

Occupational Disease, Personal Injury and Death Reporting

1021.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance regarding the timely reporting of occupational diseases, personal injuries and deaths.

1021.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (Minn. Stat. § 176.011):

Occupational disease – A mental impairment or physical disease arising out of and in the course of employment peculiar to the occupation in which the member is engaged and due to causes in excess of the hazards ordinary of employment. The term includes diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) by a psychiatrist or psychologist; however, mental impairment is not considered a disease if it results from a disciplinary action, work evaluation, job transfer, layoff, demotion, promotion, termination, retirement or similar action taken in good faith by the Department.

Personal injury – Any mental impairment or physical injury arising out of and in the course of employment, including personal injury caused by occupational disease, while engaged in, on or about the premises where the member's services require the member's presence as part of that service at the time of the injury and during the hours of that service. Personal injury does not include an injury caused by the act of a third person or fellow department member who intended to injure the member because of personal reasons, and not directed against the member as a member of the Columbia Heights Police Department, or because of the employment with the Columbia Heights Police Department. Mental impairment is not considered a personal injury if it results from a disciplinary action, work evaluation, job transfer, layoff, demotion, promotion, termination, retirement or similar action taken in good faith by the Department.

1021.2 POLICY

The Columbia Heights Police Department will address occupational diseases, personal injuries and deaths appropriately, and will comply with applicable state workers' compensation requirements (Minn. Stat. § 176.231).

1021.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

1021.3.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Any member sustaining any occupational disease or personal injury shall report such event as soon as practicable, but within 24 hours, to a supervisor, and shall seek medical care when appropriate.

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1021.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor learning of any occupational disease or personal injury should ensure the member receives medical care as appropriate.

Supervisors shall ensure that required documents regarding workers' compensation are completed and forwarded promptly. Any related Citywide disease- or injury-reporting protocol shall also be followed.

Supervisors shall determine whether the Major Incident Notification and Workplace Accident and Injury Reduction policies apply and take additional action as required.

1021.3.3 CHIEF OF POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chief's designee shall review and forward copies of the report to the Human Resources Director.