

STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

GENERAL ORDER

MOBILE FIELD FORCE TEAM
SUBJECT

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2022

NO: Q-4

FROM: INTERIM CHIEF JIM CHRASKA

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

INDEX: **MOBILE FIELD FORCE**

I. POLICY

- A. The Mobile Field Force (MFF) team will be used to help control large gatherings when a crowd has or might become a control problem for normal patrol staffing. The Mobile Field Force will be deployed for pre-planned events or unplanned events.
- B. In case of a natural disaster, acts of terrorism, or weapons of mass destruction, The Mobile Field Force team will be deployed to handle mass urban evacuations, mass containment, or arrests.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. **MOBILE FIELD FORCE TEAM**

The mobile field force concept provides an efficient and effective method for assembling and deploying a tactical force capable of handling the dynamics of civil unrest and other mass deployment needs.

1. Selection

The Department will maintain a team composed of a manager, supervisors, and officers. Each sergeant and assigned officers comprise squads within the team. The MFF team will be specifically trained on crowd control tactics, mass urban evacuation, and The Mobile Field Force strategies. Employees considered for the team must possess the following qualifications.

- a. Minimum 1 ½ year's law enforcement experience
- b. Well versed in arrest control and baton tactics
- c. Ability to sustain themselves during an aggressive arrest situation
- d. Ability to maintain a calm and professional demeanor
- e. Good physical condition

2. MFF applicants may also be required to pass a medical screening to ensure they can don personal protective equipment.

3. As positions become available on the team, the MFF Lieutenant will be responsible for interviewing and recommending replacements. The Chief of Police will make the final determination of the selections.

4. Training

- a. The Mobile Field Force team will meet monthly for an all-day training.
- b. The Mobile Field Force will train all Departmental personnel in crowd control tactics once per year.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Authority

1. The Authority to deploy the Mobile Field Force Team rests with the Chief's Office, Field Services Division Captains, The Mobile Field Force (MFF) Lieutenant, or the Watch Commander.

B. Pre-planned events

1. The MFF Lieutenant will make arrangements to have the MFF team ready.
 - a. Pre-planning will be conducted with a representative from the group planning the event.
 - b. Ensure that the event is sanctioned by the City, which would include all the proper permits.
 - c. Inspection of the location and development of a plan for evacuating/removing the crowd in the event it becomes necessary.
 - d. Pre-planning tactics based on the anticipated size of the crowd, location, and controversy the event may cause.

C. Unplanned events

1. The initial response will most likely be from the Field Services Division.
 - a. The Watch Commander / Field Supervisor will make a determination of whether or not the event is beyond the capability of patrol staffing.
 - b. The Watch Commander, or Acting Watch Commander, will determine when the need for the MFF team arises.
 - c. The Telecommunications Center will call out the MFF team using the all-page command found in the info "MFF" file. The MFF Lieutenant and all the MFF supervisors will be called directly.
 - d. MFF team members will respond to the command post for deployment.
 - e. If the MFF team is deployed, the Watch Commander will notify his/her Captain and the involved Division's Deputy Chief of Police.

D. The Division Deputy Chief of Police, Watch Commander, and MFF Lieutenant will determine what objective will be accomplished.

1. The MFF Lieutenant or Senior MFF Sergeant will determine the tactics, keeping in mind general order Q-2h.
 - a. Tactical planning will take into account the size and volatility of the crowd, escape routes, the threat to public safety, and the threat to property.
2. The Incident Commander will determine if mutual aid will be needed
 - a. Sources of mutual aid include but are not limited to the Sheriffs Department and Police officers from outlying agencies.
 - b. Other resources may be the fire department, police mounted units, UAS, and Police K-9 units.
3. Incidents involving an MFF callout should have the proper medical units standing by either at the command post or at a location the MFF supervisor feels would be most beneficial.
4. Incidents involving MFF deployment should have a police officer assigned to record the

incident. This officer will preferably be a Tactical Response Team (TRT) member.

5. Should it become necessary to close the immediate area surrounding any emergency field command post or any other command post, or establish a police line, or rolling closure at a demonstration, march, protest, or rally where individuals are engaged in activity that is protected pursuant to the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I of the California Constitution, the following requirements shall apply:
 - a. A duly authorized representative of any news service, online news service, newspaper, radio/television station, or network may enter the closed areas.
 - b. Officers shall not intentionally assault, interfere with, or obstruct the duly authorized representative of any news service, online news service, newspaper, radio/television station, or network gathering, receiving, or processing information for communication to the public.
 - c. A duly authorized representative of any news service, online news service, newspaper, or radio or television station or network that is in a closed area shall not be cited for the failure to disperse, a violation of a curfew, or a violation of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 148, for gathering receiving, or processing information. If the duly authorized representative is detained by an officer, that representative shall be permitted to contact a supervisory officer immediately for the purpose of challenging the detention, unless circumstances make it impossible to do so.
 - d. This does not prevent an officer from enforcing other applicable laws if the person is engaged in unlawful activity.