

Watch Commanders

444.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Each patrol shift must be directed by supervisors who are capable of making decisions and communicating in a manner consistent with departmental policies, procedures, practices, functions and objectives. To accomplish this goal, a Sergeant heads each watch.

444.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING WATCH COMMANDER

When a Sergeant is unavailable for duty as Watch Commander, in most instances the senior qualified corporal shall be designated as acting Watch Commander. This policy does not preclude designating a less senior corporal as an acting Watch Commander when operational needs require or training permits.

444.3 WATCH INSPECTION OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

An inspection of vehicles and equipment being released by a watch going off duty shall be made by a supervisor. The supervisor shall cause his or her watch commander and/or Lieutenant to be notified of any defects observed in vehicles or equipment. Watch Commanders will verify that the officers on his/her shift are conducting vehicle inspections and documenting the inspections on a vehicle check-out form prior to going on duty. Watch commanders will be held accountable for the return of all equipment assigned out during their watch.