



City of Racine Police Department
Policy and Procedure

Number: 716

Subject: Command Responsibility at Police Situations		
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POLICY

Providing supervision at police situations is essential to maintain a professional level of law enforcement. This can only be accomplished by holding one member responsible in such situations.

PROCEDURE

Command of the Department's resources at police situations rests with the command officer or supervisor assigned in the rank of sergeant or above. This command officer or supervisor has the authority to direct the operation and is responsible for its outcome. A commanding officer of higher rank may make suggestions; however, may not actively direct the operation unless he or she properly relieves the subordinate of command. The senior commanding officer at a police emergency that does not choose to take command shall be held accountable for any adverse developments which could have been prevented had he or she assumed command.

At any time, a supervisor or commanding officer may initiate the Incident Command System (ICS) partially or in its entirety. In the case of crime scenes, the responsibility for the incident will normally fall on the investigative supervisor or commanding officer of the highest ranking present. Should there be no investigative supervisor or commanding officer present; responsibility reverts to the patrol supervisor or commanding officer of the highest rank present.

In tactical situations, the "Unified Command System" will be initiated. This system requires that the commander of SWAT and CNT assist the ICS Commander in the decision-making process as advisors.

RELATED MANUALS

Racine PD SWAT Standard Operating Procedures
CEMP (Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan) Manual located in Communications
Incident Command System (ICS) Manual

RELATED PROCEDURES

- [Table of Contents](#)
- [218 – Mobilization of Off-Duty Personnel](#)
- [375 – Incident Command System](#)
- [609 – Tactical Situations](#)
- [715 – On-Site Command Post](#)