

## CIVIL DISTURBANCES/MASS ARRESTS

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this General Order is to establish guidelines for the Maplewood Police Department in response to civil disturbances.

### **Policy:**

It is the policy of the Maplewood Police Department, and the primary objective to control and ultimately disperse disruptive gatherings, while utilizing only that force necessary to overcome resistance to the mission objective. Under no circumstances shall an officer resort to excessive force in the performance of their duties.

### **Procedure:**

This General Order will be used in conjunction with General Order entitled "All Hazards Plan". When necessary the Incident Command System (ICS) will be activated following the policies, procedures and guidelines set forth in the All Hazard Plan Manual.

#### **A. Civil Disturbance**

The City of Maplewood is, at times, host to large events and gatherings. Events such as the Maplewood Community Fair and high school sporting events which can draw large crowds. The gatherings in the City of Maplewood are usually harmless; however, the potential remains that a peaceful gathering could result into civil unrest.

If a situation involving a large crowd begins to deteriorate, and civil unrest is imminent, a quick reaction from the department with adequate force is crucial. The department's response to resistance policy will always be followed in combating a civil disturbance.

##### **1. Response to the Scene**

- a. The shift supervisor will assume the role of Incident Commander, unless the chief of police has appointed a special event security coordinator.
- b. The incident commander will take appropriate action until relieved by a higher authority.
- c. Patrol units will stop all traffic into the affected area, with the exception of emergency personnel.
- d. Supervisory personnel will establish feasible objectives to combat the disturbance.
- e. The incident commander will use every effort to induce the leaders of the crowd to disperse before using force. If force becomes necessary, only that force necessary to accomplish the established lawful objectives will be used.
- f. The field command post should not be within view of the crowd.

##### **2. Legal Issues:**

- a. If the disturbance occurs during normal business hours (Mon-Fri, 0830-1700) the municipal court clerk, prosecutor and judge will be notified for warrant application due to any violations of Maplewood city ordinances. If during non-business hours, the municipal prosecutor and judge will be notified for direction. The on-scene commander will consult with legal staff, if necessary, to discuss prosecutorial, court, and/or other legal considerations. If the department has knowledge of the event prior to its occurrence, procedures will be established between the municipal court and the department during planning stages.
- b. Defense counsel will not be permitted to access the scene or the field command post. Defense counsel may visit the client after he/she has been released or transported to the detention facility.
- c. Nothing in this statement shall imply that a defendant will be denied his/her constitutional rights to counsel.

**B. Mass Arrests**

It may become necessary in a civil disturbance to conduct mass arrests in a high risk incident. Police officers will conduct arrests in accordance with department procedures and constitutional requirements. If the number of arrests is beyond department capabilities, the incident commander will request assistance from surrounding agencies with the use of an officer in need of aid request through the dispatcher. If the incident continues to get out of control the incident commander may request the dispatcher to call a **CODE 1000**. In the event a **CODE 1000** is requested by the incident commander, he/she will notify or have the dispatcher notify the patrol commander and chief of police as soon possible.

**1. Arrest/Processing/Confinement:**

- a. Based on the number of participants/arrestees, the scene commander will assign adequate personnel to the holding facility/temporary detention area to ensure security is not compromised.
- b. Those individual that are the most violent will be arrested first and removed from the scene as quickly as possible.
- c. Arrested subjects will be taken to the Richmond Heights Police Department and/or other designated facility for processing.
- d. In the event more space is needed to handle the abundance of prisoners, the St. Louis County jail can also be utilized in the event space is needed to house more prisoners.
- e. In all cases, the arrested subjects will be properly booked and processed before making bond or being confined in a holding facility.
- f. Communications personnel will notify the appropriate detention center/location that multiple prisoners are enroute to the facility.
- g. The St. Louis County Police Department should be notified to assist in transporting, if necessary.

- h. Arrestees will be transported via patrol units, prisoner transport vans, or other means, as deemed appropriate by the incident commander.
  - i. At all times, except during fingerprinting, arrested subjects will remain handcuffed and secure.
  - j. Prisoner security and prisoner transport will be accomplished in accordance with the department policy governing prisoner transportation.
2. Juvenile Offenders:
- a. In most cases, juveniles will be taken into custody and later released to their parents.
  - b. Juveniles will be handled and processed in accordance with the department policy governing juveniles.
  - c. During processing, juveniles should be kept out of sight and sound from adult prisoners when at all possible.
- C. Evidence Collection:
- 1. Evidence, if any, will be secured in accordance with department policy.
  - 2. If extensive collection is required, the incident commander should instruct communications personnel to contact the detective bureau. Consideration may be given to having the scene and participants photographed for future use in identifying participants as well as for evidence in court proceedings.
- D. Community Relations/Public Information
- 1. The Public Information Officer (PIO) as appointed by the chief of police will coordinate release of official public information with the chief of police.
  - 2. Only that information released by the PIO or the chief of police will be considered official.
  - 3. Public briefings for media personnel will be conducted by the PIO at the command post, emergency operations center or another designated area.
- E. Identification of Arrestees:
- Arrestees must be positively identified prior to release on citation or bond.
- 1. All persons arrested by the department that are booked, processed and released on citation in the field, or other detention sites, will be fingerprinted and photographed.
  - 2. If the number of individuals arrested prohibits immediate booking and processing by the arresting officer and/or detention center, the on-scene commander may order that the arresting officer, prior to releasing the suspect on citation at the detention site, take a photograph of the individual. The photograph/photo log should indicate the date and time of arrest; name of suspect; suspect's date of birth; suspect's social security number; charges and; name of arresting officer. If possible, the

right thumbprint should be taken and placed on the back of the citation. A video camera may be utilized to assist in recording identification information.

**F. Suspect Injuries:**

1. In civil disturbance and mass arrest situations, arrestees with injuries or complaints of injury and/or illness will receive medical treatment and if necessary an examination for "fit for confinement" shall be obtained in accordance with the general department arrest policies.
2. Incident commanders will coordinate with Maplewood and surrounding EMS agencies to arrange for medical/rescue personnel to be on stand-by status and available to respond as needed.

**G. Suspect Access to Facilities:**

1. If processing time is extensive (two or more hours), reasonable accommodations will be made to provide arrested subjects with water and/or sanitation facilities.
2. Suspects held 8 or more hours will be provided with meals.

**H. After Action Reports:**

1. Following the de-escalation of activities, the incident commander will complete an after action report detailing events, problems and an overall evaluation to the chief of police. The chief will review this report at the next available staff meeting with the bureau commanders and supervisory staff.

This General Order supersedes all prior directives and orders inconsistent therewith.

By Order of:

Stephen M. Kruse  
Chief of Police

Distribution: All Police Personnel