# **COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT** STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Subject: INTERAGENCY COOPERATION	
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## I. Purpose

To establish procedures for interagency cooperation for the sharing and gathering of information. These procedures are designed to provide a framework for developing programs to improve the local criminal justice system and to provide for the effective and efficient delivery of professional police service to the community.

## II. Statement of Policy

It shall be the policy of the Covington Police Department to maintain liaison with local, state and federal agencies for the purpose of coordinated exchange of information and for law enforcement and public safety training. The information gathered will be used in all aspects of department planning and interagency coordination.

### III. Liaison with Emergency Management and Local Public Safety Agencies

The Chief of Police or his designee shall participate in periodic meetings with local law enforcement and emergency management agencies within Newton County and the City of Covington. The local agencies participating in these meeting include all public safety agencies in the City of Covington, (Fire, Police, and Communications) and public safety agencies in Newton County, (Sheriff's Office, EMS, Fire, Emergency Management, and Forestry).

### IV. Liaison with State/ Federal Law Enforcement Agencies

The Captain of the Criminal Investigative Division shall be responsible for coordinating meetings, as necessary, with the following:

- A. Georgia Bureau of Investigation.
- B. Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- C. Drug Enforcement Administration.
- D. Organized Crime Prevention Council.

As a member of the Georgia State Intelligence Network and GCIC, the CID Captain or his designee will attend all monthly meetings. The Captain may appoint an investigative officer to participate in the Regional Organized Crime Intelligence Council (ROCIC).

# V. Liaison with Local Judicial Authorities

Each officer in this department is responsible for full cooperation and liaison with the local judicial system in Newton County including the District Attorney's Office, Superior Court, Probate Court, Juvenile Court Services, and the local state probation and parole offices. Whenever any of the above agencies requests a meeting with an officer of this department, the officer shall promptly schedule such a meeting. It is the policy of this department to encourage every officer to call any judicial agency in this area to assist during an investigation or arrest, as needed

#### VI. Liaison with Correctional Agencies

This department shall maintain liaison with and cooperate with all the rules and regulations of any correctional agency holding its offenders. Coordination for local processing and incarceration at the Newton County Jail is the responsibility of the Support Services Division of this department. Information on persons incarcerated for city offenses in the County Jail shall be exchanged on a daily basis.

Investigators assigned to juvenile offenders shall coordinate through contacts and information exchange through the Newton County Juvenile Services and shall, if necessary, maintain direct liaison with a juvenile correctional facility.

# VII. Liaison with Traffic Safety Groups

The Captain of the Support Services Division shall coordinate and maintain liaison with the Georgia Office of Highway Safety on any traffic-related grants.

#### This SOP supersedes any SOP previously issued.

BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

Stacey L. Cotton

Stacey L. Cotton Chief of Police