



# Tulsa Police Department

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**Policy #** 137

**Effective Date** 05/06/2009

**Policy Name** Tulsa Police and Fire Chaplaincy Corps

**Approved Date** 05/01/2009

**Approved by** *Wendell Franklin, Chief of Police*

**Previous Date** 08/15/2003

## PURPOSE OF CHANGE:

To update policy format.

## POLICY:

The objective of the Tulsa Police/Fire Chaplaincy Corps is to serve the citizens of Tulsa by providing pastoral care to police personnel and to citizens in crisis situations. The Chaplaincy Corps seeks to promote a positive relationship between the Tulsa Police Department and the community.

The nature of some calls assigned to officers prompts the call-out of a chaplain. These calls include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Police involved shootings - where either an officer or citizen was seriously injured.
2. Disaster response - flood, tornado, fire, etc.
3. Hostage situations, armed and barricaded subjects, or suicidal subjects.
4. Death notifications - homicides, suicides, traffic fatalities, or any DOA where death was not expected.

**SUMMARY:** Procedures to be followed when utilizing police chaplains.

**APPLIES TO:** All sworn personnel

**DEFINITIONS:** None

## PROCEDURES:

### A. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS (PSC) PERSONNEL

1. If the call falls into the death notification category where the death was not expected, or a supervisor requests a chaplain, contact the chaplain who is on call. Inform the chaplain of the location and nature of the call.
2. Maintain a current list of chaplain sectors, phone numbers, and pager numbers.
3. Notify the officer as to which chaplain has been notified and give the chaplain's estimated time of arrival.

### B. OFFICER

1. If the call falls into any other category, determine if a chaplain is needed and contact PSC to request that one be contacted.
2. Provide the chaplain with any pertinent information regarding the family and/or the circumstances of the call.

### C. CHAPLAIN

1. Remain outside the perimeter of the crime scene until the officer in charge has been notified that a chaplain is on the scene.
2. Obtain additional information if necessary.
3. Advise the officer in charge when death notifications have been completed.
4. If a fatality or serious injury occurs as the result of a police shooting, initiate contact and follow through with the family of any citizens involved.
5. If any officers are seriously injured or hospitalized, initiate contact and follow through with their family members.
6. In hostage situations, assist the family members of hostages, victims, or suspects as requested by the officer in charge.
7. Provide PSC with an updated list of chaplain sectors, phone numbers, and pager numbers.

**REGULATIONS:** None

**REFERENCES:** None