

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Ralph H. Johnson
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
109 Bee Street, Charleston, SC 29401

RECEIVED

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M.B. POLICE DEPARTMENT

October 4, 2020

In Reply Refer To: 534/07B

Chief Amy Prock
Myrtle Beach Police Department
1101 Oak Street
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, 29577

Dear Chief Prock,

1. The Department of Veteran Affairs requires (VA) Police to maintain current written support agreements with all local law enforcement agencies.
2. All properties under the control or ownership of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 3381 Phillis Blvd. and 1101 Johnson Ave., Suite 204, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 are under concurrent jurisdiction. This jurisdiction grants local civil police agencies full rights to exercise law enforcement functions on VA medical center grounds.
3. For clarity it is imperative that we enter a memorandum of understanding outlining agency responsibilities and expectations.
4. Although our VA Police Officers are highly trained and experienced in meeting most disturbances and other related police functions without the need for civil intervention or assistance, we may still encounter certain situations that would require your department's assistance. These needs would include, but may not be limited to the following situations where your department's assistance would be required:
 - a. Armed hostage taking situations that would require an armed response to assist VA Police in containing the situation until appropriate Federal agencies (such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation - FBI) can respond to assume control.
 - b. Crimes involving armed robberies of funds, drugs, or properties where the individuals committing the crimes leave VA police jurisdiction.

c. Vehicle accident investigations, which may result in non-injuries, injuries, or death involving the VA Police patrol vehicle.

d. Any major incident that would require additional officers for traffic control to allow emergency vehicles a clear access to the facility.

e. To assist confirming the identification of wanted subjects, arrest and/or detain individuals who have outstanding warrants issued for their arrest by civil law enforcement agencies. VA Police would execute the detention and physical arrest of subjects under Federal warrants.

f. To provide additional officers when needed to assist with the physical arrest of a violent/disorderly person(s) who poses a serious threat to patients, visitors, medical staff, or themselves.

g. Aid in the transportation of prisoner's who have been arrested at the Myrtle Beach Community Outpatient Clinic on occasions when there are only two VA police officers on-duty.

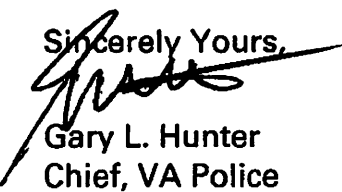
h. Should any VA Police Officer be involved in a shooting; the FBI will be notified immediately. If the FBI declines investigation, or if the FBI response is delayed, this agreement establishes inter-agency support for the VA Police to receive investigative assistance from the Myrtle Beach PD. This assistance may range from establishing, preserving and/or controlling the scene, to performing as the lead investigative agency.

Chief, please sign as indicated below if you concur with this support agreement (retain a copy for your files and return the original to us).

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this matter or any issue, please feel free to contact me at (843) 789-7320.

We look forward to maintaining a close and professional working relationship with your department.

Sincerely Yours,


Gary L. Hunter
Chief, VA Police

I concur with this agreement:

Chief Amy Prock

Date