizers or participants to disperse of their own accord. Warnings and advisements may be communicated through established communications links with leaders and/or participants or to the group.

When initial attempts at verbal persuasion are unsuccessful, the Incident Commander or the authorized designee should make a clear standardized announcement to the gathering that the event is an unlawful assembly, and should order the dispersal of the participants. The announcement should be communicated by whatever methods are reasonably available to ensure that the content of the message is clear and that it has been heard by the participants. The announcement should be amplified, made in different languages as appropriate, made from multiple locations in the affected area and documented by audio and video. The announcement should provide information about what law enforcement actions will take place if illegal behavior continues and should identify routes for egress. A reasonable time to disperse should be allowed following a dispersal order.

472.7 USE OF FORCE

Use of force is governed by current department policy and applicable law (see the Use of Force, Handcuffing and Restraints, Control Devices, and Conducted Energy Device policies).

Individuals refusing to comply with lawful orders (e.g., nonviolent refusal to disperse) should be given a clear verbal warning and a reasonable opportunity to comply. If an individual refuses to comply with lawful orders, the Incident Commander shall evaluate the type of resistance and adopt a reasonable response in order to accomplish the law enforcement mission (such as dispersal or arrest of those acting in violation of the law). Control devices and TASER (TM) devices should be considered only when the participants' conduct reasonably appears to present the potential to harm officers, themselves or others, or will result in substantial property loss or damage (see the Control Devices and the Conducted Energy Device policies).

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Force or control devices, including oleoresin capsaicin (OC), should be directed toward individuals and not toward groups or crowds, unless specific individuals cannot reasonably be targeted due to extreme circumstances, such as a riotous crowd.

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely, and accurately in an appropriate report. The type of report required may depend on the nature of the incident.

472.7.1 MEMBERS OF THE PRESS (JOURNALISTS)

Law enforcement cannot unreasonably interfere with journalists while they are reporting as long as the journalists are complying with the law.

- (a) Journalists might visually identify themselves as a member of the press by many methods including a:
 - 1. professional or authorized press pass,
 - 2. professional or authorized press badge,
 - 3. other official press credentials, or
 - 4. distinctive clothing that identifies them as a member of the press.

This list is not exclusive and a person need not exhibit every indicator to be considered a journalist.

- (a) If a person claims to be a journalist and cannot immediately produce identification as a journalist, that person will be treated as a journalist until their status can be verified.
- (b) Officers are not permitted to arrest, threaten to arrest, or use physical force, including TASERS, or less-lethal munitions, and other control devices as defined in MTPD Policy 309, against a journalist unless the officers have probable cause to believe that individual has committed or is committing a crime.
- (c) Officers are not permitted to arrest or threaten to arrest a journalist for refusing to disperse after a dispersal order is given.
- (d) Officers are not permitted to direct chemical agents against a journalist, including but not limited to oleoresin capsicum spray, inert smoke, pepper pellets, or any similar substance as outlined in MTPD Policy 309 unless the journalist presents an imminent threat of violence or bodily harm to persons or damage to property.
- (e) Officers will not seize equipment related to the work of journalists, including cameras, phones, recording equipment, and press badges unless the officers are arresting the individual.
 - 1. If an officer arrests a journalist and is responsible for inventorying the seized property, the officer will make a written list of seized property and provide a copy of that list to the journalist as soon as is reasonably possible.
 - 2. If another entity, such as a county jail, is responsible for inventorying the journalist's property, the arresting officer will provide the journalist's property to that entity when transferring custody.

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3. If the property seized and retained by the Department in connection with an arrest is needed for evidentiary purposes, the arresting officer will promptly seek a search warrant, subpoena, or other court order to authorize the continued seizure of the property.
4. Once the property seized and retained by the Department from a journalist is no longer needed for evidentiary purposes, the Department will return it to its rightful possessor as soon as is reasonably possible.

472.8 ARRESTS

The Metro Transit Police Department should respond to unlawful behavior in a manner that is consistent with the operational plan. If practicable, warnings or advisements should be communicated prior to arrest.

Mass arrests should be employed only when alternate tactics and strategies have been, or reasonably appear likely to be, unsuccessful. Mass arrests shall only be undertaken upon the order of the Incident Commander or the authorized designee. There must be probable cause for each arrest.

If employed, mass arrest protocols should fully integrate:

- (a) Reasonable measures to address the safety of officers and arrestees.
- (b) Dedicated arrest, booking and report writing teams.
- (c) Timely access to medical care.
- (d) Timely access to legal resources.
- (e) Timely processing of arrestees.
- (f) Full accountability for arrestees and evidence.
- (g) Coordination and cooperation with the prosecuting authority, jail and courts (see the Citation Releases Policy).

472.9 MEDIA RELATIONS

The Public Information Officer should use all available avenues of communication, including press releases, briefings, press conferences and social media to maintain open channels of communication with media representatives and the public about the status and progress of the event, taking all opportunities to reassure the public about the professional management of the event (see the Media Relations Policy).

472.10 DEMOBILIZATION

When appropriate, the Incident Commander or the authorized designee should implement a phased and orderly withdrawal of law enforcement resources. All relieved personnel should promptly complete any required reports, including use of force reports, and account for all issued equipment and vehicles to their supervisors prior to returning to normal operational duties.

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472.11 POST EVENT

The Incident Commander should designate a member to assemble full documentation of the event, to include the following:

- (a) Operational plan
- (b) Any incident logs
- (c) Any assignment logs
- (d) Vehicle, fuel, equipment and supply records
- (e) Incident, arrest, use of force, injury and property damage reports
- (f) Photographs, audio/video recordings, Transit Control Center records/tapes
- (g) Media accounts (print and broadcast media)

472.11.1 AFTER-ACTION REPORTING

The Incident Commander should work with Metropolitan Council legal counsel, if needed and as appropriate, to prepare a comprehensive after-action report of the event, explaining all incidents where force was used including the following:

- (a) Date, time and description of the event
- (b) Actions taken and outcomes (e.g., injuries, property damage, arrests)
- (c) Problems identified
- (d) Significant events
- (e) Recommendations for improvement; opportunities for training should be documented in a generic manner, without identifying individuals or specific incidents, facts or circumstances.

472.12 TRAINING

Department members should receive periodic training regarding this policy, as well as the dynamics of crowd control and incident management. The Department should, when practicable, train with its external and mutual aid partners.

Medical Cannabis

473.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of this department with guidelines for investigating the possession or use of medical cannabis under Minnesota's medical cannabis laws.

473.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (Minn. Stat. § 152.22):

Medical cannabis - Any species of the genus cannabis plant, or any mixture or preparation of them, including whole plant extracts and resins in the form of a liquid, oil or pill, that is properly packaged and labeled with:

- (a) The name and address of the authorized manufacturer.
- (b) The patient's registry identification number, name, date of birth and address.
- (c) The chemical composition of medical cannabis.
- (d) Recommended dosage.
- (e) Directions for use.
- (f) Batch number.
- (g) Date of manufacture.

Raw leaves, flowers and edibles are not included.

Patient - A Minnesota resident who has been diagnosed with a qualifying medical condition by a health care practitioner and who has met any other requirements for patients under Minn. Stat. § 152.22 et seq.

Caregiver - A person who has been approved by the Minnesota Commissioner of Health to assist a patient who is unable to self-administer medication or acquire medical cannabis from a distribution facility due to a disability, and who is authorized to assist the patient with the use of medical cannabis.

473.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Metro Transit Police Department to prioritize resources to avoid making arrests related to medical cannabis that the arresting officer reasonably believes would not be prosecuted by state or federal authorities.

Minnesota medical cannabis laws are intended to provide protection from prosecution to those who use or possess medical cannabis for medical purposes. The Metro Transit Police Department will exercise discretion to ensure laws are appropriately enforced without unreasonably burdening both those individuals protected under Minnesota law and the resources of the Department.

473.3 INVESTIGATION

Investigations involving the possession or use of cannabis generally fall into one of two categories:

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- (a) Investigations when no person makes a medicinal claim.
- (b) Investigations when a person claims to be a patient or caregiver.

473.3.1 INVESTIGATIONS WITH NO MEDICAL CLAIM

In any investigation involving the possession, delivery, production or use of a cannabis product or drug paraphernalia where no person claims that the cannabis is used for medicinal purposes, the officer should proceed with a criminal investigation. A medicinal claim may be raised at any time, so officers should document any statements and observations that may be relevant to whether the cannabis was possessed or produced for medicinal purposes.

473.3.2 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A PATIENT OR CAREGIVER

Arrest shall not be made for the possession of medical cannabis by a patient, a caregiver or the parent or legal guardian of a patient (Minn. Stat. § 152.32).

Possession of medical cannabis properly packaged and labeled by an authorized manufacturer should suffice for verification of a person's status as a patient. The possession of medical cannabis registry verification from the Minnesota Department of Health should also suffice for verification a person's status as a patient or caregiver (Minn. Stat. § 152.22; Minn. Stat. § 152.27).

473.3.3 EXCEPTIONS

This policy does not apply to the following offenses. Officers may take enforcement action if the person (Minn. Stat. § 152.23):

- (a) Possesses or engages in the use of medical cannabis on a school bus or van, on the grounds of any preschool or primary or secondary school, in any correctional facility, or on the grounds of any child care facility or home daycare.
- (b) Vaporizes medical cannabis on any form of public transportation, where the vapor would be inhaled by a non-patient minor child, or in any public place or a place of employment.
- (c) Operates any motor vehicle, aircraft, train or motorboat, or works on transportation property, equipment or facilities while under the influence of medical cannabis.

473.4 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Officers should provide information regarding a medical cannabis investigation to federal law enforcement authorities when it is requested by federal law enforcement authorities or whenever the officer believes those authorities would have a particular interest in the information.

473.5 PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE OFFICE SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Property and Evidence Office supervisor shall ensure that medical cannabis, drug paraphernalia or other related property seized from a person engaged or assisting in the use of medical cannabis is not destroyed. Upon the prosecutor's decision to forgo prosecution, or the dismissal of charges or an acquittal, the Property and Evidence Office supervisor shall as soon as practicable return to the person from whom it was seized any medical cannabis, drug paraphernalia or other related property.

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The Property and Evidence Office supervisor may not destroy medical cannabis except upon receipt of a court order.

The Property and Evidence Office supervisor may release medical cannabis to federal law enforcement authorities upon presentation of a valid court order or by a written order of the Investigation Division supervisor.

473.6 REPORTING

Officers aware of a person experiencing a negative medical condition or a death related to a cannabis overdose, including as a result of an unauthorized access to medical cannabis, must contact the Minnesota Department of Health's Office of Medical Cannabis within five business days. If discovered as part of an ongoing investigation, the report must be made within 72 hours of the conclusion of the investigation (Minn. R. 4770.4002; Minn. R. 4770.4004).

Officers having reasonable suspicion of unauthorized possession of medical cannabis or of violations of cannabis laws by individuals authorized to possess medical cannabis, must report to the Office of Medical Cannabis using the designated online form. Reports related to unauthorized possession must be submitted within 72 hours, unless discovered as part of an ongoing investigation, in which case reporting must be made within 72 hours of the conclusion of the investigation. Reports of violations by persons authorized to possess medical cannabis must be submitted within 15 days (Minn. R. 4770.4010).