



# COTTAGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL ORDER

### SUBJECT: MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

### NEW REVISED RESCINDS

APPROVED: *GM*  
GEORGIA MILTENBERGER  
ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

Effective Date 8/22/2018

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#### I. POLICY

On occasion the need arises to request assistance from or give assistance to a neighboring law enforcement agency. This need usually results from an emergency such as a civil disorder, fire, flood, or other situation that exceeds the capability of the local agency to counteract effectively. Generally, emergency law enforcement needs can best be served by the creation of a regional approach to law enforcement, resulting in better coordination and less duplication in law enforcement efforts. It is the policy of the Cottage City Police Department to establish and maintain mutual aid agreements in order to protect the safety and well-being of the respective municipalities. This policy pertains only to those Law Enforcement agencies that have an existing Memorandum of Understanding with the Town or this Department.

#### II. PROCEDURE

Generally, the legal jurisdiction of the police department stops at the Town limits, as defined by charter. The Cottage City Police Department has concurrent jurisdiction on all property owned or leased by the Maryland-National Capitol Park and Planning Commission and the CSX Railroad within the town. On April 26, 1993, State Legislatures adopted amendments to the law (Article 27, Section 594B) that granted all law enforcement personnel limited statewide jurisdiction under certain circumstances. The Cottage City Police Department adopted stringent guidelines for the implementation of this statute (General Order - Extra-Jurisdictional Authority). Law enforcement officers may transport prisoners outside the boundaries of the town and if prisoners escape while being transported, officers may pursue escapees (Article 602C, Code of Maryland).

### III. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS

State Code (Article 27, Section 602B) empowers local governments to enter into reciprocal agreements in order to establish and carry into effect decisive plans to provide mutual emergency assistance or to cooperate in the performance of governmental functions. Mutual aid may be requested from or provided to another law enforcement agency by the department at the discretion of the on-duty Supervisor; officers must remember, however, that their primary responsibility is providing law enforcement service to our jurisdiction.

1. Maryland State Police

State law authorizes the Chief Executive Officer or Chief of Police to request the assistance of the Maryland State Police (Article 88, Section 4, of the Code of Maryland)

2. Prince George's County Police

Prince George's County Police have primary jurisdiction over all county owned or leased property within the corporate limits of Cottage City. The Cottage City Police Department will assist Prince George's County Police when necessary

3. Colmar Manor Police and Edmonston Police

The Towns of Colmar Manor and Edmonston and the Town of Cottage City have entered into a MOU. This agreement includes the short term commitment of back-up units to enhance public safety and supplement services provided by Prince George's County Police.

a. Officer Responsibilities

When rendering aid, Cottage City officers will assist as needed and follow the lawful orders of the Colmar Manor or Edmonston supervisor.

In the event a Cottage City officer arrives on the scene before a Colmar Manor or Edmonston officer, he or she shall assume control until a Colmar Manor or Edmonston officer arrives.

Cottage City personnel will adhere to agency policies and procedures and use only those weapons and tactics with which they have qualified.

Officers may take only those law enforcement actions permitted under state law. All arrests, if possible, will be affected by Colmar Manor or Edmonston officers. Once an adequate number of units from these agencies arrive, the Cottage City officers will return to Town.

B. Assisting adjoining jurisdictions requesting back-up units.

In the event an adjoining jurisdiction makes a request for back-up assistance due to an officer in need of help, or similar situation, the supervisor or senior officer on duty is authorized to render assistance as needed.

C. Requesting mutual aid

Mutual aid may be requested by, and at the discretion of, the on-duty supervisor.

Normally, outside agency personnel will be used to assist in a show of force, traffic control, mass processing of prisoners, prisoner transport, or back-up assistance.

Mutual aid is available to the Town from the Maryland State Police, Prince George's County Police, Prince George's County Sheriff's Department, Colmar Manor Police, Edmonston Police, M-NCPPC Park Police, and United States Park Police.

**Available Resources:**

**Maryland State Police**

Aviation services for medical evacuations and searches  
Mobile and forensic laboratory services  
Polygraph  
Emergency services teams

**Prince George's County Police**

Aviation services for area searches  
Back-up units  
Canine  
Forensic laboratory services  
Emergency services teams for hostage and high risk entry  
Prince George's County Police have primary responsibility for the investigation of all homicides, robberies, burglaries and rapes that occur within the boundaries of the Town.

**Prince George's County Sheriff's Department**

High-risk warrant service and entries Bloodhound

**Prince George's County Fire Department**

Explosive and hazardous material disposal  
Missing person area searches  
Water rescue

**Bladensburg Police, Colmar Manor Police, Edmonston Police**

Back-up units

**M-NCPPC Park Police**

Mounted Unit Back-up Units

**United States Park Police**

Aviation services for area searches

**IV. REPORTING**

Officers rendering or requesting mutual aid will prepare a report detailing the circumstances under which the aid was given or requested.