



University of Pennsylvania Police Department 4040 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa 19104		 
Directive: 90	Subject: Response to Priority Hospital Cases at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center	Effective Date: 09/12/2008
Order of: Gary Williams, Chief of Police		Amended Date: 08/01/2023

I. Purpose

The Penn Presbyterian Medical Center (PPMC) is one of the premier trauma centers in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Law enforcement and other emergency service providers working in the immediate area who are injured in the line of duty may be transported to PPMC for treatment of their injuries. This directive will serve as a guideline to officers of the University of Pennsylvania Police Department (UPPD) who may be required to assist other jurisdictions when their personnel are transported to the hospital.

II. Policy

It shall be the policy of the UPPD to provide assistance to outside law enforcement agencies and other emergency service providers whose personnel are transported to PPMC.

III. Scope

This directive shall affect all sworn employees.

IV. Procedures

A. PennComm Center Responsibilities

1. PennComm Center personnel monitoring Philadelphia Police Department (PPD) radio transmissions, upon determining that an injured law enforcement officer or emergency service provider is being transported to PPMC, will:
 - a) Dispatch the officer assigned to the "PRESBY-1", or "PRESBY-2" detail, or, if the detail is not working or unavailable, the closest available officer;
 - b) Dispatch a back-up officer;
 - c) Dispatch a patrol supervisor;

- d) Notify the highest ranking UPPD commander or supervisor on-duty;
 - e) Obtain specific information relative to the number of injured and the type of injury, if known; and
 - f) If necessary, dispatch officers to assist with stopping traffic as the injured person is transported through the UPPD patrol area.
2. The PennComm Police Supervisor will ensure that Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras in the immediate area of the PPMC ED are trained upon the entrance to PPMC ED for the duration of the assignment.

B. First Responding Officer's Responsibilities

- 1. The first responding UPPD Officer(s) will:
 - a) Inform PPMC Security of the inbound injured person(s).
 - b) Establish a staging area for vehicles (other than the vehicle carrying the injured person(s)). Should the news media arrive, PennComm and a uniformed supervisor will be advised. Media vehicles should be staged in an area separate from other arriving vehicles carrying law enforcement personnel and/or family members of the injured party.
 - c) Temporarily stop and/or divert traffic in and around the entrance to PPMC's Emergency Room (E/R). Other emergency service vehicles en route to PPMC should be allowed to continue to the hospital.

C. Supervisory Responsibilities

- 1. The first responding Supervisor on location shall ensure (in addition to the above) that:
 - a) Sufficient UPPD personnel are on location to respond to the situation at hand, while ensuring sufficient patrol coverage.
 - b) Contact is made with a supervisor of the involved agency to ensure that the needs of the involved agency are being met.
 - c) The highest ranking UPPD Commander or supervisor on scene will act as (or assign) a liaison (if necessary) to the affected agency as a point of contact and to update information; to act as a liaison with PPMC Security, and to act as a liaison with PPMC Emergency Room staff to ensure the smooth continuity of hospital operations.
 - d) Once the situation has stabilized, ensure that traffic patterns around PPMC are returned to normal.

D. Compliance

Violations of this directive, or portions thereof, may result in disciplinary action.

E. Officers Assigned To Other Agencies

Officers of this department assigned to or assisting other law enforcement agencies will be guided by this directive.

F. Application

This directive constitutes department policy, and is not intended to enlarge the employer's or employee's civil or criminal liability in any way. It shall not be construed as the creation of a higher legal standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense with respect to third party claims insofar as the employer's or employee's legal duty as imposed by law. Violations of policy will only form the basis for departmental administrative sanctions. Violations of law will form the basis for civil and criminal sanctions in a recognized judicial setting.