

CHAPTER 4
POLICE CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM

Discussion: The purpose of the Hattiesburg Police Department Chaplaincy program is to make available and to provide guidance, counseling and comfort during times of crises or sorrow. The Hattiesburg Police Department shall make available to all department employees, their families and the public a trained ordained minister of a mainline Christian denomination.

4.1.1 Chaplain Appointment and Authority

- A. The police department Chaplin will be appointed by the Chief of Police
- B. The police department Chaplin shall serve as an assistant to the Chief of Police and shall have access to all police department facilities, crime scenes and accident scenes.

4.1.2 Duties

- A. The police Chaplain shall become familiar with the duties of police department personnel and its policies and procedures.
 - 1. The Police Chaplin shall carry official department identification at all times and shall properly identify himself to any police officer when access to such facilities or scenes is desired.
 - 2. The Chaplin shall assist all officers, upon request, in matters which are within the realm of the Hattiesburg Police Department Chaplaincy program.
 - 3. The department chaplain shall not interfere with the performance of an officer's duties and/or disturb any evidence at an accident scene or crime scene.
- B. The police Chaplin shall attend "In-Service" training and other training which will enhance the department's chaplaincy program.
- C. The Police Chaplain shall provide ministerial staff support services for the department by:
 - 1 Assist department personnel with making notification to families of police officers injured or killed in the line of duty.
 - 2 Responding immediately to the hospital, upon request, when an officer is injured in the line of duty, identify him to the hospital staff, and coordinate services with the hospital chaplain.

- 3 Visiting sick and/or injured police, department personnel at the hospital and at home during their recuperation.
- 4 Attending and assisting at funerals of active and retired personnel of the Hattiesburg Police Department.
- 5 Counseling officers and other personnel with personal problems upon request.
- 6 Attending department graduations, promotion ceremonies, award ceremonies, dinners, social events, etc, to offer invocations and benedictions.
- 7 Representing the police department and the Chief of Police at public functions upon request.
- 8 Organizing and developing voluntary spiritual organizations within the Hattiesburg Police Department.
- 9 Responding to major disasters (for example: bombings, hostage situations, explosions, multiple alarm fires, industrial accidents, etc.) and major demonstrations or civil disorder that requires the presence of extra police personnel.
- 10 Establishing a liaison relationship with other clergy in the community for providing notification of an individual officers or persons personal clergy during times of crises
- 11 Making referrals for specialized areas of counseling as necessary. (e.g., Employee Assistance Program, E.A.P)
- 12 The police Chaplain shall assist the Chief of Police in planning and presenting various public relations and public awareness programs regarding the Hattiesburg Police Department chaplaincy program.

C. Police Chaplains Ethics

1. The Hattiesburg Police Department Chaplain, should visit each officer and officers family , upon request, to ascertain their religious affiliation and personal clergies name to ensure that the officers and families spiritual needs are and will be effectively met.
2. The department Chaplain shall maintain a directory of such individual officer and family affiliation to enable notification of personal clergy as necessary.
3. The department Chaplain shall provide confidential counseling, consultation, and spiritual support to department personnel and their families for personal, marital, family, job related, or other problems upon request. Such confidential

contact with an officer or an officer's family shall not be reported to an officers' superiors or recorded in the officers' personnel file.