

55.5 Intra-Agency Cooperation

OPERATIONS

STANDARD 55.5 The agency has a written directive for interaction, coordination and cooperation between patrol and other components of the agency.

Commentary: The level of police service to the community often suffers from lack of communication between different components of an agency. For example, patrol and other specialty units (i.e., investigations, traffic, vice, etc.) often operate with different priorities, so there must be a mechanism in place to ensure cooperation and exchange of information amongst the various components. Formal communication procedures established by the chief law enforcement officer may prevent these problems from occurring. Compliance may be demonstrated by regular staff meetings, case updates and/or regular exchanges of investigative reports.

Compliance Verification Strategies

Assessors may seek to verify agency compliance with this standard by using one or more of the strategies listed below. There may be other strategies identified by the agency which could also be acceptable.

1. A copy of the written directive is available for review.
2. Observe the agency's daily operations to help verify compliance.
3. Copies of any logs or records used to document communications and coordination between the patrol and other agency components should be provided.
4. Interview(s) with personnel assigned to various agency components to verify their understanding of and compliance with the standard.