

TAKOMA PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT - GENERAL ORDERS



TITLE: CHAPLAIN		NUMBER: 405
EFFECTIVE DATE: October 10, 2016		REVIEW DATE: April 04, 2027
New X Amends Rescinds	General Order October 10, 2016	
AUTHORITY: Chief Antonio DeVaul	Last Review March 28, 2022	TOTAL PAGES: 2

01 Purpose: To establish the honorary volunteer position of Takoma Park Police Chaplain.

02 Policy: It is the policy of this Department to provide counseling by the Chaplain for all personnel on an as needed basis. Religious devotion is not a criteria to receive assistance.

03 The Chief shall appoint a Chaplain, preferably through a participatory process open to all members of the Department. The Chaplain shall be appointed via a Personnel Order, and may be permitted to serve until removed by the Chief.

04 Chaplain Services:

- A. The Chaplain shall be available 24 hours a day to members of the Department.
- B. The Chaplain provides counseling in confidence except in circumstances involving harm to self or others. Such counseling shall in no way reflect on the employment of any person in the police department.
- C. The Chaplain shall be notified in the event of a line- of-duty Officer death or serious injury. The Chaplain shall coordinate with the Command Staff Officer in charge to determine if he/she should respond to the scene, the hospital, or accompany officers making notification to the next-of-kin.
- D. The Chaplain will be exempt from the restrictions on the limit of ride-alongs.

05 Attire, Equipment and Training

A. A chaplain, if he/she requests, may be issued a Class A uniform, for wear in ceremonial events of the Department or, when approved by the Chief, at other ceremonial occasions. The rank insignia shall clearly signify the chaplain by his/her religious faith rather than a sworn member of the Department.

B. When patrolling with officers, or responding to an incident at the request of officers, the chaplain will wear an outer garment clearly marked as “chaplain” to distinguish the volunteer from sworn members. For example, a jacket should clearly state “chaplain” on the back.

C. The chaplain may be provided with a wireless cell phone or pager for official use and contact with agency members. The chaplain, if desired, may be issued a department radio, and if so, will be trained in its use.

D. Any uniforms or equipment issued to the Chaplain will be the property of the Department. It will be documented when issued and returned to the Department when the chaplain leaves active service. The Chaplain will adhere to all rules governing use and misuse, as would any member.

E. Training may be provided by the Department, through outside agencies, to the Chaplain in accordance with General Order 424 Volunteers.