



NEW ORLEANS POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS MANUAL

CHAPTER: 42.3

TITLE: TASK FORCES

EFFECTIVE: 12/17/2017

REVISED: Replaces policy 390

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter is to set forth guidelines with respect to multi-agency task forces and task forces comprised solely of New Orleans Police Department personnel.

DEFINITIONS:

Definitions related to this Chapter include:

Multi-Agency Task Force—A task force comprised of members of the New Orleans Police Department and members of other local, state, or federal agency or agencies.

Citywide Task Force—A task force comprised solely of members of the New Orleans Police Department which are responsible for activities which are not confined to one police district or to a certain area, even if specialized.

District Task Force—A task force comprised solely of members of the New Orleans Police Department which are responsible for activities within one police district, even if specialized. Also referred to as General Assignments.

MULTI-AGENCY TASK FORCES

1. Multi-agency task forces may be created between the New Orleans Police Department and one or more outside agencies.
2. The creation of multi-agency task forces will be governed by a particular need which would be best attended to with a multi-agency task force.
3. Prior to the start of any multi-agency task force operation, a written agreement (MOU or CEA) must be entered into by the New Orleans Police Department and any other agencies involved (see: **Chapter 1.1 – Law Enforcement Authority**).
4. This agreement may be drafted by the New Orleans Police Department, by the participating agency, or in a cooperative effort between the participating agencies.
5. This agreement shall include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (a) Specific mention, and agreement, that members of the task force are subject to

the regulations of his/her department at all times, even when operating outside his/her normal jurisdiction.

- (b) The specific law enforcement authorization, authority, limitations, and liability exposure conferred to each member of the task force by every participating agency;
 - (c) Delineation of supervision responsibilities for and by each participating agency;
 - (d) Identification of the specific purpose of the task force;
 - (e) Estimated duration of the task force;
 - (f) The authority and responsibility of participating agencies or the member's positions within the task force;
 - (g) The method of accountability (both within the task force and with the participating agencies);
 - (h) Identification of available resources;
 - (i) The method to be used for evaluating results (i.e., tracking the effectiveness of the task force, etc.) and the continued necessity of the multi-agency task force;
 - (j) The manner in which task force reporting, both internally and externally, will be handled, including media statements and releases; and
 - (k) Statement that the multi-agency task force shall be terminated when the mission for creating the task force has been completed or for purposes of the NOPD, when directed by the Superintendent of Police.
6. The agreement will be negotiated between the Superintendent of Police or his/her designee and the proper authority associated with the participating outside agencies.

DISTRICT TASK FORCES

- 7. The mission, assignment of staffing, working hours are at the discretion of the District Commander or his/her authorized designee.
- 8. District Task Force members shall conform to uniform, vehicle, BWC, ICC and reporting requirements of the Department unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent of Police or the Deputy Chief of FOB.

CITYWIDE TASK FORCE

- 9. The mission, assignment of staffing, working hours are at the discretion of the Superintendent of Police, Bureau Chief of the members assigned or their authorized designee.
- 10. Absent special circumstances and an exception by the Superintendent of Police, Citywide Task Forces shall operate under an approved written directive or special operation plan.
- 11. Citywide Task Forces are generally mission specific and of limited duration.
- 12. Citywide Task Forces shall follow the principles of Unity of Command and have a clearly defined supervisory chain of command and designated commander.
- 13. Citywide Task Force members shall conform to uniform, vehicle, Body Worn Camera (BWC), In Car Camera (ICC) and reporting requirements of the Department unless specifically authorized in the approved written directive or special operations plan or specifically authorized by the Superintendent of Police or the Deputy Chief of FOB.