



## CITY OF MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE



### Calls For Service (CFS) Dispatch Guidelines

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Eff. Date 11/17/2025

#### Purpose

This standard operating procedure (SOP) outlines guidelines and expectations for Madison Police Department (MPD) response to calls for service. Any questions about response to a particular call/incident should be directed to the Officer in Charge (OIC). If the OIC is unavailable, the 911 Center should attempt to contact a field supervisor (sergeant) for guidance. If the 911 Center has any question about whether a call should be dispatched and is unable to contact the OIC or a field sergeant for guidance, the call should be dispatched. Shift OICs (shift lieutenants or sergeants filling in as OIC) and field commanders (Lieutenants, Captains, Chiefs) have the authority to deviate from these guidelines on a case-by-case basis.

#### Procedure

##### CATEGORIES OF CALL TYPES

Calls/incidents should be categorized as follows for purposes of dispatching MPD officers:

**Priority** – Priority calls are urgent, requiring rapid police response. They generally include Echo, Delta, and certain Charlie level incidents. However, other incident types should be considered priority calls if one or more of the following criteria are present:

- Injuries requiring immediate medical attention (excluding emergency medical calls)
- Crimes in progress (excluding crimes that are referred to self-reporting)
- Incidents involving physical danger or risk to the public
- Most incidents involving firearms or other weapons
- Incidents where the potential for violence exists without police intervention
- Death investigations

Note that under certain circumstances, some Delta and many Charlie level calls may not require an immediate police response and should be considered routine calls. These circumstances would include incidents involving no risk to the public, a significant time delay between occurrence and reporting, and no risk that evidence will be lost if response is delayed.

**Routine** – Routine calls do not typically require an immediate police response and generally include most Bravo and some Charlie level calls. They typically include minor crimes with no suspects present, incidents not involving violence or a risk to the public, incidents with no apparent potential for escalation, etc. Any call should be considered a priority call if the criteria listed above (under the definition of priority calls) are present.

**Low** – Low priority calls are minor incidents, where the timeliness of police response is not an issue. These typically include some Bravo and all Alpha level calls.

##### DISPATCHING OFFICERS

Calls for service should be dispatched to an officer having responsibility for the sector where the incident is being reported, if possible. If multiple officers share responsibility for the sector, an officer the dispatcher reasonably believes is closest should be dispatched whenever possible. However, calls for service and workload should be balanced among officers sharing responsibility for a sector or sectors as much as possible (officers in the first two hours of their shift should be given initial consideration). If no officer having responsibility for the sector is available:

- Priority calls should be dispatched to the nearest available officer, regardless of district assignment.
- Routine and low call types should be dispatched to another district officer and should only be held for an officer responsible for that sector if that officer asks that the call be held and will be available to respond in a reasonable time (no more than ten minutes, except between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 a.m.).

Officers shall not disregard backup, if so assigned by dispatch, prior to arrival at the scene and assessment of the situation.

Supervisors are expected to routinely monitor calls for service to ensure these guidelines and protocols are being followed. It is realized, however, that it may occasionally be necessary, when circumstances dictate, for a supervisor to direct a course of action outside of these guidelines.

Officers with questions about being dispatched to a call should contact the OIC or a field supervisor and should not question the dispatcher.

### CALL REPORTING LOCATIONS

MPD response to incidents is related to the location of the complainant, not the location of the incident being reported. If a community member is reporting an incident that happened at another location in the City of Madison, an officer responsible for the sector where the complainant is reporting the incident should be dispatched and shall investigate the incident. This includes incidents reported at the City County Building (CCB) or at MPD District Stations.

The only exception is for calls to hospital emergency rooms. When calls for service are received from a hospital emergency room, an officer responsible for the hospital should initially be dispatched (a district officer should be dispatched if an officer responsible for the hospital is unavailable). The officer should respond and obtain preliminary information from the complainant. If the incident being reported took place in another district and appears as if it will require significant follow-up or if a supervisor believes based on the type of incident reported that it will likely require significant follow-up, a supervisor may elect to have resources from the district where the incident occurred respond in addition to, or instead of, the officer responsible for the hospital.

If community members located outside the City of Madison call to report an incident that occurred in the City of Madison, an officer the dispatcher reasonably believes is closest to the community member's reporting location should generally be dispatched, unless the community member's reporting location is more than a reasonable driving distance from the City of Madison limits (generally, more than five (5) minutes driving time). In those instances, an officer responsible for the location where the incident occurred should be assigned to contact the complainant by phone.

### DISPATCH PROTOCOLS AT SHIFT CHANGE

During the period of 6am to 7am, it is expected that 911 Center and patrol personnel will adhere to the following protocols:

- **Priority calls:** Shall be dispatched to an officer the dispatcher reasonably believes is closest regardless of district or shift assignment.
- **Routine calls:** Shall be dispatched for service when an early first detail officer responsible for the sector or district assigned officer is available; early first detail officers start their regular shift at 6:00am. Late fifth detail officers may be required to assist as backup in the last hour of the shift; late fifth detail officers end their regular shift at 7:00am.
- **Low priority calls:** Shall be held until late first detail cars are in service.

Officers shall check in by radio with dispatch immediately after citywide briefing.

## OFFICERS IN THE LAST HOUR OF SHIFT

During the last hour of their shift, officers will be expected to be available in their assigned area. Officers should not be dispatched to low priority calls during the last hour of their shift (except to back up an officer if no other district officers are available) and should not be dispatched to routine calls in the last 30 minutes of their shift (except to back up an officer if no other district officers are available). When appropriate, an officer may go into the station prior to the end of their shift to complete necessary tasks when approved by the OIC. Approval should be requested via Mobile Data Computer (MDC) message or telephone, rather than through dispatch. Officers are reminded that the Madison Professional Police Officer Association (MPPOA) contract provides for eight minutes prior to the end of the tour to file reports and to clean and store equipment.

## CFS RESPONSE LEVELS

Generally, MPD commissioned personnel will respond to calls for police service received by the Dane County 911 Center based on officer availability and prioritization of calls. However, on occasion it is necessary for a restricted response protocol.

MPD will have two levels of response:

- **Normal:** The assignment of police units to calls for service will continue under current guidelines and practices as outlined in this document. Officers will respond to calls for police service (depending on officer availability) and can continue to engage in pro-active activity (traffic stops, foot patrol, etc.).
- **Priority Call Response:** MPD will only respond to priority calls for service as defined on pages four and five of this document.

The OIC or a field commander can set this response level city-wide or can limit it to a specific radio channel response area (Central, East, and North/Channel 1 or Midtown, South, and West/Channel 3). Factors to be considered by OICs or field commanders when determining whether to modify MPD call response include the following: resource-intensive calls requiring a substantial number of assigned officers (i.e., tactical calls, large scenes, etc.), volume of calls requiring prolonged officer engagement (i.e., emergency detention conveyances, Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) warrant processing, etc.), staffing levels, special events, extreme weather conditions, or other unusual situations requiring significant MPD resources.

Before going to priority call response, the OIC should assess the availability of other MPD resources (Community Policing Team (CPT) officers, Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs), Neighborhood Resource Officers (NROs), etc.) to supplement call response. When needs exceed resources, the OIC can request mutual aid, or require a shift holdover, or personnel call-in, or Special Event Team (SET) or Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) activation. Additionally, OICs should refrain from going to priority call response for on-duty trainings and patrol officers should refrain from pro-active activity to be available for calls.

## OIC EXPECTATIONS FOR PRIORITY CALL RESPONSE

When an OIC or field commander determines that MPD response will be temporarily modified to priority call response the OIC should immediately notify the 911 Supervisor by telephone (608) 267-3913 (supervisor phone). The 911 Supervisor will immediately inform the primary MPD dispatchers who will notify their respective MPD personnel via radio.

The 911 Supervisor will create an "Information" incident and assign the Priority Call for Service ("PRCFS") unit. The OIC will notify the 911 Supervisor of the specific reason for the modified call response (resource-intensive call with case number, snowstorm, etc.) and any changes in modified call response

(from a city-wide limit to specific radio channel response area only, etc.) and this information shall be documented in the incident notes. If an OIC wishes to have the ability to add call notes, the OIC will need to specifically request to have their unit number added to the incident as an additional assigned unit. The OIC will notify the 911 Supervisor via telephone when MPD response will be returned to routine response and clear the Information incident on the CAD without a report.

The purpose of this incident is to capture via the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system the amount of time MPD spends on a modified call response. The 911 Supervisor and the OIC are encouraged to work together to evaluate the need for priority call or limited crash response status as conditions warrant.

## 911 CENTER EXPECTATIONS

### Priority Call Response

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During periods where MPD is in priority call response mode, the 911 Center should adhere to the following process when receiving incoming requests for MPD service:

- The call taker should obtain full information from the caller (location of incident, identity of complainant, nature of complaint, etc.) and enter it into the CAD as an incident. If the call is of a nature to which MPD will not respond at that time (based on the criteria explained above), the complainant should be advised that MPD response will be delayed. The caller should be advised to call back if the incident escalates or circumstances change in a way that would make police response necessary.
- The dispatcher will, as resources permit, dispatch officers to priority calls in accordance with the criteria explained above. Calls that do not meet the criteria will remain in queue.
- When MPD's response level returns to normal, calls in queue should be dispatched as resources permit.
- If a caller re-contacts the 911 Center and indicates an unwillingness or inability to continue waiting for MPD response, they should be advised to call back at another time and the call should be cleared with a CAD disposition code of D.
- If the 911 Center has **ANY** questions about whether a particular call should be dispatched, they should consult with the OIC (or a field supervisor if the OIC is unavailable).

If, at the time MPD transitions to priority call response mode, there are calls in queue of a nature to which MPD will not respond to under priority call response mode, officers should not be dispatched to those incidents. The 911 Center should, if possible, call the complainants back and advise them that MPD response will be delayed. Community members with concerns about MPD's response should be referred to the OIC.

## GUARD DUTY

If MPD personnel are needed to perform the function of guarding a prisoner at a medical facility, the OIC or their designee, should generate a new case number (incident type: Assist – Guard Duty) after 24 hours. The new case number should use the medical facility as the address of occurrence. All subsequent guard duty assignments should be assigned on the CAD to the new case number.

## CFS AT THE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

MPD should not handle any calls for service occurring within the Public Safety Building (PSB). This does not prohibit MPD from assisting with crimes/disturbances in progress where a request for assistance has been made to stabilize and control the situation. Once stabilized, the incident should be turned over to personnel from the Dane County Sheriff's Office (DCSO). This restriction does not apply to incidents reported by callers in the Public Safety Building that occurred elsewhere in the City of Madison.

## DANE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND CITY-COUNTY BUILDING

MPD has responsibility for responding to incidents occurring within the City-County Building (excluding the jail).

MPD and DCSO share responsibility for the Dane County Courthouse. DCSO has responsibility for courtrooms, courtroom holding cells, and other non-public areas. MPD has responsibility for public areas (hallways, offices, entryway, weapons screening, etc.). MPD officers will respond to assist with emergencies occurring in areas of DCSO responsibility.

## DETOX CONVEYANCES FROM HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS

**Subject Conveyed to Emergency Room by Another Law Enforcement Agency** – If a law enforcement agency conveys an individual from their jurisdiction to a Madison emergency room for medical treatment and that person needs transportation to Detox after being medically treated, it is the responsibility of the agency that conveyed the individual to the hospital in the first place to convey the incapacitated subject to Detox. This applies even if the officer/deputy has returned to their jurisdiction and applies to jurisdictions outside of Dane County. MPD officers will not make conveyances to Detox under these circumstances. If MPD conveys an individual from our jurisdiction to an emergency facility in another jurisdiction for medical treatment and that subject needs transportation to Detox after being medically treated, it is the responsibility of MPD to convey the incapacitated subject to Detox.

**Subject Conveyed to Emergency Room from Detox** – If a person who has been admitted to Detox is conveyed to a Madison emergency room for medical treatment, it is the responsibility of Detox to arrange for that subject to be conveyed back to Detox after they have been medically treated. MPD officers will not make conveyances to Detox under these circumstances. This applies even if the person was originally conveyed to Detox by an MPD officer.

**Subject Conveyed to Emergency Room by Other Means** – If a subject was conveyed to a Madison emergency room from another jurisdiction by a non-law enforcement agency, MPD officers should respond (if requested) to evaluate the subject and determine whether the subject is incapacitated by alcohol. If the subject is deemed to be incapacitated by alcohol, the subject will be placed under protective custody and conveyed to Detox. This includes subjects conveyed to Madison emergency rooms by ambulance from other jurisdictions. If a subject from Madison was conveyed to an emergency facility outside of MPD's jurisdiction without MPD, the jurisdiction where the emergency facility is located with the subject will respond and determine if the subject is incapacitated by alcohol. MPD will not make conveyances to Detox under these circumstances.

Deviations from these procedures must be approved by a supervisor.

## EMERGENCY DETENTIONS FROM HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS

**Subject Conveyed to Emergency Room by Another Law Enforcement Agency** – If a law enforcement agency conveys an individual from their jurisdiction to a Madison emergency room for medical treatment and that person is determined to be experiencing a mental health crisis requiring an Emergency Detention, it is the responsibility of the agency that conveyed the individual to the hospital to make the Emergency Detention. This applies even if the officer/deputy has returned to their jurisdiction and applies to jurisdictions outside of Dane County. MPD officers will not make Emergency Detentions under these circumstances.

**Subject Conveyed to Emergency Room by Other Means** – If a subject was conveyed to a Madison emergency room from another jurisdiction by a non-law enforcement agency, responsibility for processing the emergency detention lies with the agency where the dangerous behavior (providing the basis for the emergency detention) occurred. If this is not immediately clear, MPD officers should respond (if requested) to evaluate the subject and determine where the dangerous behavior providing the basis for the emergency detention occurred. If that behavior occurred in another jurisdiction, it is the expectation of

MPD that personnel from the outside agency would respond and complete the Emergency Detention process.

Deviations from these procedures must be approved by a supervisor.

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**Detox**

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- MPD officers should not convey individuals from Detox to a hospital or other treatment facility.
- MPD officers should not convey individuals from Detox to jail if the person was originally placed in protective custody by another jurisdiction.
- MPD officers will convey our arrests to jail from Detox.

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**JRC**

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- MPD will respond to the Juvenile Reception Center (JRC) to investigate all calls for service occurring within JRC.
- Officers shall conduct assessment of persons taken to JRC and if necessary should have person medically evaluated prior to JRC intake.
- If MPD officers are presenting a person to JRC and, at the time of intake or shortly thereafter, it is determined that a medical release/clearance is necessary, MPD officers should convey the person to a medical facility for that evaluation.
- MPD officers should not make scheduled conveyances from JRC.

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**ALARM RESPONSE**

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- MPD officers will continue to be dispatched to residential burglary alarms as well as burglary alarms from government buildings and religious facilities.
- MPD officers will continue to be dispatched to community member-reported audible alarms.
- MPD officers will continue to be dispatched to any human-activated alarm, whether it originates from an individual, residence, or a business, including alarm activations where a person is on scene and is providing an incorrect passcode to disarm the alarm.
- MPD officers will continue to be dispatched to mechanically-activated commercial burglar alarms received between the hours of 10pm and 6am.
- MPD will utilize a "broadcast and file" protocol for mechanically-activated commercial burglar alarms received between the hours of 6am and 10pm. When calls of this type are received, the 911 Center should broadcast the information to officers working in the vicinity of the address where the alarm occurred. This is information for district officers, with no expectation that a police response will occur. Officers may elect to respond if they choose.
- MPD should only be dispatched to mechanically-activated commercial alarms if verification that a problem may exist has been received. There is no expectation that a community member will be asked to enter a potential crime scene; any observation that leads a reasonable person to believe that a crime may be in progress or may have already taken place will suffice.

Note that an MPD Commander must contact the on-duty 911 Center Supervisor with temporary deviations from this policy. These deviations can specify that officers should be dispatched to alarms from a particular address, in a particular district, during a particular time frame, etc. If the modified response will remain in place for more than a single shift, the request to the 911 Center must be in writing.

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**NOISE COMPLAINTS**

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If it has not been possible for MPD officers to respond to a noise complaint (call type L49) for one hour and the 911 Center has not received any additional calls on the incident, the call should be canceled from the pending queue and cleared with a disposition code of D. Noise complaints should not be dropped if multiple calls are received reporting the same problem, or if a complainant requests contact with an officer.

## RETAIL THEFTS

### Active Retail Thefts (Suspects on scene)

1. Officer will be dispatched as soon as possible per CFS guidelines if:
  - a. Theft is over \$50.00
  - b. Suspect is on-scene (or immediately in the area)
  - c. Store can articulate a willingness to pursue charges
2. Dollar amount requirement may be negated if theft involved another citable offense
3. If suspect is fleeing but no officer is available:
  - a. Dispatch should provide the Loss Prevention Officer (LPO) with case number
  - b. Dispatch will announce the information over the air in case any officers are nearby and want to break
  - c. LPOs will call back with the case number when documentation is ready for pickup
4. LPOs may pre-call if:
  - a. Suspect is utilizing an edged weapon to remove anti-theft devices
  - b. Suspect has fled in the past
  - c. Individual(s) concealing felony amount

### Cold Scene Retail Thefts (Suspects not on scene)

1. Officer will be dispatched as soon as possible per CFS guidelines if all of the following exist:
  - a. Theft is over \$50.00
  - b. Store has suspect info that readily identifies the suspect (name, license plate, quality pictures)
  - c. Store can articulate a willingness to pursue charges
  - d. LPO has completed the store documentation and has two copies of video ready to turn over to officer
    - i. If not ready upon initial call, LPO should obtain the case number from Dispatch and call back when documentation is available
  - e. Exceptions:
    - i. The Retail Theft involves theft of a firearm
    - ii. LPO is injured

### Self-Report Retail Theft

1. Retail thefts should be routed to the Self-Reporting System only if:
  - a. Loss is less than \$50, even with video evidence or cooperative suspect on scene
  - b. Theft over \$50, but not in progress and no readily identifiable suspect information
  - c. Incident does not involve multiple offenses or multiple stores
  - d. Does not involve theft of a firearm
  - e. Does not involve the use of force or the threat of force

## SERVING WARRANTS FOR OTHER JURISDICTIONS

These guidelines should be adhered to when outside agencies request that MPD officers serve warrants.

Under the following conditions, MPD officers will respond and attempt service as requested, whenever possible:

- Felony warrants, where violence was involved.
- To locate subjects named in a probable cause affidavit if the probable cause affidavit is related to domestic violence.
- To serve a misdemeanor warrant related to domestic violence if exigent circumstances exist related to domestic violence.

- To serve apprehension requests from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections for probation and parole violations.

Under the following conditions, service requests will be forwarded to the OIC via inter-departmental mail for attempted service, as time/resources are available (officers should not be dispatched in these cases):

- Nonviolent felony warrants.
- Misdemeanor warrants unrelated to domestic cases.
- Traffic warrants from outside jurisdictions.
- Municipal Ordinance violations.

Deviations from these guidelines must be approved by a supervisor.

## **OUTSIDE AGENCY TRANSLATION REQUESTS**

Requests from outside agencies for MPD officers to assist with language translation should be cleared through the OIC unless the need for assistance is urgent or requires immediate response. The OIC will determine whether MPD officers will assist and what the scope of their assistance will be.

## **OUTSIDE AGENCY VEHICLE PURSUITS**

When an outside agency is engaged in a vehicle pursuit in the City of Madison or approaching the City of Madison, Dispatch will notify MPD officers of the reason for the pursuit as soon as possible.

## **CRASHES INVOLVING CITY EMPLOYEES**

An MPD supervisor should be dispatched to any motor vehicle accident in the City involving an MPD officer (on or off duty) or any on-duty City of Madison employee.

## **TRAFFIC CRASHES (INCLUDING HIT AND RUN CRASHES)**

- Officers should be dispatched to vehicle crashes involving injury, road blockage, or when other circumstances warrant a response (impaired driver, disturbance, hit and run, uncooperative driver, etc.). This includes vehicle crashes on private property.
- Officers should not be dispatched to vehicle crashes if all the vehicles/pedestrians involved in the crash have left the scene prior to contacting police, unless special circumstances prompted their leaving (following a hit and run suspect vehicle, seeking medical treatment, moving out of traffic, etc.)
- Officers will respond to vehicle crashes involving Government (local, State, and Federal)-owned vehicles, Government (local, State, Federal)-owned property, and off-duty MPD commissioned personnel regardless of injury or road blockage status.

**Note: Traffic crashes are not handled through the MPD self-reporting system.** Under the above circumstances, community members should be referred to complete a State of Wisconsin Crash Report Form (DT4002) available on the Department of Transportation website.

## **DISPATCH PROTOCOL FOR COMMUNITY POLICING TEAMS**

The Community Policing Teams (CPTs) are primarily intended to do proactive work related to Drugs, Traffic, Community Policing initiatives, and other District-related issues. CPTs are available to assist Patrol with Calls for Service in a limited capacity.



The CPTs may be used to assist with Calls for Service under the following circumstances:

1. When so directed by the Officer in Charge (OIC) or District Commander.
2. At the discretion of the CPT Sergeant.

Other personnel may request the use of the CPTs for assistance with issues. These requests should be routed through the District Commanders for planned events and through the OIC for issues arising during the working shift.

Calls most suitable for the CPTs to be utilized are as follows:

1. Calls involving drugs.
2. Calls involving significant threat to officer safety, where the coordinated response by a team of officers, under the direction of a Sergeant, would facilitate safe handling of the incident.
3. Priority calls at times when Patrol does not have sufficient staffing to adequately handle the situation.

## DISPATCH PROTOCOLS FOR K9 TEAMS

Patrol K9 teams should be dispatched to calls where a K9 may be needed. These include burglaries and robberies (in-progress or recent), barricaded subjects, vehicle/foot pursuits, weapons offenses, drug investigations, etc. When not on a K9 incident, patrol K9 officers may be dispatched to back up patrol officers or to respond to minor incidents as needed, but should not be used as a primary unit.

Outside agency requests for an MPD K9 team should be approved by the OIC. This does not prevent a K9 officer from responding to assist with an emergency request outside the City.

## SPECIAL DUTY RADIO NUMBERS

MPD officers working special duty assignments are required to have a portable radio and to check in with dispatch at the start and end of their assignments. Each special duty assignment will have an accompanying special duty radio/unit number assigned. Officers who are unaware of their assigned radio/unit number, or who were not assigned one, should contact the 911 Center data operator for their special duty radio number.

If a call is received from a location where a special duty officer is working, the appropriate patrol officer(s) should be dispatched. The special duty officer should be notified of the call and should assist if appropriate (based on expectations for that particular special duty assignment).

## OFFICER SELF-INITIATED ACTIVITY

The 911 Center should generate incident numbers for all "traffic stops" called out by MPD officers. Incident type L60T shall be used to code this type of patrol activity. The 911 Center dispatchers will also create a single incident number (using incident type L60T) for pre-planned traffic initiatives and attach all involved officers to the incident on the CAD. Incident type 132B3 should continue to be utilized for all other traffic incidents.

The 911 Center should generate incident numbers for the below listed "patrol related activities" called out by MPD officers using the corresponding incident type:

| Activity Type                       | Incident Type |                        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Traffic stop/enforcement            | L60T          |                        |
| Directed foot patrol                | L66F          | Check Area/Foot Patrol |
| Property Checks                     | L66P          | Check Property         |
| Community Policing (meetings, etc.) | L87C          | Assist/Comm Policing   |
| Language Translation                | L87T          | Assist/Translate       |

| Activity Type                       | Incident Type |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Follow up investigations            | L88F          | Assist/Follow Up          |
| On-Duty Court                       | L89C          | Assist/Court              |
| On Duty Training (ODS shoots, etc.) | L88T          | On Duty Training          |
| Any other self initiated activity   | ***           | Most applicable call type |

Officers who advise they do not want a case number should be cleared with a 'No Report' disposition.

### CRITERIA FOR ROUTING TO THE SELF-REPORTING SYSTEM

The following criteria outline the circumstances under which incidents should be routed to the MPD Self-Reporting System. The 911 Center, using these guidelines, should determine whether a particular incident should be routed to the Self-Reporting System or be dispatched to a patrol officer. The OIC should be consulted with questions about how to handle a particular incident (what constitutes unusual circumstances, etc.).

Note: any complainants requiring special language assistance (translation, Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD), etc.) should not be referred to the Self-Reporting System; an officer should be dispatched to assist.

### Video Evidence

Any incident that involves video evidence which can be used to identify a suspect should be dispatched to an officer except in the case of a theft/retail theft in which the value of the loss is less than \$50.00.

### Damage to Property and Theft (Including Stolen Bicycles\*):

*\*Bicycles taken from a garage/building may constitute a burglary; should not be referred to Self-Report.*

Callers should be routed to the Self-Reporting System only if:

1. Not in progress (suspect is no longer on the premises, is not in custody, is not being pursued);
2. Loss/Damage is less than \$2,500 in value;
3. No suspect information readily identifies the suspect (name, license plate, video evidence, etc.);
4. No obvious physical evidence left behind by the suspect (does not include fingerprints/DNA);
5. The occurrence does not involve multiple offenses by the same suspect or at the same location;
6. Does not involve theft of a firearm.

Thefts from underground parking garages or entries into locked vehicles parked inside of underground parking garages may constitute a burglary. As a result, an officer should be dispatched to investigate.

In the case of multiple offenses that appear related (multiple autos entered/damaged, etc.), an officer should be dispatched to investigate. The officer should complete a report documenting the pattern and any specific offenses for which a complainant can reasonably be contacted. Self-reporting forms can be left for victims who are not able to be contacted (under a windshield wiper, in a door, etc.).

Officers should be dispatched to all graffiti complaints.

### Theft of Electronic Devices

An officer should be dispatched to the theft of an electronic device (phone, tablet, computer, etc.) when the victim/owner of the device has device tracking information which may lead to a suspect.

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**Obscene/Annoying Phone Calls**

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Should be routed to the Self-Report System only if:

1. No threats were made.
2. The victim has no suspect information.
3. The victim does not wish to see an officer and only wants to document the incident.

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**Lost Property**

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All Lost Property calls are routed to the Self-Report System unless unusual circumstances require a police response.

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**Fraud on Hotel or Restaurant Keeper, Recreational Attraction, Taxicab Operator, or Gas Station**

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Should be routed to the Self-Report System unless other criminal behavior or unusual circumstances require a police response.

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**Worthless Checks**

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MPD officers should not be dispatched to Worthless Check complaints unless some unusual, special circumstances exist; all worthless check complaints should be routed to the Self-Report System.

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**Panhandling**

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Officers should generally not respond to complaints of panhandling unless other criminal activity is involved.

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**Forgery and Frauds**

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If the forgery or fraud is related to prescription drugs, the call type should be reclassified as a "Drug Incident" and an officer response is required.

For all other forgery, fraud, phone scams, financial, and credit card crimes, the incident should be routed to the Self-Report System only if:

1. The crime is not in progress (suspect is no longer on the premises, is not in custody, is not being pursued)
2. There is no suspect information that readily identifies the suspect (name, license plate, video evidence, etc.)
3. The financial offense is not related to another crime (checks stolen in a burglary, for example);
4. The amount of loss is less than \$2,500;
5. There are no special circumstances involving the victim (elderly, disabled, etc.).

If the above criteria are not met, officer response/investigation is required.

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**ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICER ID# NUMBERS TO SELF-REPORT CALLS FOR SERVICE**

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MPD staff may be generating case numbers for "self-report" calls (e.g., walk-in customers to the district stations). Therefore, should MPD support staff call the 911 Center and request a case number for a self-report, MPD staff will request that the 911 Center staff use the employee's assigned radio number to generate the case number and upon clearing the call, use a disposition code of S for "self report."

**\*\*For 911 Center staff: place the unit on duty, assign them, clear them, and return the unit to off-duty status.**

**If an officer is dispatched to an incident and after contacting a victim/witness/etc., determines that the incident would have qualified for diversion to the self-reporting system, the officer should**

**continue to investigate the incident and complete a report. OFFICERS SHOULD NOT PROVIDE SELF-REPORT FORMS TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN LIEU OF PERFORMING AN INVESTIGATION AND COMPLETING A REPORT.**

### **Disposition Codes**

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The following CAD/Law Enforcement Records Management System (LERMS) disposition codes should be used as indicated:

- A** – Crash report (the officer completes DT4000 or MPD4000 crash report, or an involved driver completes a DT4002).
- C** – Citation issued (the officer completes and issues at least one citation without completing a report)
- D** – Dropped incident number (used for traffic crashes to which officers do not respond during priority call response periods, noise complaints to which officers are unable to respond within one hour, or any other incident to which officers are unable to respond due to limited resources, workload, etc. This includes calls cancelled by complainants, if the cancellation is due to lack of a timely MPD response).
- F** – Field Report (the officer completes a field report)
- N** – No report (the incident does not require a report)
- R** – Report (the officer completes a report, excluding accident reports and field reports)
- S** – Self report (the incident is referred to the self-reporting system)
- U** – Unfounded report (the incident is unfounded; no report is completed)

Officers should enter the disposition code via MDC when clearing from an incident, or, if unable to do so, notify dispatch of the proper disposition code.

### **PARKING ENFORCEMENT DISPATCH PROTOCOLS**

Dane County 911 Dispatch personnel will use the Parking Enforcement Dispatch Protocols provided by the City of Madison Parking Division to dispatch Parking Enforcement Officers (PEOs) to parking calls for service within the City of Madison. During rare times when a Parking Enforcement Officer is not on duty and an imminent parking call for service arises, a Madison Police Officer may be dispatched to service the call. When necessary, MPD personnel will issue paper parking tickets to illegally parked vehicles. MPD Court Services personnel maintain MPD's supply of paper parking tickets.

Original SOP: 03/01/2014

(Revised: 10/03/2016, 11/16/2016, 05/12/2017, 08/18/2017, 01/25/2018, 07/05/2018, 09/24/2018, 01/15/2019, 07/22/2019, 03/23/2020, 02/25/2021, 01/16/2023, 1/22/2024, 11/17/2025)

(Reviewed only: 02/09/2025)