Cross Reference:

I. Introduction

The Columbus Division of Police is a semi-military organization that utilizes a rank structure to oversee each organizational component. The Columbus Division of Police consists of the Office of the Chief of Police and six subdivisions. A deputy chief commands each subdivision and reports directly to the Chief of Police. The next smaller components of the organization are bureaus and patrol zones, which are supervised by commanders or civilian managers designated by the Chief of Police, who report to a deputy chief. A bureau is divided into sections and a zone is divided into shifts. Sections and shifts are supervised by lieutenants or civilian supervisors who report to a commander. The next smaller organizational components are units and precincts, which are headed by sergeants or civilian supervisors who report to a lieutenant. Designated personnel report directly to supervisors more than one rank higher.

*The organizational charts included in this directive list all the subdivisions, bureaus, sections, and units (excluding temporary units) and indicate the reporting structure for each component.*

II. Policy Statements

A. All changes to the structure of the organizational chart, or to the names of any of its components, shall be made only with the approval of the Chief of Police.

B. Authorized strength levels are established by the Chief of Police in accordance with Columbus City ordinance. Any changes in the authorized strength levels of Division components must be approved by the Chief of Police.

C. All Division organizational components shall communicate, coordinate activities, and cooperate with each other to meet the overall mission of the Division of Police. Formal communication is accomplished through such forums as Executive and General Staff meetings; training coordinators’ meetings; and publications such as the Daily Bulletin, Investigative Roll Call Bulletin, and Executive Staff Newsletter. However, the vast majority of communication takes place on a less formal basis, for example, email.
III. Structure

A. Office of the Chief of Police

Under the direction of the Director of Public Safety, the Chief of Police has the ultimate responsibility for the personnel and fiscal management of the Division of Police.

B. Administrative Subdivision

The mission of the Administrative Subdivision is the performance of tasks generally associated with the operation and functioning of the Division, rather than direct assistance to the public. Additionally, the subdivision’s deputy chief functions as the Division’s liaison with City Hall and employee labor unions.

C. Homeland Security Subdivision

The mission of the Homeland Security Subdivision is to provide the citizens of Central Ohio with a comprehensive emergency management solution to catastrophic events, whether man-made or natural; conduct specialized investigations of narcotics, vice and human trafficking related crimes; provide aerial assistance, as well as, tactical support; and provide the safe movement of pedestrian and vehicular traffic on city streets and freeways.

D. Investigative Subdivision

The mission of the Investigative Subdivision is to conduct specialized investigations of crimes against persons, family members, property, and organized crime, leading to the identification, apprehension, and prosecution of offenders.

E. Patrol Subdivisions

Patrol is a generalized function with the primary mission of preventing, identifying, and neutralizing crime and hazards that threaten public order, individual safety, or property. The primary mission is accomplished by directed preventive patrol techniques, response to calls for service, preliminary investigation of offenses, investigation of traffic accidents, traffic law enforcement, and the development of partnerships with community members and organizations.

F. Support Services Subdivision

The mission of the Support Services Subdivision is to provide communications capability, community support, technical services, and overall support to all other subdivisions.

G. Temporary Units

Temporary units or teams consist of Division personnel with regular assignments throughout the permanent organizational structure. These specially-trained personnel are redeployed when needed, often on an emergency basis. All temporary units or teams ultimately report to the Chief of Police. Following are the temporary chains of command:
1. Columbus Police Honor Guard
   a. With its Columbus Police and Fire Pipes and Drums contingent, members participate in funeral services for active and retired police officers and civilian Division personnel, parades, public ceremonies and functions, and similar services approved by the Chief of Police or designee.
   b. Sworn personnel who wish to become members submit written requests through their chain of command to the Patrol North Deputy Chief, who selects the most qualified candidates with the final approval of the Chief of Police. The Honor Guard commander and executive officer are appointed by the Chief of Police. An executive board consisting of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and pipe major is elected annually by incumbents. Memberships may be terminated by the chain of command with the approval of the Chief of Police.
   c. Assigned chain of command
      Patrol North Deputy Chief
   d. Volunteer chain of command
      (1) Police Lieutenant (Honor Guard Commander)
      (2) Police Lieutenant (Executive Officer)
      (3) Executive board

2. Columbus Police Explorer Post
   a. Post advisors are sworn volunteers that serve as advisors and organizers of the Police Explorer Post
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Administrative Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) Training Bureau Commander
      (3) Basic Training Section Lieutenant
      c. Volunteer chain of command
         Sworn supervisor

3. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)
   a. Sworn members serve following a selection process and after receiving the CIT Core Training Course
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Patrol South Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) CIT Coordinator (lieutenant or higher who has been charged by the Chief of Police with administering the CIT)

4. Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT)
   a. Sworn members must have prerequisite specialized training and experience in homicide/death investigations
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Investigative Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) Crimes Against Persons Bureau Commander
(3) Assault/Homicide Section Lieutenant
(4) Homicide Cold Case Unit Sergeant

5. Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Staff
   a. Emergency Management Unit Staff
   b. Sworn and civilian personnel who have received basic EOC training
   c. Communications Technicians
   d. Personnel from other departments, divisions and agencies
   e. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Deputy chief named upon mobilization
      (2) Commander named upon mobilization
      (3) Emergency Management Unit Sergeant or other trained EOC supervisor

6. Helicopter Relief Tactical Flight Officers and Relief Pilots
   a. Relief tactical flight officers and pilots are sworn volunteers who receive specialized training. Relief pilots must also meet the criteria detailed in the Support Section SOP and all FAA certification prerequisites
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Homeland Security Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) Special Services Bureau Commander
      (3) Support Section Lieutenant
      (4) On-duty Helicopter Unit Sergeant

7. Hostage Negotiating Team
   a. Hostage negotiators serve following an oral-board selection process and after receiving specialized training
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Homeland Security Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) Special Services Bureau Commander
      (3) SWAT Section Lieutenant
      c. Volunteer chain of command
         Sworn team leader

8. Officer Support Team
   a. Team members with prerequisite experience in traumatic incidents serve after receiving specialized training
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Patrol North Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) Sworn chairperson’s Bureau Commander
   c. Volunteer chain of command
      Sworn chairperson
9. Underwater Search and Recovery Unit
   a. Police divers are volunteers who possess the requisite diver certifications
   b. Assigned chain of command
      (1) Homeland Security Subdivision Deputy Chief
      (2) Special Services Bureau Commander
      (3) Administrative Dive Lieutenant
   c. Volunteer chain of command
      Sworn divemaster

H. Legal Advisor’s Office
   The personnel assigned to this office are members of the City Attorney’s staff and are not part of the Division’s official organization.
Homeland Security Subdivision

Narcotics Bureau
- Investigative-Tactical Section
  - In-Tac Administrative Unit
  - In-Tac Investigative Unit
  - In-Tac Tactical Unit
  - Investigative D Unit
  - Investigative E Unit
- Operations Section
  - Investigative A Unit
  - Investigative B Unit
  - Investigative C Unit
  - Pharmaceutical Investigations Unit
- Vice Section
  - Criminal Intelligence Analyst
  - 1st Shift Vice Unit
  - Evening Midwatch Vice Unit
  - Support Operations Unit

Special Services Bureau
- Homeland Security Section
  - Criminal Intelligence Analyst
  - Counter-Terrorism Unit
  - Criminal Intelligence Unit
  - Emergency Management Unit
- SWAT Section
  - Canine Unit
  - Gold Unit
  - Green Unit
  - Red Unit
  - Training Unit
- Support Section
  - 1st Shift Helicopter Unit
  - Evening Midwatch Helicopter Unit

Traffic Bureau
- Special Events Section
  - Accident Investigation Unit
  - Mounted Unit
  - Special Duty Unit
  - Special Events Unit
- Traffic Operations Section
  - 1st Shift Freeway Patrol Unit
  - 2nd Shift Freeway Patrol Unit
  - 3rd Shift Freeway Patrol Unit
  - 1st Shift Motorcycle Unit
  - Day Midwatch Motorcycle Unit
  - Photo Red Light Unit
  - Photo Speed Unit
Patrol North Subdivision

Zone 1

Zone 1 - 1st Shift
1 Precinct, 1st Shift
6 Precinct, 1st Shift
17 Precinct, 1st Shift
18 Precinct, 1st Shift
Zone 1 Day Midwatch
Zone 1 Relief Sergeants, 1st Shift

Zone 1 - 2nd Shift
1 Precinct, 2nd Shift
6 Precinct, 2nd Shift
17 Precinct, 2nd Shift
18 Precinct, 2nd Shift
Zone 1 Relief Sergeants, 2nd Shift

Zone 1 - 3rd Shift
1 Precinct, 3rd Shift
6 Precinct, 3rd Shift
17 Precinct, 3rd Shift
18 Precinct, 3rd Shift
Zone 1 Evening and Relief Midwatch
Zone 1 Relief Sergeants, 3rd Shift

Zone 1 - Relief Lieutenant

Zone 4

Zone 4 - 1st Shift
2 Precinct, 1st Shift
3 Precinct, 1st Shift
4 Precinct, 1st Shift
5 Precinct, 1st Shift
Zone 4 Day Midwatch
Zone 4 Relief Sergeants, 1st Shift

Zone 4 - 2nd Shift
2 Precinct, 2nd Shift
3 Precinct, 2nd Shift
4 Precinct, 2nd Shift
5 Precinct, 2nd Shift
Zone 4 Relief Sergeants, 2nd Shift

Zone 4 - 3rd Shift
2 Precinct, 3rd Shift
3 Precinct, 3rd Shift
4 Precinct, 3rd Shift
5 Precinct, 3rd Shift
Campus Walkie Unit
Zone 4 Evening and Relief Midwatch
Zone 4 Relief Sergeants, 3rd Shift

Zone 4 - Relief Lieutenant

Zone 1 Relief Lieutenant

Zone 4 Relief Lieutenant

Strategic Response Bureau

Community Liaison Section
Community Liaison Zones 1 & 4 North Units
Community Liaison Zones 2, 3 & 5 South Units
High School Resource Unit
School Investigations Unit
Strategic Investigations Unit
Truancy Enforcement Unit

Enforcement Section
Community Response Teams 1, 2 & 3
Enforcement Zones 1 & 4 North Units
Enforcement Zones 2, 3 & 5 South Units

Patrol Administration Section
Patrol Administration Unit, 1st Shift
Patrol Administration Unit, 2nd Shift
Patrol Administration Unit, 3rd Shift
Strategic Analysis Unit