The purpose of this Health Sciences Center Operating Policy/Procedure (HSC OP) is to establish responsibilities of the Texas Tech Police Department for the protection of lives and property on the campuses of Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and to define the conditions for the use of officers other than those employed by Texas Tech.

This OP will be reviewed by September 1 of each odd-numbered year (ONY) by the Chief of Police. Recommendations for revision will be forwarded to the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration by September 15.

The prime functions of the Texas Tech Police Department are to protect life, liberty, and property; to enforce all laws and Regents’ Rules; to preserve the peace and public order; to prevent and repress crime; to detect violations of the law; to apprehend violators; and, to prosecute those apprehended.

Texas Tech’s setting is a particularly appropriate environment in which to initiate a program of close police-community cooperation. The Texas Tech community has many positive characteristics and attributes which will facilitate a coordinated response to crime. Its geographical boundaries tend to engender a sense of community identification in the people who live, work, and study here. The local news media and other established information sharing systems allow for swift dissemination of information and provide an opportunity for community feedback.

The Department can make an important contribution to the health and safety of our community by correctly responding to incidents of crime and by proactively interacting with people to educate them to their duty to protect themselves and each other. Removal of the opportunity to commit crime is an effective crime prevention measure, and the Department must continually inform members of our community about lawful crime prevention attitudes and strategies.

When special events, functions or activities require additional or extraordinary staffing, the Chief of Police will arrange for additional manpower through appropriate state, county, or city law enforcement agencies or through private security agencies. All requests for use of non-Texas Tech police and security personnel must be coordinated through the Chief of Police and will be approved only if Texas Tech Police Department personnel cannot supply the services requested.

Right to change policy. Texas Tech reserves the right to interpret, change, amend or rescind this policy in whole or part at any time without the consent of employees.