

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

DIGNITARY PROTECTION

Purpose: This directive establishes the procedures for the proper and efficient execution of dignitary protective services by the North Little Rock Police Department.

Policy Statement: It is the policy of the North Little Rock Police Department to be prepared to provide dignitary protective services in an efficient, competent, and a professional manner. When the need arises to provide or assist with dignitary protection, advance planning is crucial to avoid confusion. However, since each incident of dignitary security differs in mission and scope, plans will be developed as assignments are received. Coordination, cooperation, and open lines of communications are critical to providing competent and professional dignitary protection. Therefore, it is the policy of the North Little Rock Police Department that all members shall willingly provide assistance when requested.

Summary of Changes:

Definitions:

Dignitary: Politicians, business executives, celebrities, and foreign dignitaries in need of security services.

DPC: Dignitary Protection Coordinator, a temporary assignment for a supervisor who shall be responsible for planning, coordinating, and implementing a dignitary protection event.

Highly Recognized VIP: Usually a celebrity or well-known personality and will be associated with a planned and advertised public appearance. Highly visible security is required with careful planning and preparation.

Quiet Visit: A private visit to a location with limited or no public activity or notice. Usually requires minimal security/police involvement

Recognized VIP: A VIP easily recognized due to name, position or appearance. Usually requires limited security, but may require increased presence/action upon recognition of the VIP by the public. This may require some advanced planning.

Protective Security Detail (PSD): The members closest to the Dignitary, who are directly responsible for his immediate safety.

1 Procedures [CALEA 46.2.6]

1.1 All requests for protective services shall be directed to the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

1.2 The Chief of Police shall appoint a supervisor as the designated dignitary protection coordinator (DPC) to plan and coordinate the detail.

1.2.1 When outside agencies are involved, the Chief of Police will direct the DPC to act as a liaison and coordinate the detail with the other agencies.

1.3 The designated DPC shall meet with the dignitary's advance party representative to prepare plans for security services.

1.3.1 The DPC shall consult with the Special Operations Commander, team leader(s), the Investigation Division and the protection coordinators of outside agencies (local, state, private, or federal) as needed.

1.4 The DPC shall coordinate with the Division Commanders to obtain the necessary resources for the protection detail.

1.5 The DPC shall prepare a plan as far in advance as is practical.

1.5.1 The plan shall address the security considerations and basic protection principles within this policy. The level of security to be provided will be determined by the assessed threat to the dignitary. All or parts of section 2 of this policy may be implemented depending on the security assessment.

1.5.2 When assisting other agencies with a dignitary protection detail the plan shall only address items that are the sole responsibility of the NLRPD.

1.6 The security plan should include, but not limited to:

1.6.1 Staffing and personnel needs,

1.6.2 The need for and the notification of any Special Operations teams, K-9, Motorcycle, or Fire Department,

1.6.3 Any specialized or unusual equipment required such as barricades,

1.6.4 Vehicle needs,

1.6.5 Dignitary vehicle escort assistance requirements,

1.6.6 Whether body armor will be made available to the dignitary,

1.6.7 Any additional equipment or personnel needs the Department can not supply,

1.6.8 Travel routes and it's security postings, and

1.6.9 Visit site(s) and security postings.

1.7 The plan shall be submitted to the Chief of Police or his/her designee as far in advance as practical for review.

2 Security Considerations

2.1 During the advance planning stages of a security detail, several issues must be examined. These include, but are not limited to:

2.1.1 Itinerary and Schedule, and

2.1.2 Review for conflicts,

2.2 Travel Routes:

2.2.1 Plan for the quickest and safest routes,

2.2.2 Identify possible hazard areas,

2.2.3 Identify construction and maintenance zones,

2.2.4 Identify alternate routes, and

2.2.5 Plan for emergency response to nearest Hospital.

2.3 Emergency "safe" locations:

2.3.1 Identify along all routes of travel as needed for rapid movement of the VIP.

2.4 Medical:

2.4.1 Identify any medical needs that might necessitate treatment, special emergency services, equipment and

2.4.2 Plan for emergency EMS response to scene.

2.5 Communications:

2.5.1 Determine number of channels needed,

2.5.2 Coordinate with OES if a dispatcher(s) is needed to monitor the channel(s),

2.5.3 Coordinate with other involved agencies about using mutual aide channels, and

2.5.4 During dignitary movement, radio traffic should be limited with no direct reference to times or places unless exigent circumstances exist.

2.6 Layouts:

2.6.1 Where possible, obtain blueprints and/or maps of all areas that may be covered by VIP travel, and

2.6.2 Physically visit the buildings and familiarize with exits, stairways, obstructions, parking, etc.

2.7 Media:

2.7.1 Determine the dignitaries' media arrangements in advance, and

2.7.2 Media access shall be governed by the dignitary and/or his/her staff and applicable law.

2.8 VIP and security group composition:

2.8.1 Obtain information regarding the VIP party by name, description, vehicles, plate numbers, etc, and

2.8.2 Determine what type of identification device (lapel pins work well) will be used to designate security, staff, media, etc.

3 Intelligence

3.1 Obtain any available information concerning possible trouble sources (individuals or groups).

3.2 Intelligence sources include:

3.2.1 Investigations,

3.2.2 Narcotics,

3.2.3 Patrol,

3.2.4 Other agencies (Local, State, Federal),

3.2.5 The internet, and

3.2.6 Dignitaries' staff.

3.3 Evaluate but do not discard any information.

4 Basic Protection Principles

4.1 Members on duty during a dignitary visit should be made aware of the visit, including:

4.1.1 General visit itinerary and police security plans,

4.1.2 Exact timing and precise security details may remain restricted to a need-to-know basis.

4.2 Security will generally be tightest when the VIP is moving by foot and during stationary public appearances.

4.2.1 The VIP residence (even temporary) and vehicles shall be protected while not in use.

4.3 During vehicular movements, there should be at a minimum, three vehicles.

4.3.1 The usual format is an advance vehicle, the VIP vehicle and a follow-up vehicle.

- 4.3.2 It is important that the vehicles do not separate during movements.
- 4.4 Protective security detail procedures should try to minimize the impact on the lifestyle of the VIP.
- 4.4.1 Protection may be planned on the double ring concept, with the outer ring of security designed to limit access to the VIP while the inner ring (protective security detail) prevents unwanted personal contact.
- 4.5 Dress of the security personnel will be consistent with the event.
- 4.6 Officers should wear appropriate civilian attire or uniform.
- 4.6.1 When wearing civilian attire, police equipment should remain concealed as much as possible, but within practical limits.
- 4.7 All plain clothed officers shall wear a security identifier.
- 4.8 All officers shall wear body armor.
- 4.9 Officers that are assigned to stationary posts shall not leave these posts without relief.
- 4.10 Supervisors should plan for rotation of personnel to avoid fatigue.
- 4.11 Officers should be polite with the public but not allow any distracting conversations or release any confidential information.
- 4.12 No special recognition should be given when the VIP passes a post.

5 Protective Security Detail (PSD)

- 5.1 Members assigned to the protective security detail shall be selected for their professional abilities, mental calmness, stability, training, good hearing and vision.
- 5.2 In the event of an emergency, the duty of PSD personnel is to protect and remove the VIP from the scene; not to assist other law enforcement in quelling the disturbance or in apprehending perpetrators.
- 5.3 In crowd environments inner circle security personnel should remain within an extended arms reach of the dignitary.
- 5.4 The dignitary should not ever be touched except as an emergency signal or to remove them rapidly from harm.
- 5.5 During times when the VIP is stationary, PSD personnel should focus all attention outward to spot potential trouble.
- 5.6 During any foot movement, the PSD shall form a protective formation around the VIP.
- 5.6.1 The exact shape is to be determined by staffing, terrain, and route to be followed.
- 5.6.2 In the case of an emergency, the PSD should "collapse" around the VIP, bend the VIP over to reduce target availability, and immediately remove the VIP from the area.
- 5.6.3 If an assailant is close by, any weapon will be attacked and the suspect taken to the ground by other security personnel.
- 5.6.4 The inner circle PSD shall not leave the VIP under any circumstance.

6 After Action Report

- 6.1 After the security detail has been terminated, the DPC shall submit an After-Action Report (AAR) to the Chief of Police describing the activities, resources utilized, problems noted, and suggesting any recommendations for future assignments.

Patrick Thessing
Chief of Police