

RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMAND

1. GENERAL

- A. This policy establishes the responsibility for command at Halifax Regional Police (HRP).

2. POLICY

- B. Every officer/NCO has command responsibility for subordinates on duty. This responsibility will normally be confined to the member's respective division, but when warranted, complete responsibility must be accepted by the senior officer or NCO on duty.
- C. In the absence of a person in command or in charge of a Division, District, Section or Unit, (including acting ranks) command shall be exercised by the senior member, unless the Chief of Police otherwise directs.
- D. The responsibility for command within the above ranks is established by the current seniority list which is based on the date of assignment to the rank held and then the strength date.

CHIEF OF POLICE

- E. HRP operates under the direction and guidance of the Chief of Police who is responsible to:
 - i. The Halifax Board of Police Commissioners.
 - ii. Halifax Regional Council.
 - iii. HRM's Chief Administrative Officer
 - iv. The Nova Scotia Minister of Justice.
- F. The Chief of Police:
 - i. May delegate authority to the extent which they consider proper. However, the Chief of Police never relinquishes control in any respect and does not cease to be personally responsible for all activities of the HRP.
 - ii. Decides all matters affecting the Department, other than those dealt with by the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners and Halifax Regional Council. It is consistent with the foregoing that the Chief of Police should at times personally direct police operations or control administrative projects.
- G. The following areas report directly to the Office of the Chief of Police:
 - i. Office of the Deputy Chief Operations.
 - ii. Office of the Deputy Chief Operational Support.
 - iii. Professional Standards Division.

- iv. Corporate Affairs Division.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE, OPERATIONS

- H. The Deputy Chief of Police, Operations:
 - i. Is responsible to the Office of the Chief of Police.
 - ii. Assists the Chief of Police in their broad role. And
 - iii. Has direct control of the Superintendents commanding the Patrol and Criminal Investigations divisions.

DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE, OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

- I. The Deputy Chief of Police, Operational Support:
 - i. Is responsible to the Office of the Chief of Police.
 - ii. Assists the Chief of Police in their broad role. And
 - iii. Has direct control of the Superintendents commanding the Administration and Specialized Support divisions.

DUTY OFFICER

- J. An HRP Duty Officer shall:
 - i. Hold the rank of either:
 - 1. Deputy Chief of Police;
 - 2. Superintendent;
 - 3. Inspector; or
 - 4. Any other rank designated by the Office of the Chief of Police.
 - ii. Be rotated on a weekly basis for on-call duties from an annual designated list.
 - iii. Authorize any call-out during any major incident which requires the attendance of specialized units.
 - iv. Report to the Chief of Police or designate.
- K. When the designated Duty Officer is unavailable, shall ensure another Officer is designated to fulfill the responsibilities.

WATCH COMMANDER

- L. During the absence of the Duty Officer, the duty Watch Commander holding the rank of Staff Sergeant will assume the responsibility of the Chief of Police for all operations of the HRP and act as Situational Commander for any major incidents until relieved of this responsibility by a senior Officer. The Watch Commander is accountable directly to the Superintendent commanding Patrol.
- M. In the absence of the Watch Commander, the senior-ranked on duty member holding the rank of Sergeant, subject to established policy, shall accept responsibility for command of all personnel on duty.

Effective Date	June 20, 2023
Policy Owner	Chief of Police

By Order Of:



Dan Kinsella
Chief of Police

