The structural solutions of the patrol police groups control systems described in this article have been elaborated at the University within the framework of the training course "Information technical platform of professional role-playing game "Line 102" by cadets, master students, police officers in the framework of training and internship.

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SUMMARY

The peculiarities of the activity of the mobile patrol service's groups have been studied and proposals for its improvement have been formulated.

The advantage of the proposed video patrolling system for mobile patrol services with video streams is the ability to automatically include the channels of transmission of video streams from the scene or crime to the dispatcher, because sometimes patrols have to immediately intervene in the elimination of circumstances that occurred in the offenses.

Keywords: mobile group, dispatcher, video streams, video recorder, channels, patrol, tablet.

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THE ROLE OF CHAPLAINCY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES

Грег Янг. РОЛЬ ІНСТИТУТУ КАПЕЛАНСТВА У ПРАВООХОРОННІЙ ДІЯЛЬНОСТІ США. В оглядовій статті висвітлено роль, відповідальність, необхідну підготовку та переваги від наявності в правоохоронних органах кваліфікованого капелана, який працює, здебільшого на добровільних засадах, у підрозділі поліції США. У вирішенні цього питання автор спирається на свій багатий досвід роботи капелана в правоохоронних органах, а також інструктура з підготовки поліцейських. Незважаючи на складність обґрунтування цінності програм з підготовки капеланів для правоохоронних органів, автор висвітлює переваги, які приносить капелан-правоохоронець конкретному підрозділу міліції та громаді, з якою він співпрацює.

Зокрема, зазначено, оскільки капелани правоохоронних органів у США або служать

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In order for me to better address the role that chaplains play, and the benefits they pro-
vide to police departments as well as the communities they serve here in the United States, I
must first begin with my own experience of becoming a chaplain, and how that role for me has
evolved over the years.

Prior to being asked to become a police chaplain in my own community I was serving a lo-
cal church. A police officer serving as a Lieutenant in my local police department that I had met
through many civic functions in our community became the chief of police in January of 2004 and
he asked me to work with the police department as a volunteer chaplain. Shortly after assuming that
role, I went to trainings in “How to Make Compassionate Death Notifications” and following that,
“Assisting Individuals in Crisis” a Critical Incident Stress Management course.

After being trained in the Critical Incident Stress Management course, I was invited by
a faith based organization’s disaster response director to become a trainer in some of the Criti-
cal Incident Stress Management courses to help train some of the organization’s staff and dis-
aster response chaplains. I also became a member of a disaster response “strike” team to re-
respond to disasters. Shortly after that training was completed I was deployed to help victims in
the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and other regional disasters.

My deployment experiences, training and chaplaincy work in disaster response has only
enhanced my effectiveness in my role as a local law enforcement chaplain, and informs much
of what I do today.

My education, especially my post-graduate clinical training at the Center for Religion
and Psychotherapy of Chicago and training in Critical Incident Stress Management has served
me well in my role of police chaplain. In the years since I first became chaplain in the spring of
2004, this ministry has expanded into a very important ministry for me beyond the service of
my local community. I was asked to speak at the “Symposium for Hope, Resilience, and Re-
covering Following the Sandy Hook School Shooting Tragedy” at Western Connecticut State
University, and co-led a followup debriefing for the first responders to Sandy Hook Elementary
School. I was also deployed to help with the Sikh Temple Mass Shooting in Oak Creek, Wis-
consin and following that the Azana Spa Mass shooting in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Over the
years as a chaplain and trainer, I have provided psychological debriefings following critical
incidents for police line of duty deaths, officer involved shootings and other critical incidents
that create a lot of stress for all first responders.

Based on what I have learned working as a chaplain, I present several courses for agen-
cies and colleges I have developed including “How to be Resilient in Challenging Times in
Law Enforcement”; “Resilient Leadership”; “How to Talk to People in Crisis/Making Compass-
sionate Death Notifications”; 5 modalities of “Critical Incident Stress Management”; “The
1 Most law enforcement chaplains in the United States are volunteer positions, requiring that they
still work as pastors or professionals in another field of work.
Challenges of Cumulative Stress and Moral Injury in Law Enforcement”; “Concepts and Practices in Peer Support”; “Advanced Debriefing Techniques”; and “Jail Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Postvention and Self-Care”. I also present shorter versions of these topics at Law Enforcement Conferences around the United States as well as for the International Police Officers Association, Young Officers World Conference.

Drawing from my diverse experience I suggest the following regarding the needed qualifications and role of Law Enforcement Chaplains here in United States.

**Qualifications:**

Many but not all of the Law Enforcement Chaplains here in the United States are ordained clergy or have the endorsement of their Faith Based organization. (In my case, I have a 4 year university degree, a three year master’s degree in divinity, and post-graduate clinical training, but this is not a requirement for most chaplains). Some law enforcement chaplains also serve as chaplains for their local fire departments. The person who becomes a law enforcement chaplain often then receives additional training, which can be obtained through organizations which train and support law enforcement chaplaincy programs. There are several such agencies but perhaps the best known international organization is the International Conference of Police Chaplains. The International Conference of Police Chaplains offers regional trainings as well as international trainings to help equip law enforcement chaplains to be effective in their roles serving their departments and their communities.

**Role:**

In most local police departments in the United States, the chaplain is a part of that police department to serve both the police officers as well as the citizens following critical incidents in their communities.

Law enforcement chaplains work with police and make death notifications to the next of kin living in their local police jurisdiction following the death of a loved one. As a longtime police chaplain, I remember nearly all of the many death notifications that I have made or assisted in making because they are stressful for those of us making them and they cause a lot of distress for the next of kin of the loved one who has died unexpectedly. In most of the death notifications that I have made, I have been called into our police department by our 9-1-1 dispatcher to meet the officer I will be making the death notification with. We then ride in the police squad car to the residence or place of work where the next of kin can be found.

Chaplains are also called to scenes following many crises which include accidents, unexpected deaths and suicides to provide comfort and care for the family members and friends of the deceased. At most scenes, a chaplain can provide the needed pastoral care for grieving family members, allowing officers to do what they need to do following the incident. Chaplains are also present to provide care for officers after they respond to a tragic incident, especially ones in which children are hurt or have died. Because of my additional training, I often lead psychological debriefings for the officers who responded to an especially difficult critical incident first hand. Those debriefings are a small group structured process for up to 20 first responders involved with an incident. Most psychological debriefings are held between 24 hours and 72 hours post-incident and are intended to help mitigate the symptoms of officer stress caused by the incident. I have provided these debriefings for many law enforcement agencies following critical incidents around and outside of the Milwaukee, Wisconsin Metropolitan area. The most common incidents for which psychological debriefings are held are: Police officer line-of-duty deaths, Police officer involved shootings, the tragic deaths of children, and mass casualty incidents.

Chaplains trained in the use of these specialized “psychological first aid tools” can assist with helping to co-lead psychological debriefings for officers who have responded to a critical incident which has created a great deal of stress for them.

Perhaps the most tragic incidents that occur in police department are when “one of their own”, a fellow officer is killed in the line of duty. A chaplain with the department can be a real source of strength and solace for officers and administrators in that police department during that tragedy.  

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1 Note: In the United States most chaplains serve local police departments in cities, towns and counties. There are also chaplains for state police, and also for federal agencies.

2 It is also important for that chaplain in that department who is also impacted by the tragic loss of a fellow officer to seek support from a chaplain in another department and to attend any psychological debriefing or support being offered by an outside source, perhaps a trained crisis response team from another police department.
Example of critical incident debriefing

On December 24, 2012, a female police officer on duty that evening with the Wauwatosa, Wisconsin police department, (suburban Milwaukee) was shot and killed by her husband. Because the incident occurred in the midst of the Christmas holiday compounded the tragedy. Her police department, the whole community was devastated by her tragic death. I was asked to come provide a psychological debriefing for the officers in her department several days later. I facilitated the debriefing assisted by two police officers from Milwaukee Police Department also trained in Critical Incident Stress Management. I made myself available to talk to anyone in her department following who wanted to talk about her or the incident.

Most law enforcement chaplains do a “ride-along” with officers on duty to get to know them personally. That time alone also is a time that an officer can talk privately with a chaplain about any personal issues and job related stressful experiences which might be bothering them.1 Chaplains also will stop in at police roll-calls to provide a visible presence for officers about to start their shifts of work. In my work as a law enforcement chaplain I have visited police officers who are recuperating from illness or injury as well as officiated at an officer’s funeral or officer’s family member’s funeral following their deaths, (when that officer doesn’t have a faith community or clergy.) I have also been asked to officiate at a police officer’s weddings and baptize their small infant children when needed.

Jail Chaplaincy

In the United States, each state has several counties, and each county has a county-wide sheriff’s department. Each sheriff’s department has a local jail in which people who have violated the law are initially incarcerated. If the criminal offense is a serious charge, i.e., a felony, the offender may then be sentenced to either a state or federal prison. Many of the sheriff’s department jails have a volunteer chaplain who is present in the jail when needed to provide a listening presence for jail corrections officers as well as inmates. Some jail chaplains may also offer Bible studies and a worship service for inmates. In our State and Federal prisons, chaplains are actually employees of that correctional institution and work a paid part-time or full-time position. Their role and in the prison system is very similar to the role of a county sheriff’s jail chaplain.

As a police chaplain it is not uncommon to be asked to help out providing invocations at regional or citywide law enforcement memorial services offered once a year to honor and remember all the officers who had previously died in the line of duty. As my own Police Chief is retiring at the end of December 2109, I have been asked to also provide an invocation/blessing at his retirement party in January of 2020.

Training requirements:

For the many chaplains I have trained and have known, having specialized training in “How to Make Compassionate Death Notifications” as well as “Talking to People in Crisis” are essential [1-2].

Training in making death notifications can also be obtained through law enforcement chaplain training organizations.

Although not required, many chaplains in the United States pick up additional training in the field of Critical Incident Stress Management. There are many specialized courses in Critical Incident Stress Management which include training in individual and peer support, small group crisis intervention as well as large group crisis intervention techniques. Some law enforcement chaplains also take seminars on Peer Support for law enforcement officers to help them be more effective in their role as chaplains.

Because law enforcement officers possess a unique culture, and to have what some refer to as “mutual fluency”, they are often misunderstood and sometimes extend little trust to those outside of their professional circles. Therefore, it is important for a person seeking to be a law enforcement chaplain to earn the trust of the officers that they seek to serve and to understand and appreciate that culture unique to police officers. It is also important that the chaplain understand that their job as chaplain is, above all, to provide a “ministry of presence” to those they serve. (It is often not what a chaplain says that is most helpful to officers and citizens but

1 All conversations between an officer and a chaplain should be confidential except when that officer might verbally threaten to harm himself/herself or someone else. What is best to do given this situation is to “be the bridge” as a chaplain and actively help them seek the help of a police psychologist. Because the local police chaplain has a history and continuity with his/her department, they can continue to check on the officer in distress and be there for them to support and encourage them when needed.
the kind, compassionate and empathetic presence as a person of faith can bring a great deal of comfort to those in distress).

We live in a multi-cultural world and a law enforcement chaplain needs to be sensitive to the diversity of people they serve. Chaplains in the United States as in other countries, will meet officers and citizens who do not have a religious belief and who may not be interested in having one. Chaplains will also encounter people of faith traditions different than their own, and because of that they need to be respectful of those who have different beliefs than them. Most Chaplains serving law enforcement in the United States are trained not to “proselytize”, that is, try and convert vulnerable people following tragic events to that chaplain’s particular set of beliefs. Seeking to convert people already victimized by tragic circumstances is arguably predatory behavior and is not a good practice. If officers and citizens desire to talk to a chaplain about faith issues that is appropriate, but it is important that those conversations be initiated by the person seeking information or spiritual guidance.

I ask officers and victims for whom I am providing pastoral care if they would like me to pray with them, and most truly appreciate the prayers, but some do not, and that is ok. Chaplaincy in law enforcement is a ministry of planting the seeds of compassion and goodwill. Police chaplains working with a local police department can also help to foster trust between citizens and the police who serve and protect them.

**Benefits**

Because law enforcement chaplains in the United States are either serving as pastors in their communities or are members of a faith based organization, they help to create a natural bridge between law enforcement and citizens in the community. Community policing in the United States helps to create cooperation, and build trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. Community policing encourages law enforcement officers to be active in the communities they serve in ways that help officers to get to know some of the citizens and citizens to get to know the officers. Chaplains, because they are respected, and trusted members of their local communities, help to foster positive relationships between law enforcement officers and the citizens in the communities that they serve. Some chaplains serving local churches in the United States will have special worship services or prayer services where local police officers are invited to attend. At those services prayers and words of encouragement are offered up for the officers, and it gives officers and congregation members opportunities to get to know each other and fellowship together. When law enforcement officers get support from their communities it helps to bolster the officers’ morale. Some police chaplains also offer Bible studies for officers when it is desired.

There are many benefits for having trained law enforcement chaplains working with their police departments in their local communities. I have had many police chiefs of various police departments tell me that they didn’t know how they did without police chaplains in the past. In the midst of difficult and sometimes tragic situations chaplains can provide spiritual guidance where it is sought, a positive, hopeful spirit and presence where it is needed, and a non-judgmental listening ear where an officer or citizen needs to talk, and a voice reminding officers that their work as officers has a real purpose and does make a difference in people’s lives.

I have experienced my own police chaplaincy is truly ministry in the “trenches”, ministry to those needing pastoral care in the most difficult and hopeless times of their lives. It is in the crucible of life’s difficulties and dark moments that this ministry becomes meaningful and filled with purpose and that ministry only enriches the church ministry in which I am involved.

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**Summary**

This article reviews the roles, responsibilities, required training and benefit of having a trained law enforcement chaplain working with a police department in the United States. The author draws from his extensive experience as a law enforcement chaplain as well as a law enforcement trainer in addressing this issue. Although it is hard to quantify the value of chaplaincy programs in law enforcement, the author discusses the benefits a law enforcement chaplain brings to his or her police department and the communities in which they serve.

**Keywords**: chaplain, police, community, USA, training, assistance, scene, victim, convicted.