

	KENOSHA POLICE DEPARTMENT			
	POLICY AND PROCEDURE			
	46.6 Civil Disturbances/Demonstrations			
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I. PURPOSE

The manner in which law enforcement officers deal with unruly crowds and unlawful assemblies has a direct bearing on their ability to control and defuse the incident. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to effectively deal with unruly crowds and illegal gatherings that are engaged in or pose a significant threat of engaging in violence, property damage or a breach of the peace.

II. POLICY

The Kenosha Police Department will protect the rights of free speech and peaceful assembly until the exercise of those rights threatens the rights of others or substantially disturbs the peace. When this occurs, the Department will take action to discourage unlawful conduct. Crowds will be controlled and order maintained.

III. STATUTORY PROVISIONS

A. The Wisconsin State statute in regards to unlawful assemblies can be found at 947.06 -- Unlawful Assemblies and Their Suppression.

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. Lawful assemblies may require monitoring to ensure that they remain lawful. Consideration should be given to other factors or organizations that may wish to infringe upon the rights of those who wish to assemble lawfully.
- B. In the event of a civil disturbance and/or an unlawful assembly officers of the Kenosha Police Department will take action to include but not limited to:
 - 1. Officers arriving on the scene should:
 - a. Observe the situation from a safe distance to determine the type of gathering and the appropriate response.
 - b. Communicate this assessment to a supervisor.
 - c. Approach the crowd and instruct them to disperse only if safe to do so and it involves no unnecessary risk.
 - d. Attempt to identify crowd leaders and individual(s) engaging in criminal acts.
 - e. Remain neutral.
 - 2. The ranking supervisor on-duty will:
 - a. Assume responsibility to assess and coordinate the department's response.
 - b. Establish a command post.
 - c. Determine manpower needs.

46.6 Civil Disturbances/Demonstrations

- d. Establish a staging area.
- e. Attempt to resolve the matter as peacefully as possible.

C. Command Options

1. When adequate personnel and resources are in place lines of communications should be established with leaders of the disturbance and discussions should take place in regards to dispersing the crowd. Should the crowd fail to disperse in the prescribed manner, the following options should be considered:
 - a. Containment and dialogue. The objective of containment and dialogue is to disperse the crowd.
 - b. Physical arrest. When appropriate the order should be given to arrest crowd leaders, agitators or others engaged in unlawful conduct.
 1. Ensure the appropriate use of tactical formations and that officers are equipped with available protective equipment.
 2. Ensure the availability of transportation for those arrested.
 3. Ensure that a backup team of officers is readily available, should assistance be required.

D. Mass Arrest

1. During a civil disturbance, it may be necessary to make arrests of numerous individuals over a relatively short period of time. In order for this process to be handled efficiently, safely and legally, the following should be considered:
 - a. An arrest team designated to process all prisoners for purposes of transportation.
 - b. An adequate number of vehicles are available to remove the prisoners to the detention center.
 - c. A secure area for the detention of prisoners prior to transport to the detention facility.
 - d. Notification of the detention facility.
 - e. Notification and staging of emergency medical services.
 - f. The taking of juveniles into custody shall comply with State law and KPD policy.

E. Deactivation

1. When the disturbance has been brought under control officers and supervisor shall ensure the following:
 - a. All law enforcement officers are accounted for and an assessment has been made to identify any personal injuries.
 - b. All involved personnel are debriefed.
 - c. Witnesses, suspects and others are interview or interrogated.
 - d. All reports are completed as required.
 - e. Post scene monitoring is done to detect/deter lingering cells that might reinitiate the situation.