

VOLUNTEER HOMEFRONT SECURITY

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- e. Possess good moral character, a positive attitude, and be in good physical condition.
- f. Pass an oral interview with the Volunteer Coordinator.
- g. Possess a valid Florida driver's license if authorized to operate City-owned vehicles.

I. POLICY

The Delray Beach Police Department welcomes the community to participate as a volunteer in the Volunteer Homefront Security Patrol. This patrol supplements the law enforcement efforts of the Delray Beach Police Department and enhances relationships with the community. This unit is assigned to patrol Governmental Facilities throughout the city as a direct result of the September 11, 2001 attack on America. It is also mobile in its crime fighting efforts and volunteers are the "eyes and ears" of the police department in areas of the city that are more sensitive than others by their nature.

II. DEFINITIONS

Homefront Security Volunteer – A Citizen who assists the Delray Beach Police Department in a non-law enforcement/unpaid capacity. Volunteers will be under the direction of the Support Services Division Commander.

III. THE ORDER

1.0 Eligibility Requirements

1.1 All volunteers must:

- a. Be at least 18 years of age.
- b. Complete a Volunteer application.
- c. Satisfactorily pass a personal background check and have no felony convictions or misdemeanor convictions involving moral turpitude.
- d. Be fingerprinted and photographed.

2.0 Authority and Latitude

2.1 The Homefront Security Volunteer has no law enforcement authority given to them. They do however have the authority to be the "eyes and ears" of the police department and to call in suspicious activity and/ or crimes in progress to the police department.

3.0 Duties and Responsibilities

3.1 The Homefront Security volunteer will be assigned to patrol areas of the city that are Governmental in nature and could possibly be looked upon as potential targets of terrorist acts. These areas will be determined by reports both confidential and non, furnished by either local, State, or Federal agencies that monitor such information. The volunteer coordinator will assign the patrol areas to the volunteer Homefront Security members and advise them of what to look for. These areas could be commercial or residential in nature. The volunteer Homefront Security volunteers will be the "eyes and ears" of the police department in these areas. They will be responsible for, but not limited to the following;

- a. Must be able to successfully complete a 10 week training course (3 hours per week).
- b. Must show proficiency in the use of a cell phone and or police radio.

- c. Must have a working geographical knowledge of the city and the area they will operate in.
- d. Must show proficiency in driving a city vehicle as well as officer safety concerns.
- e. Must have the ability to recognize suspicious activity and call it in to the police when appropriate.
- f. Will be available during their patrol to assist police officers in requests for traffic direction help at accidents or other emergencies.

3.2 Volunteer Homefront Security volunteers will also assist the police department in security operations for special events when the need arises.

4.0 Training

- 4.1 All Homefront Security Volunteers will receive a formal program introduction by the volunteer coordinator. And informal supervisory direction as needed in performing the duties they are assigned.
- 4.2 Volunteers will be eligible and are encouraged to attend any training presented by the department, not of a law-enforcement nature (except for First Aid and C.P.R. courses), as space permits.
- 4.3 All Homefront Security volunteers will have training covering police department Ethics.
- 4.4 All Homefront Security members will receive training in communications and police radio protocol.
- 4.5 Traffic control training will be offered but it will NOT be mandatory.
- 4.6 Training in what to do when involved in an accident with city owned vehicles will also be given.

4.7 Bio-Chemical training from the Fire Department as to what could be used for weapons of mass destruction / Anthrax scares / local chemical storage and types.

4.8 Fire extinguisher training from the Fire Department.

4.9 Volunteer Homefront Security members will be trained in Public Relations and how to handle the media for interviews. Training in how to deal with suspicious packages will also be given.

5.0 Uniforms

5.1 Homefront Security volunteers will be assigned uniforms which will clearly distinguish them from sworn members of the department as well as any other volunteer program.

- a. Each Homefront Security volunteer will wear patches on his/her sleeves which will read "VOLUNTEER HOMEFRONT SECURITY".
- b. Department issued Marine Blue short sleeve shirts will be worn.
- c. Department issued name tags, police department picture Identification badges, and award ribbons will also be worn.
- d. A department issued cloth "shield" shall be worn over the left side chest area which reads "VOLUNTEER /DELRAY BEACH FL."
- e. Department issued navy blue trousers will be worn.
- f. Department issued black Velcro belts will be worn.
- g. The volunteer will supply and wear black or dark colored shoes and socks.

- h. The department will also supply Navy Blue Berets, Navy Blue shoulder cords and Navy Blue Ascots. The department will also supply windbreakers.

6.0 Building Access

6.1. Access cards for the police facility will only be issued to volunteers as requested by each Division/District Commander to whom the volunteer is assigned, and upon final approval by the Chief of Police.

- a. There will be no need for a building entry card to be placed in the secured office that the volunteer Homefront Security members work from, as their work hours are during regular business hours and access to the building does not present a problem.
- b. Upon entering the police department main building, all Homefront Security members will have their department issued identification badges on and displayed in a conspicuous area.

7.0 Equipment

7.1 The following equipment will be issued to the Homefront Security program for the volunteers to use on patrol

- a. One Flashlight
- b. Two Traffic Vests
- c. One Cell Phone
- d. One Cell Phone Car Charger
- e. One Police Radio
- f. Vehicle # 1250 issued for this patrol only

8.0 Vehicles

8.1 All volunteer Homefront Security members will sign out a department leased Saturn (car # 1250) prior to going out on patrol.

- a. Trip sheets will be completed and turned in before the end of the patrol.
- b. Volunteer Homefront Security members will be responsible for checking said vehicles for damage or safety concerns BEFORE leaving the police department to go out on patrol.
- c. All volunteer Homefront Security members will stay in their designated patrol areas with these vehicles and will not take any department vehicle out of the city unless prior approval from the department volunteer coordinator is obtained.
- d. All volunteer utilized vehicles will have markings noting that the occupants are volunteers working for the Delray Beach Police Department.
- e. The volunteer vehicles shall be equipped with amber strobe lights which shall be used in patrolling parking lots, and in any other situation requiring their use, and they shall not be used on main roads and thoroughfares.

JOSEPH L. SCHROEDER
CHIEF OF POLICE