



## LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS

**NUMBER:** 1130  
**TOPIC:** CHAPLAINCY CORPS  
**ISSUED BY:** TERESA EWINS, CHIEF OF POLICE  
**DATE:** 1-1-2022  
**SUPERSEDES:** P3102, 2018  
**REFERENCE:**

### I. POLICY

The Lincoln Chaplaincy Corps is a cooperative effort involving the Lincoln Fire and Police Departments, and a corps of volunteer chaplains from Lincoln's faith community. The Chaplaincy Corps assists officers by providing counseling, consultation, referral services, and other assistance and comfort to individuals and families in crisis or in need. Chaplains are not sworn officers or employees of the City.(45.3.1)

### II. PROCEDURE

- A. A monthly roster of duty chaplains will be provided to the Emergency Communications Center. The roster will indicate the name and telephone number of the chaplain for each 24-hour duty period.
- B. The chaplain will report on duty at 0900 hours, obtain a radio battery from the Chaplains' Office, check for officers' requests, messages, and any details from the chaplain's mail tray.
- C. The senior chaplain's radio call number designation is Chaplain 501. The duty chaplain's radio call number is Chaplain 502. The assistant senior chaplain is Chaplain 503.
- D. When going on duty, the chaplains will inform dispatch of their contact telephone number. Chaplains will then respond to requests for service from officers or may volunteer to assist an officer on a call. The officer will determine if the chaplain's assistance is needed.
- E. Officers may request chaplain assistance by direct radio contact, through dispatchers, or the chaplain's contact telephone number.
- F. The senior chaplain will be responsible for ensuring replacements for those chaplains not able to report for duty hours.

- G. Chaplains will be provided with identification. This identification entitles the chaplains to access to police headquarters.
- H. Chaplains will serve at the direction of the officer and will not interfere with the officer in the performance of their duties. Some primary areas for the use of chaplains are cases involving alcoholism, death notices, seriously ill persons, drugs, family disputes, fire, the mentally ill, the aged, juveniles, and providing comfort to victims and relatives.(45.3.1, 55.2.6)
- I. Officers may request the assistance of chaplains on calls pertaining to the delivery of emergency messages.
  - 1. Each request for the delivery of an emergency message will be evaluated as to its importance and urgency.
  - 2. Generally, messages should only be accepted for delivery in emergency situations involving death, serious injury, or circumstances indicating that the welfare of the person to be contacted should be checked.
  - 3. Request for the delivery of an emergency message should be accepted only when the person requesting assistance is clearly unable to deliver the message through other means.
- J. The chaplains will be available to police employees for consultation on personal matters.
- K. Police officers may turn a case over to a chaplain if no enforcement action is needed and there are no indications of violence. An officer may request follow-up activity by the Chaplaincy Corps, if needed.
- L. The chief of police will designate an employee to serve as the department's liaison to the Chaplaincy Corps.
- M. Any complaint or problem pertaining to the conduct of a chaplain will be directed to the department's liaison officer with a memo

describing the incident. Complaints or problems will be referred to the Lincoln Chaplaincy Board for disposition. The officer originating the memo will be advised of the disposition.

- N. Any chaplain having a complaint pertaining to the conduct of an officer shall contact the senior chaplain who will discuss the incident with the department liaison officer, if necessary.
- O. Chaplains will abide by all traffic laws when operating a City vehicle.
  - 1. Safe driver training will be offered to chaplains periodically.