
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS POLICE

GENERAL ORDER

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SUBJECT: Police Chaplains' Association

REFERENCE: CALEA Ch. 16

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I. PURPOSE

- A. To define Departmental policy governing the actions of members of the Kansas City, Kansas Police Chaplains Association.

II. SELECTION AND TRAINING

- A. The Kansas City, Kansas Police Chaplains Association is composed of members of the Clergy in Wyandotte County who are offering their services on a volunteer basis to provide pastoral care to individuals, families or Department personnel. The Chaplains' Association is administrated through the Criminal Investigation Bureau and is under the direction and supervision of the Victim Services Unit Supervisor.

- B. Members of the Chaplain Association will conform to the following criteria:

1. Will have received theological training from an accredited seminary or bible college or have fulfilled recognized denominational training standards.
2. Theological training which will include Clinical Pastoral Education or the candidate will have at least three (3) years' experience in pastoral care.
3. Will have been ordained or recognized by a church body requiring theological training.
4. Will presently be a member in good standing of a recognized church body located within Wyandotte County.
5. Will presently be engaged in or retired from full time ministry.
6. Must successfully satisfy screening committee review.
7. Must have the approval of the Chief of Police.

- C. The Association has scheduled its personnel so as to facilitate an on-call Chaplain twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

- D. Each probationary Association member will ride with a Department officer at least eight (8) hours before beginning his or her appointment.

III. ON CALL CHAPLAIN PROCEDURES

- A. Chaplains are available on an on-call basis only, except when functioning as ride-along participants. Chaplains will not respond to calls unless requested to a scene by a field officer, supervisor, Victim Services, or PIO.

1. When summoned to a crime scene, the Chaplain is under the direct supervision and guidance of Department personnel at all times.
2. Police Chaplains may be requested through Dispatch.
3. At no time will Chaplains be unduly exposed to volatile situations in which there may be a threatened use of force or impending possibility of violence which might culminate in physical injury.
4. Chaplains will refrain from making releases of information to the news media with regard to police related matters unless instructed to do so by the Department Public Information Officer or his / her designate.

- B. The primary purpose of the Chaplain's Association is to provide pastoral care, spiritual guidance, comfort or support as may be needed in the following areas:

1. Delivery of death notifications and support for next of kin in cases of homicide, suicide, traffic fatality, infant death, in-custody death, etc.
2. Support following attempted or threatened suicide.
3. Provide pastoral crisis intervention for any traumatized, frightened and / or hysterical victims or witnesses.
4. Provide support for victims, next of kin or witnesses or serious traffic accidents or disasters.
5. Lend assistance to those in need.
6. Serve as a resource for juvenile offenders, people under the influence of drugs/alcohol or suffering from mental illness.
7. Speak with persons who are unwilling to talk with police.
8. When Chaplaincy services are requested by citizens.
9. Any other situation as deemed appropriate by the Supervisor / Commander in charge.

- C. Department personnel are free to consult with Chaplains at any time for personal pastoral care and information shared will be confidential as ethically and legally responsible.

- D. Chaplains will provide pastoral care, spiritual guidance or comfort to those in need according the tenets of his / her faith traditions while remaining respectful of the faith traditions of others.