



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
ASHEVILLE

Policies and Procedures

Policy #: 30
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Owner Dept: Campus Police
Phone: 6710

Title: Campus Police Roles and Objectives

SUBJECT: PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

PURPOSE: The purpose of this order is to state the primary functional objectives of the Department of Campus Police.

3.1 PRIMARY OBJECTIVE:

- A. A campus environment free from crime and disorder remains an unachieved ideal; nevertheless, consistent with the values of a free society it is the primary objective of the UNCA Department of Campus Police to as closely as possible approach this ideal. In doing so, the department's role is to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and the Constitutional rights of all persons.
- B. It is not the role of the UNCA Department of Campus Police to legislate or render legal judgments, or to punish. Rather, the department's primary objective will be: to provide full and efficient service to the University; to enforce laws of the State of North Carolina; to enforce University regulations; to protect University property; and provide a safe and secure campus environment for students, staff, faculty, and visitors.

3.2 FUNCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:

3.2a PREVENTION OF CRIME

Peace in a free society depends on voluntary compliance to the law. The primary responsibility for upholding the law therefore lies not with the police, but with the people. Since crime is a social phenomenon, crime prevention should be the concern of every person living or working in a community. Thus, society employs full time professional police to prevent and to deter crime, and to apprehend those who violate the law.

The prevention of crime remains a basic obligation of society. When it becomes necessary to rely on police action to secure compliance with the law, then society has failed in its responsibility.

The UNCA Department of Campus Police is, however, responsible for interacting with the community, and for developing a mutual understanding of, and support for, the role

and functions of the department. In addition, a Campus Police Officer's knowledge of the University environment is necessary in order to successfully deal with problems, and to appropriately respond to calls for assistance.

Community involvement is essential to facilitate a free flow of information between the public and the Department of Campus Police. This in turn enables the department to identify problem areas within the campus community, and then take necessary measures to inform the public through crime prevention programs.

3.2b DETERRENCE OF CRIME

While there are certain crimes, which cannot be deterred, crimes committed against property and against innocent victims on a college campus can be reduced by police patrol. Crime may be curbed when a criminal fears immediate apprehension by the increased likelihood of his detection. The deterrence of crime requires investigation of behavior, which may appear to be criminally directed.

In deploying law enforcement officers to deter crime and to inspire public confidence in its ability to insure a peaceful environment, the department must strike a balance between the desirable deterrent effect of visible patrol, and any undesirable appearance of oppression.

3.2c APPREHENSION OF OFFENDERS

The administration of the criminal justice system consists of the identification, arrest, prosecution, punishment and rehabilitation of a law violator. As an alternative to arrest and punishment, society's main objective, however, is voluntary compliance with the law.

Once an offense has been committed, or an incident occurs, it is the responsibility of the UNCA Department of Campus Police to initiate the criminal justice process by identifying the perpetrator, to obtain necessary evidence, to arrest the individual and cooperate in the prosecution of the case.

In addition, the department will initiate a collaborative effort with Student Affairs administrators, Student Court officials, Residence Life staff, etc., when a case has been referred to and prosecuted through the Student Judicial System. Just as the department must diligently strive to solve all crimes, it must also assist in resolving incidents involving conflicts of a non-arrest nature.

3.2d RECOVERY AND RETURN OF PROPERTY

The actual costs of crime are difficult to measure. It is possible, however, to observe the steadily mounting costs of lost or stolen property. This loss, as well as other costs of crime, must ultimately be shouldered by its victims. In an effort to minimize an

individual's losses, the UNCA Department of Campus Police will make every reasonable effort to recover lost or stolen property, and to identify its owners and insure prompt return.

3.2e MOVEMENT OF TRAFFIC

In order to facilitate the safe and expeditious movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, the UNCA Department of Campus Police must enforce the motor vehicle laws, investigate traffic accidents, and direct traffic. In addition, to insure compliance with motor vehicle laws and to develop driver awareness of the causes of traffic accidents, the department appropriately warns, cites or arrests traffic law violators.

Traffic accidents are investigated to protect the rights of the involved parties, to care for the injured, to determine the cause of the accident so that methods of prevention may be developed, and when a traffic law violation is discovered, to gather necessary evidence to prosecute the violator. For purposes of special events, the department also maintains intersectional control, directs vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and provides special event information upon request.

3.2f PUBLIC SERVICE

In addition to providing the basic protective law enforcement functions to members of the campus community, the public also relies upon the Department of Campus Police for assistance and information regarding routine and emergency situations. For this reason, the department regularly responds to incidents where it is not contemplated that an arrest will be made.

Such calls for service may involve vehicle assistance, student or money escorts, aiding the injured, locating missing persons, keeping the peace, a campus parking and lighting assessment, student transportation to a medical facility, and many other miscellaneous requests. The department will, within reason, satisfy these requests to calls for service, and render such aid or information as is necessary or indicated by the situation.

3.2g DUTIES AT HAZARDOUS SCENES

Members of this department who observe public safety hazards, such as downed electrical wires, unauthorized fires, vicious animals, or other potentially dangerous conditions, shall report the hazard immediately and stand by to preserve safety until the hazard is eliminated or until they are properly relieved.

Approved On: 10/21/08
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