3-9-1 Policy

Department policy is to designate command responsibilities for those situations where personnel from different commands are engaged in the same operation with a common goal.

3-9-2 Rules

A. Person in Command

1. When the needs of an operation require personnel from different commands to function as a single unit with a common goal, the person in command of that combined force will be the on-scene ranking officer of the unit with overall responsibility for the outcome of the operation unless specifically designated otherwise in the department Standard Operating Procedures.

2. The affected deputy chief, major, or area commander will resolve command responsibility conflicts during emergency operations within their area of responsibility.

3-9-3 Procedure

A. Delegation of Authority

The ranking officer, field commander may, in turn, designate a subordinate officer and vest in him/her the authority to act in the capacity of a field commander. If such designation is made, the person relinquishing authority shall so notify the supervisors of the various units present to eliminate doubts about who has the authority to direct operations.

B. Utilization of Specialized Units

When utilizing specialized units, the field commander should strive to the greatest extent possible to support the specialized unit with manpower and resources sufficient to attain the specialized unit's objective.