



no other officer is available, do so yourself.

- D. Notify a supervisor, The NH State Police, Grafton SO and continue to search for additional suspects. Record the names and addresses of all witnesses at the scene, before any of them leave. Ask them to remain to talk with responding officers.
- E. Note the time. Look at the entire area from your position and note what and who you see, in your notebook.
- F. Be prepared to be tied up 12 hours or more sitting, waiting, and giving statements to department investigators, the Attorney General's office, and others. Make sure someone tells your family that you are okay.
- G. Don't be insulted by tough questions. They have to be asked, for your protection as well as the department's.

#### **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF AT-SCENE SUPERVISOR:**

- A. Upon arrival, immediately contact the involved officers and establish control. Determine the officer(s) condition and react appropriately.
- B. Confirm witnesses, and hold them if possible.
- C. Confirm that medical aid is on the way.
- D. Call for any additional assistance that will be needed.
- E. Obtain enough personnel to protect the scene.
- F. Notify Troop-F, the Chief, and Attorney Generals office immediately. If a death is involved, notify the Medical Examiner and the County Attorney.
- G. Have another supervisor transport the involved officers to headquarters and stay with them.
- H. Establish a command post if necessary.
- I. Appoint someone to maintain chronological scene log.
- J. Anticipate a great deal of interest from the news media, and handle according to departmental media policies. If a death is involved, clear any statements in advance through the Attorney General, other than

releasing the name, age and address of the victim once next of kin have been notified.

- K. Gather all possible information on the officer's gun, ammunition and holster, the suspect's weapons, names of all police personnel at the scene, all other participants such as ambulance crew, name and description of any suspect, and diagram the scene in rough. Take photos or videos if possible.
- L. If the victim or suspect is at the hospital, send an officer there to be sure clothing is held for evidence.
- M. Instruct the supervisor who is with the involved officer, if the officer's weapon was fired, to confiscate it as evidence and replace it as soon as possible with a spare weapon.

**V. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INVESTIGATOR:**

- A. Locate the supervisor at the scene and ensure that the scene is secure.
- B. Interview the most knowledgeable persons at the scene and determine the exact location of the incident, being careful not to disturb the scene.
- C. Determine what additional personnel you will need and request them.
- D. Determine if a search warrant is needed for officers to remain on the scene, and if so, secure the scene but do not search until a warrant can be obtained. If the Attorney General or County Attorney is coming, seek his/ her assistance in preparing the search warrant affidavit.
- E. It is recommended that an impartial agency such as the State Police conduct the investigation. If this is going to happen, be prepared to assist them in investigating the crime scene, taking photos or videos or both, and measurements and diagrams, locating, securing and marking evidence if they so request. Find out if any evidence has been sent to the hospital or elsewhere.
- F. Try to make a preliminary determination as to whether this is a legal shooting or not, how controversial it is likely to be, and let the Chief know what you think.

- G. Make a defensive investigation, asking every question that could possibly be asked, regardless of the fact that some of your questions may seem adversarial to the persons being questioned.
- H. If a criminal investigation will take place, separate potential witnesses including officers. Whoever will do the questioning should give the Miranda warning to the involved officer before asking any questions. If an internal investigation will follow, this should be conducted by a different investigator, utilizing the Garrity warning. Consult with the Attorney General or County Attorney if they are coming, or the outside agency who will investigate, before conducting any formal questioning.
- I. The investigator who will be dealing with the involved officer should return to the scene with him or her after a preliminary interview, and walk through the entire incident until every detail is clearly known. If the investigating agency allows you to sit in on this interview, re-contact the Chief and inform him/her of any different opinion you may have formed after this.
- J. If the incident is being investigated by an outside agency, any statements to the press should be made by a representative of that agency. If the Attorney General's Office is involved, only they should make statements to the press. Spokesperson's should not theorize, guess, or attempt to provide answers to anything they are not sure of, or hypothetical questions.

**VI. IF AN OFFICER IS SHOT:**

- A. A supervisor or investigator should be sent to the hospital to gain any statements and isolate and protect the officer as soon as possible.  
That officer should:
- B. Make sure the officer's family is notified. See the policy on line of duty deaths for suggestions on how to accomplish this.
- C. Seize clothing, weapons, etc.
- D. Provide for the officer's security and privacy.

- E. Locate a private room at the hospital where you can work on your investigation.
- F. Control visitors and the media.
- G. Give appropriate information and comfort to the injured officer.
- H. Keep your agency advised at all times.
- I. Assign another officer who is a close friend of the wounded officer, to provide peer support, transportation of relatives, etc.
- J. Provide security for the officer's family. Provide them with insulation from the press if they request it. If they are unsure of whether to talk to the press, help them make their own decision, because sometimes the press can be very supportive.
- K. Arrange for psychological support, also a Chaplain if requested.
- L. Provide the family with a telephone answering machine, if they do not have one.
- M. If the officer dies, follow the provisions of the policy on line-of-duty deaths.
- N. Anticipate possible defenses from the perpetrator, such as "I shot the officer in self-defense", "I took his gun because he was beating me", "It was an accident", "I didn't know it was a cop", "I don't remember anything", etc., and investigate carefully to close these loopholes if they are not true.