

# St. Joseph, Missouri Police Department



DIRECTIVE TYPE: GENERAL ORDER		INDEX NUMBER: GO0005
SUBJECT: AGENCY JURISDICTION AND MUTUAL AID Also see State Statutes: 70.820 544.157 544.216 571.030 (2)		
EFFECTIVE DATE: JULY 19, 2001	REVISED: 7/19/01, 7/16/04,	AMENDS/RESCINDS: GO 5 (Jan. 1, 1996)
Revisions continued: 05/11/10, 11/04/10, 11/22/10, 5/14/13, 03/19/15, 02/15/24		DISTRIBUTION: A

## I. GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES

- A.** The **primary** responsibilities of law enforcement within the State of Missouri, Buchanan County, and City of St. Joseph are as follows:
1. The St. Joseph Police Department: within the corporate City limits of St. Joseph as defined by the City Charter, including land owned by the City of St. Joseph, even if outside the corporate limits.
  2. The Buchanan County Sheriff's Department: throughout Buchanan County.
  3. The Missouri State Highway Patrol: Missouri State Hospital Property, Missouri Department of Corrections Property, other property owned by the State of Missouri, and throughout Buchanan County.
  4. Missouri Western State University Police Department: all property and facilities, on and off campus, owned by the college (this does not prevent additional investigation by the MSHP or the SJPD).
  5. The Missouri Air National Guard: on all property that it owns and/or regulates; and
  6. All Federal Agencies: on all property owned and/or regulated by the Federal Government.
- B.** With few exceptions, government facilities and property within the City of St. Joseph and Buchanan County are the responsibility of the law enforcement agency from the corresponding unit of government. Even when another law enforcement agency has primary responsibility, the St. Joseph Police Department will respond on an emergency or mutual aid basis to incidents within St. Joseph or Buchanan County, pending the arrival of the agency with such primary responsibility. Officers participating in a multi-agency

operation will adhere to all St. Joseph Police Department policies and procedures unless otherwise directed by a commanding officer.

## **II. MUTUAL AID**

The St. Joseph Police Department maintains interagency agreements with the Buchanan County Sheriff's Department, the Missouri Western State University Police Department, the 139<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing of the Missouri Air National Guard, and other agencies as deemed necessary. The purpose of these agreements is to allow joint contact for the specific purposes of notification of emergency, requesting additional assistance, or participating in joint special response situations. Copies of all interagency agreements shall be kept on file in the administrative office of the Chief of Police.

## **III. ON-DUTY AND OFF-DUTY AUTHORITY (INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS)**

- A. On-duty** officers have full police powers **within** the City of St. Joseph. The Chief of Police or their designee may limit these powers when necessary.
- B. An on-duty** officer **outside** the city limits has citizen arrest power(s), and may also take police action when the officer:
  - 1. Is in fresh pursuit of a suspect in a crime that occurred inside the city limits.
  - 2. Is accompanied by an officer from the jurisdiction where the action is being taken.
  - 3. Is assigned to a multi-agency law enforcement group.
  - 4. Is present in that jurisdiction pursuant to a mutual aid request.
  - 5. Observes serious crime that requires immediate police action, and that upon doing so, the officer maintains control of the situation until jurisdictional officers arrive; or
  - 6. Otherwise performs his/her duty pursuant to State or Federal Law.
- C. An off-duty** officer may exercise full police power(s) **within** the City of St. Joseph when there is reason to believe that immediate police intervention is necessary, when the officer:
  - 1. Identifies himself/herself as a Police Officer, unless doing so would create a hazard to themselves or others.
  - 2. Takes only that action which is in keeping with police department policy and procedure to accomplish the police intervention.
  - 3. Maintains control of the situation until the arrival of on-duty officers.
  - 4. Completes all necessary reports, including requests for compensation as soon as possible.
  - 5. Does not take any action or intervene in any way while in recruit training or in the Field Training Program of the Police Department.

6. Does not attempt to enforce traffic violations, unless the violation is so dangerous that it poses a significant danger to the life of the citizens of St. Joseph; and
7. Notifies the Communications Center as soon as practical when taking any off-duty enforcement action.
8. When making the decision to take off-duty intervention, officers should take the following into account:
  - a. The tactical disadvantage of being alone and that there may be multiple hidden suspects.
  - b. The inability to communicate with responding units.
  - c. The lack of equipment such as handcuffs, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, Taser, or baton.
  - d. The lack of cover.
  - e. The potential for increased risk to bystanders if the off-duty officer were to intervene.
  - f. The potential for an off-duty officer to be misidentified by other officers or the public.

**D. Off-duty** officers who exercise police powers **outside** the city limits must do so in compliance with Federal, as well as State Law. (See RSMo. Sections 70.820, 544.157, 544.216, 571.030(2), attached hereto).

#### **IV. JURISDICTIONAL REPSONSIBILITIES**

The St. Joseph Police Department enforces all City ordinances, laws of the State of Missouri, and such Federal Laws as applicable. It also enforces all traffic ordinances on all City streets, including state and federal highways within the city limits.

---

Paul Luster, Chief of Police

---

Date