

Minnesota Association for Injured Peace Officers

GUIDELINES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES SEVERELY INJURED OFFICER

Notification of Family

1. A fellow officer who knows the family and a police chaplain (or family clergy) will notify significant other (IN PERSON) of incident as soon as possible at home or at work.
2. If significant other is not home **do not** notify children or relatives first. If children are at home you should stay with them and not leave them alone.
3. Contact other family members and ask them to assist significant other immediately. (Do not leave location until other family members arrive).
4. Arrange for transportation to hospital.
5. Contact Family Pastor, Priest or Rabbi, if family approves.

Department Response at Hospital

1. Make arrangements to notify the family Pastor, Priest or Rabbi if this has not occurred in the notification process.
2. Have department psychologist counsel the injured officer's family and department officers and their significant others who immediately responded to the hospital. If department does not have an experienced police psychologist, please contact our organization.
3. Visit by Chief or Sheriff immediately
4. Assign fellow officer in uniform to stay by injured officer's side either all night or 24/7 for hospital stay. Ask volunteer officer/s to make this commitment.
5. Appoint a department liaison officer immediately to speak with media/press and assist family in day to day needs.
6. Create a telephone chain to update members of the department as to the officer's current condition.
7. Chief or Sheriff personally manage all the aspects of department involvement.
8. If injured officer is transferred to an out-of-town or out-of-state hospital, please contact our organization for important information regarding the arrangements for family transportation, lodging, and other issues.
9. Consider volunteer officers assisting children of injured officer (like a friendly relative).
10. Visits by department personnel continue throughout entire hospital stay.
11. At a later date arrange for Deputy Chief (2nd in command, etc) to visit significant other and explain use of Injury on Duty (I.O.D.) time, use of sick time, vacation time, Worker's Compensation and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
12. Work closely with representatives of the Minnesota Association for Injured Peace Officers.

Department Response During Stay at Rehab Center

1. Visits by department personnel continue.
2. Volunteer officers continue to assist with day to day chores.
3. Continue volunteer officers assisting family children.

Department Response While Recuperating at Home

1. Visits by department personnel continue.
2. Invite officer to visit department and keep informed about department activities and cases.
3. Honor officer if circumstances are appropriate.
4. Continue volunteer assistance to help with day to day chores (meals, mow lawn, shovel snow, etc.).

Department Response When Retired Due to Injuries

1. Invitation to all department social events
2. Send officer copies of all department or union newsletters so there is a remaining link to law enforcement.