

Organizational Structure and Responsibility

200.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the organizational structure of the Department and defines general responsibilities of department members.

200.2 POLICY

The Missoula Police Department will implement and maintain an organizational structure that provides clear and identifiable roles for command, control and guidance of the Department. Each position and assignment should have clearly identified responsibilities and a defined chain of command.

200.3 DIVISIONS

The Chief of Police is responsible for administering and managing the Missoula Police Department. There are three divisions in the Department:

- Administration Division
- Patrol Division
- Detective Division

200.3.1 ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration Division is commanded by an assigned Captain, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management, direction and control for the Administration Division. The Administration Division consists of technical and administrative services and includes Property and Evidence Unit, forensic services, crime analysis, training, the Office of Professional Standards, the MPD volunteer program, and reserve officers.

200.3.2 PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is commanded by an assigned Captain, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management, direction and control for the Patrol Division. The Patrol Division consists of uniformed patrol and special operations, which includes traffic enforcement, community support specialists, street crimes enforcement, school resource, and canine operations.

200.3.3 DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division is commanded by an assigned Captain, whose primary responsibility is to provide general management, direction and control for the Detective Division. The Detective Division also includes Detective Division, the High Intensity Drug Traffic Area (HIDTA).

200.4 COMMAND PROTOCOL

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200.4.1 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND

The Chief of Police exercises command over all members of the Missoula Police Department. During planned absences, the Chief of Police will normally designate the Assistant Chief to serve as the acting Chief of Police.

Except when designated as above, the order of command authority in the absence or unavailability of the Chief of Police is as follows:

- (a) Patrol Division Captain
- (b) Detective Division Captain
- (c) Administration Division Captain
- (d) On-duty Watch Commander

200.4.2 UNITY OF COMMAND

The principles of unity of command ensure efficient supervision and control within the Department. Generally, each member shall be accountable to one supervisor at any time for a given assignment or responsibility. Except where specifically delegated authority may exist by policy or special assignment (e.g., canine, school resource), any supervisor may temporarily direct any subordinate if an operational necessity exists.

200.5 AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each member will be assigned duties and responsibilities. Each member is delegated the authority necessary to effectively execute those responsibilities. Each member will also be held accountable for the appropriate application of that delegated authority.