

8.07
CRAIG POLICE DEPARTMENT
Office of Chief of Police
General Order

Date Issued: May 15, 1997
Subject: Labor Disputes
To: All Officers

Revision Date: February 16, 2001
Reference:

I. POLICY

Negotiation and collective bargaining are legally recognized methods of peacefully settling labor disputes. In such disputes, it is not the function of the department to deal with the issues involved; rather, it is the role of the department to protect the rights of the public and the disputants by enforcing the law and by maintaining order.

Strikes and mass or circular picketing are not, in themselves, violations of the law. It is the illegal acts which sometimes arise from such activities, which are the concern of the police. The effectiveness of the department in labor disputes is maintained by its remaining at all times impartial regarding the parties and issues involved and by taking appropriate action whenever criminal violations are observed or reported.

II. PROCEDURE

The department seeks to minimize criminal violations connected with labor disputes by providing guidelines for the conduct of the parties and the area of the sidewalk to be used. These guidelines are discussed with management and labor officials at which time it is emphasized that the use of public sidewalks and roadways, the free access to public places, and the rights of persons to enter and leave private premises are to be preserved (CRS 18-9-107). In cases where there is a denial of those rights, the department will take prompt and impartial police action. Violations of court orders and injunctions do not ordinarily constitute criminal offenses for which the department will take enforcement action.

A. LIAISON WITH LABOR AND MANAGEMENT - The department maintains special liaison with the management and labor officials to obtain information and to explain the department's policies and procedures in relation to labor disputes. By seeking the cooperation of the parties involved, tensions are reduced and self-discipline is encouraged so that the parties may police their own conduct.

B. DEPLOYMENT AT LABOR DISPUTES - Police officers will not normally be deployed at strike scenes; however, when such deployment becomes necessary, it is the responsibility of the Chief of Police to take the necessary police action to deter crime and to keep the peace.

Authorized By:

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Chief of Police