A96(NCR-PPPD)

Memorandum No. 8
(Series 2015)

To: The Force

From: Chief, United States Park Police

Subject: Coordination with Other Law Enforcement Agencies and the Handling of Possible Violations by Other Agencies During Such Situations

In performing its various missions and responsibilities, the Force deals with complex situations involving the public and demonstrators whose conduct may be governed by Federal, State, or District of Columbia laws and/or NPS regulations, and which also may involve coordination with other law enforcement agencies. The Force must strive to ensure that notwithstanding such coordination, members of the public, including demonstrators with whom the Force has contact, are afforded the various protections to which they are entitled by the First and Fourth Amendments. One of the Force’s missions is to help ensure that lawful demonstrations, regardless of cause, occur without unreasonable disruption. As such, Sections II, IV.B, and V.A of General Order 31.01 "Conduct" already imposes on our officers an obligation to maintain the highest standards of honesty, to comply with lawful orders and directives issued by a superior officer, and to report misconduct to their immediate supervisor.

In a situation where a Force officer in charge, acting in support of another law enforcement agency, believes that the other agency may be engaging in a violation of the law, particularly a First or Fourth Amendment violation, the Force officer in charge should, as promptly as possible, advise the other agency’s on-site supervisor of the Force’s concerns. We expect ordinarily that additional factual information that the other agency possesses should resolve such concerns. Otherwise, and pursuant to General Order 12.00 "Force Legal Advisor," if the incident requires immediate or emergency legal counsel, the Force officer in charge should contact a representative of the Solicitor’s Office directly.

If the violation involves use of Force officers to help effectuate high volume arrests and prevent demonstrators from being free to leave or disperse in a manner inconsistent with General Order 2108.03, the Force officer in charge shall request the other agency’s on-site supervisor to provide demonstrators with dispersal order(s) and an opportunity to comply.
However, if the violation concerns of the Force officer in charge cannot be mutually resolved with the other agency, the Force officer in charge shall notify the other agency's on-site supervisor that the Force must withdraw from participation in the law enforcement action. In such situations, the Force officer in charge shall make sure that the situation is fully documented in a Force incident report(s), and that such report(s) are forwarded to the Force's Office of Professional Responsibility and to the Solicitor's Office.