1.3 Inter-Agency Memoranda of Agreement

While the Sheriff's Office retains the authority to conduct any and every aspect of policing and law enforcement, local custom and formal agreements dictate that as a matter of practice, the Office routinely only assumes secondary law enforcement responsibilities. Assistance in many situations outside of the scope of fundamental Office responsibilities will come from the appropriate primary law enforcement agency (e.g., Annapolis Police Department or the Anne Arundel County Police Department).

The assistance of, or referral to, a primary law enforcement agency may involve: criminal investigations, intelligence activities, juvenile operations, crime analysis, controlling vice, drugs, and organized crime, directed patrol requests, traffic collision investigation, coordinating with transportation system management planning committees and parking enforcement, conducting juvenile operations, responding to natural and manmade disasters, death notifications, search and rescue, providing executive protection, initial and follow-up victim/witness assistance, handling civil disturbances, effecting mass arrests, resolving hostage/barricade situations, dealing with bomb threats and fire emergencies, coordinating special events, tactical operations, and organizing criminal justice diversion programs. The primary law enforcement agencies are also relied upon to develop *mutual aid agreements* with neighboring jurisdictions and Federal agencies.

The Chief Deputy acts as the primary liaison with the primary law enforcement agencies. He/she is tasked with keeping Office command personnel apprised of requesting and reporting procedures, agency contacts, and operational plans. The mass mobilization of Office human and material resources for dealing with unusual situations may only occur at the direction of the Chief Deputy or his/her designee, and efforts will be properly coordinated with a primary law enforcement agency.

Within the boundaries of Anne Arundel County though, the Office does periodically enter into *inter-agency agreements* with the mutual objective of maximizing law enforcement services through cooperation and clearly-defined roles and responsibilities. Agreements which may directly impact day-to-day operations of the Sheriff's Office are found on the following pages.