

MUTUAL AID

2.1 MUTUAL AID

PHILOSOPHY: The Lakewood Police Department understands that cooperation among law enforcement agencies is essential in order to provide the community with the level of service it expects. Department members are encouraged to network with other law enforcement professionals to develop positive working relationships with their professional peers. The Lakewood Police Department has developed the following guidelines to assist in requesting and providing mutual aid.

2.1.1 Mutual Aid

Principle: The Lakewood Police Department follows the laws stated in the Washington Mutual Aid Peace Officers Powers Act (RCW 10.93) when dealing with mutual aid issues. The law provides general authority to Washington peace officers to enforce traffic or criminal laws anywhere in the state. In addition to the Act, the following practices apply:

Practice: The following guidelines apply when requesting mutual aid or providing it during unplanned, emergent circumstances. Also refer to Chapter 21 of this manual for information regarding mobilization phases that may apply in situations requiring mutual aid.

- A. Request for Mutual Aid: In situations that require mutual aid assistance, any on-duty Lakewood police supervisor may request assistance from a neighboring agency. The request may be made either by direct contact with the requested agency or through dispatch. Outside personnel responding to a Lakewood Police Department request will report to the Lakewood supervisor in charge of the incident
 - Documentation: If any outside agency officer provides assistance that requires a supplemental report, the Lakewood supervisor shall request and obtain that report. The Lakewood supervisor will notify Command Staff regarding the circumstances requiring significant mutual aid and the type of aid received. This notification shall be completed by the end of the shift in which aid was received.
- B. Response for Mutual Aid: No officer shall respond outside the City of Lakewood to a request for mutual aid by another law enforcement agency without first being authorized by the on-duty Lakewood police supervisor. The Lakewood supervisor shall designate how many (if any) units will be sent to provide mutual aid. Whenever possible, a supervisor shall also respond to monitor the mutual aid being provided and to ensure direct supervision of Lakewood personnel. If a supervisor is not available to respond, the supervisor will designate one of the responding officers as a "lead" officer.
 - Documentation: The Lakewood supervisor will ensure any necessary reports are provided to the agency requesting mutual aid by the end of the shift in which the aid was provided. The Lakewood supervisor will notify Command Staff regarding the circumstances requiring significant mutual aid and the type of aid provided. This notification shall be completed by the end of the shift in which aid was received.