

	Marquette University Police Department	
	Policy and Procedure Manual Officer Involved Death and Serious Injury Investigations	
Policy: 5.9	Issued: May 1, 2015	Date Revised: N/A
WILEAG Standards: 6.3.8		IACLEA Standards: N/A

5.9.00 **Purpose**

The purpose of this Policy is to define the meaning of an Officer Involved Death incident and establish standardized responses, roles, responsibilities, and processes that ensure a thorough and proper investigation of all Officer Involved Death incidents. This will also include incidents which result in serious injuries.

5.9.10 **Policy**

It is the policy of the Marquette University Police Department (MUPD) to respond immediately and assure a timely transparent, and complete investigation of all serious injuries or deaths that result from the actions of any officer.

5.9.15 **Scope**

This policy applies to all sworn MUPD employees.

5.9.20 **Definitions**

A. OFFICER INVOLVED DEATH

“A death of an individual that results directly from an action or an omission of a law enforcement officer while the law enforcement officer is on duty or while the law enforcement officer is off duty but performing activities that are within the scope of his or her law enforcement duties. “ SS 175.47(1)(c).

In instances where the severity of the injury resulting from the officer involved action is uncertain, the provisions of SS 175.47 should be complied with until the Chief of Police determines that the injury is not

serious.

B. PRINCIPAL OFFICER(S)

The principal officer(s) is/are the first and only officer(s) on the scene until the arrival of backup officers.

C. INVOLVED AGENCY

The law enforcement agency or department which employs the officer(s) who is/are directly involved in the Officer-involved death. In the event that officers from more than one agency are directly involved, there can be multiple Involved Agencies.

5.9.25

Procedure

A. Principle Officer(s) Responsibilities

In most Officer Involved Death circumstances, the principal officer(s) is/are the first and only officer(s) on the scene until the arrival of backup officers. While the principal officer(s) should be relieved of their duties at the scene as soon as practical, they will have some important responsibilities in the immediate aftermath of the incident. At a minimum, the principal officer(s) should accomplish the following immediately after the incident:

1. Secure the area.
2. Advise their dispatcher.
3. Call for and render medical assistance as needed.
4. Call for a supervisory officer and additional officers as needed.

B. First Responding Supervisor

The first responding supervisory officer to the scene is crucial in ensuring that the scene is managed successfully. The supervisor should ensure that at a minimum, the following is accomplished:

1. The scene is secure and stabilized to include a perimeter that is secure and does not contain contamination by citizens, media, or unnecessary police personnel. Notify their chain of command;

protect the scene and separate and secure witnesses until the lead investigator and other outside investigators arrive.

2. As soon as practicable, relieve the member(s) directly involved in a critical incident of any further responsibilities at the scene.
 - a. The supervisor shall ensure that the involved member(s) is accompanied by and remains with a non-involved supervisor until such time that the lead investigator or designee are able to assume responsibility.
 - b. If a second supervisor is not available the Milwaukee Police Department should be contacted for assistance.
3. Obtain a basic preliminary statement from the involved officer.
4. Maintain their incident command status and responsibilities unless otherwise relieved by proper authority. The presence of the lead investigator and other investigators alone does not relieve the supervisor of their responsibilities unless such personnel formally assume the role of incident commander. The supervisor shall work with responding investigators to provide the necessary information.
5. Absent extraordinary circumstances, the supervisor shall ensure the involved members maintain their weapon in their holster.

C. Crash Related Officer Involved Death

If the officer involved death being investigated is traffic-related, the same procedures as above shall be followed and the incident will be investigated by the Milwaukee Police Department Crash Reconstruction Unit or another crash reconstruction unit from an outside law enforcement agency.

D. Notifications

The following notifications should be made immediately upon the Command Information Center being made aware of an officer involved death or serious injury:

1. Chief of Police

2. Commander of Operations
3. District Attorney's Office
4. Marquette University Office of Risk Management