

CHAPTER 2  
AGENCY JURISDICTION, MUTUAL AID AND REGIONAL SERVICES

DISCUSSION: This chapter relates to an agency's jurisdiction, the provision and use of mutual aid and regional law enforcement services among agencies through cooperative agreements.

2.1 AGENCY JURISDICTION AND MUTUAL AID

Nothing in this chapter shall preclude the sharing of resources or the normal and customary request for assistance required in day to day police operations.

2.1.1 Areas of Jurisdiction of the Hattiesburg Police Department

- A. The City of Hattiesburg Police Department as the primary responding agency shall be responsible for the enforcement of all applicable laws, statutes and ordinances within the geographical boundaries of the City of Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The boundaries shall be indicated on the official map of the city, a copy of which shall be maintained in the following locations:
1. Communication Center
  2. Squad Room
- B. Police Officers of the City of Hattiesburg Police Department may exercise jurisdiction outside of the City of Hattiesburg geographical limits in the following instances:
1. When operating under the uniform law on hot pursuit, which specifically authorizes the pursuit of a person in order to arrest him on the grounds that he is believed to have committed a felony or is reasonably suspected of having committed a felony. (Hot pursuit without unreasonable delay)
  2. When operating under the uniform law on hot pursuit, which specifically authorizes the pursuit of any person for whom a peace officer holds a warrant of arrest for a criminal offense and further authorizes the holding in custody of said person anywhere in the state.
  3. When responding to a request for mutual aid from other law enforcement agencies with established mutual aid agreements with the City of Hattiesburg Police Department as outlined in section 2.1.3 of this chapter.

2.1.3 Mutual Aid

- A. The Hattiesburg Police Department may enter into agreements with neighboring jurisdictions for the purpose of providing mutual aid pursuant to MS Code 21-19-23.

- B. Only agencies with which the department has a current signed agreement may receive or provide mutual aid pursuant to this section.
- C. Agencies without a current signed agreement may ask for and receive aid pursuant to MS Code 21-21-31, 33, 35, 37, 39 and 41.
- D. There are two (2) methods by which an agreement may be invoked.
  - 1. Non-Emergency Situations. The Chief Law Enforcement Officer of one agency may request assistance from another agency that is a party to the agreement.
  - 2. Emergency Situations. In the event of an emergency, the ranking on-duty law enforcement officer may request assistance from another jurisdiction that is party to the agreement.
    - a. If the Hattiesburg Police Department requests such assistance then the requesting officer is responsible to insure that:
      - (1) The appropriate Division, Bureau Commander and the Chief of police are notified immediately.
      - (2) Assistance is terminated as soon as it is no longer needed.
      - (3) A report is prepared using the normal incident report format to include the reasons for the request, names and action of all officers assisting from other jurisdictions and any other information pertinent to the incident.
    - b. If the Hattiesburg Police Department is requested by another jurisdiction that is a party to an agreement then the ranking on-duty law enforcement officer shall comply with the request for assistance if it is feasible and possible.
    - c. In no case shall any emergency situation within the City of Hattiesburg be left unattended nor shall the safety of any citizen of the City of Hattiesburg be jeopardized in order to provide such assistance.
      - (1) The ranking on-duty officer shall notify the appropriate Division, Bureau Commander and the Chief of Police of any request for emergency aid, whether or not such aid was provided.
      - (2) Upon any request for mutual aid, the telecommunicator shall initiate an incident number.

- (3) Any officer assigned to respond to a request for aid shall immediately upon termination of the request prepare a report of his actions and circumstances surrounding them.
- E. In the case of request for mutual aid that will require extensive loaning of manpower or equipment.
1. The ranking on-duty officer shall immediately notify the appropriate Division Commander who shall review the request for assistance and authorize or deny the requested aid.
  2. The Division Commander shall notify the Chief of Police and keep him apprised of the situation.
  3. Officers assigned to provide aid shall report to the ranking on-duty law enforcement officer of the requesting agency and shall assist that agency as needed. Hattiesburg Police Officers are under no obligation to obey any unlawful or improper order.
  4. A ranking Hattiesburg Police Officer shall be assigned as a liaison to coordinate all joint activities.
- F. The terms of a signed mutual aid agreement shall be in full force and effect until terminated by:
1. Mutual consent of the chief law enforcement officers of each jurisdiction or
  2. Until ten (10) days after the chief law enforcement officer of one jurisdiction has received notification from the chief law enforcement officer of the jurisdiction of his intent to terminate the agreement.

#### 2.1.4 Emergency Situations, State/Federal Agencies and/or National Guard

- A. In the event that it becomes necessary to request assistance of any state or federal enforcement agency and/or any state or federal law enforcement resources in emergency situations, the following procedures shall be followed:
1. The officer in charge at the time of the incident shall contact the appropriate Division Commander and advise him of the situation and of the assistance or resources required.
  2. The Division Commander shall notify the Chief of Police or the highest ranking official, who shall determine if the requested federal/state assistance is necessary.

3. In the event that the decision is made to request federal/state assistance, the Chief of Police or the next highest ranking police official, shall be responsible to request the necessary assistance.
  4. In the event that federal/state assistance is made available, the Chief of Police or his designee shall appoint a liaison officer to coordinate all joint activities until such time as the emergency situation no longer exists.
- B. In the event that an emergency situation exists that may require the assistance of the Mississippi National Guard, then the following procedures shall apply:
1. The Chief of Police or the highest ranking police official available shall evaluate the emergency and determine what resources may be needed to resolve the crisis.
  2. If the decision is made to request the assistance of the Mississippi National Guard, the request will be made through the Mayor or City Manager to the Governor of the State of Mississippi.
  3. In the event that the National Guard is activated, the Chief of Police or his designee shall appoint a liaison officer to coordinate all joint activities. The liaison officer should be a ranking officer with authority to make command decisions.

## 2.2 REGIONAL SERVICES

### 2.2.1 State Law Enforcement Radio System

In order to share and/or compare information on criminal activity and to summon assistance, the Hattiesburg Police Department utilizes the state high band frequency 155.490. This frequency is a statewide law enforcement net that is designated for general law enforcement inter-jurisdictional communication.

### 2.2.2 Centralized Fingerprint Records System

In order to provide greater opportunity for swift identification and apprehension of criminal suspects, the department provides the state one (1) set of fingerprints for persons arrested for felonies. The print card should be mailed to the Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol, Bureau of Investigation, P.O. Box 958 Jackson, MS 39205.

### 2.2.3 Regional Organized Criminal Information Center

Participation in a regional crime/intelligence reporting system provides agencies with information of trends in crime. The Hattiesburg Police Department is a member of the Regional Organized Criminal Information Center (R.O.C.I.C.) which is located in Nashville, TN. (R.O.C.I.C., 545 Marriott Dr. , Suite 740, Nashville, TN 37210) Information on criminal

activity and suspects can facilitate apprehension, especially since a great deal of criminal activity is inter-jurisdictional.