



MILWAUKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING INSTRUCTION

MOUNTED PATROL UNIT

ISSUED: November 26, 2025

EFFECTIVE: November 26, 2025

REVIEWED/APPROVED BY:
Assistant Chief Steven Johnson
DATE: October 13, 2025

ACTION: Amends SOI (October 11, 2023)

WILEAG STANDARD(S): 6.1.2

ROLL CALL VERSION

Contains only changes to current policy.
For complete version of SOI, see SharePoint.

I. PURPOSE

The mission of the Milwaukee Police Department Mounted Patrol is to provide police services in those areas and assignments deemed appropriate by the commander of the Specialized Patrol Division with an emphasis on ~~reducing crime, fear, and disorder~~ impacting crime through effective community engagement.

II. OBJECTIVES

- A. Provide highly visible police presence within the city of Milwaukee during horse patrol with a focus on maximizing positive interactions with the public.
- B. Provide highly visible police presence at large crowd events.
- E. Provide public education and positive police contact at community events.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES (WILEAG 6.1.2)

A. MOUNTED SUPERVISOR

The mounted supervisor shall be responsible for:

- 3. Selection and evaluation of horses based upon conformation, disposition, height ~~and color~~ weight, age, and other factors that would affect the horse's performance.

E. HERD HEALTH MANAGER

The herd health manager shall ensure that treatment of significant illness, injury, prescribed medications, or other veterinary intervention is documented. The herd health manager will also be responsible for ensuring the horses are weighed and vaccinated regularly.

FE. OFFICERS

Officers assigned to this unit shall:

4. Be familiar with and refer to the Mounted Patrol Unit Operations and Training Manual for best practices and procedures.

V. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT (WILEAG 6.1.2)**C. VEHICLES**

3. Officers shall also check trucks and attached trailer, before deploying, for:

- f. Full water containers and hay bags.

IX. PATROL PROCEDURES**B. ROUTINE PATROL**

- ~~2. The daily dozen exercises for horse and rider as indicated in the Mounted Police Training Manual are to be performed while on patrol.~~
23. Officers should dismount every hour for approximately fifteen (15) minutes to rest the horse monitor their horse for signs of illness, injury, exhaustion, dehydration, or other medical distress and provide appropriate rest or care.
34. Unless otherwise instructed, officers shall conduct random patrols of their assigned areas with a focus on neighborhood events and places of heavy foot traffic.
45. Officers should place an emphasis on side streets, alleys and areas of large concentrations of parked vehicles.
56. Officers shall take proper action for any violations of city ordinances and state statutes.
67. Every effort should be made to conduct all business with the public from horseback.

XI. ARRESTS

- D. If the nature of the arrest necessitates the presence of the arresting officers during the booking process, they shall return their mount to the stable, remove the tack and equipment, proceed to the booking site, and notify the mounted supervisor of the situation.
 - ~~1. Return the mount to the staging area or trailer, secure the mount and equipment in the trailer, and proceed to the booking site.~~
 - ~~2. If the arrest requires an extended period of time on the part of the arresting officer, they shall return the mount to the stable, remove the tack and equipment, and proceed~~

to the booking site.

3. ~~Notify the respective supervisor of the situation.~~

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.B.N.' with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

JEFFREY B. NORMAN
CHIEF OF POLICE

JBN:mfk