



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Coatesville
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
1400 Blackhorse Hill Road
Coatesville, Pennsylvania 19320

Michael Kelly, Chief
West Norriton Township Police Department
1630 West Marshall Street
Jeffersonville, PA 19403

Re: Request for Memorandum of Understanding

Dear Chief Kelly,

The Department of Veterans Affairs requires (VA) Police to maintain current written support agreements with all local law enforcement agencies.

This agreement is intended to facilitate the agency's exercise of law enforcement authority and responsibility. It is in no way intended to restrict or broaden such authority or responsibility for either agency.

Please sign both copies as indicated below if you concur with this support agreement (retaining one copy for your files and returning the second copy to us).

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this matter or any issue, please feel free to contact me at (610) 384-7711 ext. 3849.

We look forward to maintaining a close and professional working relationship with your department.

Sincerely Yours

Chief, VA Police

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ("MOU")

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2021 by and between the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF

VETERANS AFFAIRS POLICE, 1400 Blackhorse Hill Road, Coatesville, PA 19320 and the WEST NORRITON TOWNSHIP, 1630 West Marshall Street, Jeffersonville, PA 19403.

1. The United States Veterans Affairs Medical Center, a federal enclave, is located at 1400 Blackhorse Hill Road, Caln Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Pursuant to Act 47 of August 5, 1977, the Governor of Pennsylvania was authorized by the Pennsylvania Legislature to accept retrocession of jurisdiction over lands of the federal government located within the Commonwealth, which authorization was subsequently implemented by the Governor by acceptance of the concurrent jurisdiction of such lands, effective March 3, 1978. Consequently, with the acceptance of the concurrent jurisdiction, state and municipal police officers now share enforcement authority with the federal officers at the Medical Center; and
2. The Coatesville Veterans Affairs Medical Center and West Norriton Township, acting through their respective law enforcement leadership, have agreed to enter into this MOU for the purpose of facilitating the sharing of such jurisdiction and to permit the West Norriton Township Police Department's ("WNPDP") rendition of police services, at all properties under the control or ownership of the Department of Veterans Affairs within West Norriton Township. This concurrent jurisdiction specifically includes the VA Community Based Out-Patient Clinic located at 2495 General Armistead Avenue, Norristown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. This jurisdictional grant allows the WNPDP full rights to exercise law enforcement functions on Department of Veterans Affairs controlled property within the Township.

For clarity it is imperative that we enter into a MOU outlining agency and Township responsibilities and expectations.

1. During emergency situations that cannot be controlled by the Veterans Affairs Police, the WNPDP will, make every reasonable effort to respond to and provide assistance in a timely manner. In such responses, the ranking WNPDP officer shall be in command of all officers in his Department and shall initiate and render assistance commensurate with the requirements and procedures mandated by the WNPDP's policies and protocol.
2. The Veterans Affairs Police and the WNPDP shall provide each other with reasonable access to all unclassified records that are material and relevant to criminal matters occurring on the grounds and facilities constituting the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs property, which are necessary for either agency to fulfill its responsibilities under this MOU.
3. These needs would include, but may not be limited to, the following situations where your department's assistance would be required:

- a. Armed hostage taking situations that would require an armed response to contain the situation until appropriate federal agencies (such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation - FBI) can respond to assume control.
 - b. Crimes involving armed robberies of funds, drugs or properties where the individuals committing the crimes leave VA Police jurisdiction.
4. This MOU does not preclude the WNPd from taking appropriate law enforcement action on the grounds and facilities constituting U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs property under its concurrent jurisdiction authority or when warranted by exigent circumstances.

Should any VA Police Officer be involved in a shooting, the FBI will be notified immediately. If the FBI declines investigation, or if the FBI response is delayed, this agreement establishes inter-agency support for the VA Police to receive investigative assistance from the WNPd. This assistance may range from establishing, preserving and controlling the crime scene, to performing as the lead investigative agency.

This agreement shall be in effect immediately. Either party to this MOU shall have the right to terminate this MOU upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other.

I concur with this agreement: _____

VA Chief of Police

Date

I concur with the agreement: _____

West Norriton Chief of Police

Date