

Marietta Police Department



*Policing with a 21st Century Vision:
A Blueprint for the future*

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MPD Philosophy

It is the philosophy of the Marietta Police Department to provide professional services to our community through the combined efforts of a committed team of men and women working together toward one common objective: providing high quality, efficient and effective service to all citizens. We display professionalism, honesty, integrity and courage at all times in the performance of our duties.

We dedicate ourselves to the protection of life and property by forming a partnership with our community, providing a foundation for the prevention of crime by employing all available resources. We earn trust and respect by being sensitive to the needs of the community, adopting collaborative approaches to public safety and operating with a high degree of transparency.

We are committed to the highest standards of professional training, providing our men and women with the tools to meet their career goals and satisfy the needs of our citizens. We foster a culture, which promotes a career of honor with personal and professional growth and achievement.

We enforce all local, state, and federal laws equally while protecting the constitutional liberties of our citizens. We remain committed to excellence and are ever vigilant in our endeavor to serve and protect the community.



Strategically Advancing Policing

Strategically transitioning into 2016, the mission of the Marietta Police Department will be to continue our drive to evolve from fundamental crime-fighting and crime prevention to comprehensive public safety guardianship by addressing all situations that menace or threaten the physical, financial or commercial safety of Marietta citizens. Serving as guardians of the community and providing training programs to the public on traditional and contemporary public safety topics, teams of MPD personnel will continue to research and acquire training in emerging practices by which the public can not only learn how to keep themselves, their homes and businesses safer, but also master techniques with which they can most effectively partner with the police in matters of public safety in order to keep the entire community safe.

In terms of present and future technology, the MPD will continue to stay abreast of emerging technologies as well as all capabilities and internet applications that have potential public safety benefits. The department will remain cognizant of the difference between technology and products and comply with professional procurement policies and procedures while evaluating, selecting and purchasing technology-based products.

In the area of police-community relations, the MPD will continue with a twofold approach. First, the department will reach out, engage, and “give voice” to citizens of all elements of Marietta, e.g., the residential, faith, education, elderly, business, medical, and industrial communities. For each element showing sufficient interest, the department will provide self-perpetuating programs to encourage broad transparency and close relationships. In addition to recurring community programs, the department will monitor public safety training needs and interests and provide occasional public seminars, tabletop and full-scale training exercises designed to enhance public safety through citizen involvement.

Finally, at the same time the MPD works to perfect community partnerships and public safety training, in the national context there has been a new trend of concerns about police transparency and accountability to the public. To address the concern, the MPD has developed and subscribes to a “Citizen’s Bill of Rights for Police Accountability”. It has since been adopted by the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police and resolved by the Georgia General Assembly.

Crime Prevention

The Foundation of Modern Policing

Based on the premise that the police are far more effective in serving the community by preventing crime than doing an excellent job of solving crime once it has already occurred, the Marietta Police Department's top priority is crime prevention. In accordance with the community policing principles and philosophy, MPD officers are committed to perfecting partnerships with all of the community groups we serve. Thus, we encourage all residents to become involved with the police department to stay informed about what is happening in and around their neighborhoods.

Following is a cadre of on-going MPD programs and initiatives designed to prevent crime by building community trust in the police and promote a collaborative partnership, preventing crime together:

- **Crime Free Housing Program**

The crime-free housing program was developed to create a coalition among police, property managers and residents of rental properties to work together to keep crime out of rental properties. It involves a certification process for properties that are participating. Part of the program requires rental agreements including a crime free lease addendum listing specific crimes, which if committed by a lessee, will result in immediate termination of the resident's lease. For more information contact Officer Colquitt at 770-795-2361 or by email at AColquitt@mariettaga.gov.



- **Marietta Strategically Targeting Areas with Resources (M-STAR) Program**

M-STAR is unique because it incorporates two proven community policing strategies: criminal statistical analysis and neighborhood policing. It unites the resources of police expertise in identifying the root causes of certain crimes with neighborhood teamwork focused on eradicating those roots. This "best of both worlds" initiative has established Marietta as a pilot platform for others to study and emulate. Citizens can learn more about M-STAR and view the most recent view the M-STAR Updates @ <https://www.mariettaga.gov/city/police/services/qualityoflife>.

- **Community Outreach Police Services (COPS) Area Program**

The goal of the COPS area program is to enhance the quality of community life in the city of Marietta by establishing an active partnership between residents and police. Active involvement by citizens in watching, caring for and protecting their neighborhoods deters and reduces crime, which increases the safety of the lives and property of residents. The COPS area program is a crime prevention program that teaches citizens techniques to reduce the risk of being victimized at home and in public, trains citizens on the importance of recognizing suspicious activities and how to report them, allows neighbors to get to know one another and their routines so any out-of-place activity can be reported and investigated. It also creates cohesive bodies of concerned citizens to address issues that are important to the entire community. To learn more visit: <https://www.mariettaga.gov/city/police/getinvolved/copsprogram>

- **Town Hall Meetings**

Town Hall meetings are hosted quarterly for each patrol zone of the city. Hosted by the Police Major responsible for each patrol zone, the meetings are arranged to discuss current issues in the area and inform citizens on what the department is doing to enhance the community safety. The meetings are announced on several social media outlets. To find out what zone you live in please log on to: <https://www.mariettaga.gov/city/police/services/qualityoflife>

- **Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**

CPTED is defined as a multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through environmental design. CPTED strategies rely upon the ability to influence offender decisions that precede criminal acts by modifying or fortifying the physical, social and administrative environment. MPD officers certified in the application of CPTED techniques reach out to local residents, businesses, apartment complexes and churches when they feel a CPTED evaluation and recommendations would help prevent future victimization. CEPTED evaluations are free of charge and results remain confidential between the affected citizens and MPD. To learn more visit: <https://www.mariettaga.gov/city/police/getinvolved/copsprogram>.

- **Nixel**

Nixel is a text and email notification system used for community engagement and emergency notifications. MPD uses Nixel to notify residents of road closures, traffic accidents, upcoming events, missing persons, etc. To sign up for Nixel please visit their website at www.Nixel.com.



- **SafeTrade Program**

Located at the police department headquarters. The SafeTrade program provides a safe place for online buyers and sellers of goods to meet and complete their transactions in a safe environment where help is readily available. This program was developed in response to a growing trend of crimes that were committed against those looking to do business through these online portals. While the police department will not become involved in transactions, if requested, officers will screen items to ensure they are not stolen. The lobby of the police department and the front parking lot is open 24hrs a day and is video recorded. For any questions contact Officer K. Wallace at (770) 794-5370 or by email at Kwallace@mariettaga.gov.



- **Drug Take Back Drop Box**

Throughout the year, the Marietta Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) come together and host multiple opportunities to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Dates are announced through the social media. MPD also has a drop box available every day of the year for pill disposal. Contact the front desk for more information at (770) 794-5300.

- **Anonymous Tip Line (770) 794-6990**

The Marietta Police Department maintains a telephone line that allows callers who wish to remain anonymous to leave information regarding criminal activity. Callers are encouraged to leave as much information as possible. The caller may leave their name and telephone number if they wish. All information received from the public will be kept confidential.

- **Vacation Zone Patrol Log**

If you are going on vacation and would like police/volunteers to zone patrol your home please contact the MPD Records Section at (770) 794-5300. Multiple times each week, citizen volunteers check on resident's homes while they are out of town when police are unable to due to call volume.



Community Engagement

The foundation of building trust in the police

The Marietta Police Department offers several programs that promote transparency by inviting the community into the department and encouraging citizens to feel a part of their police department. MPD programs have grown over the past two years and continue to increase throughout the year. Listed below are programs that are offered and how to get more information on each.

- **Volunteer Program**

The Volunteer Program was developed to allow citizens to come into the police department and assist with programs that improve the overall function of the department. Participants assist detectives, neighborhood patrols, Cobb Elder Abuse Task Force, the District Attorney's Office, community outreach and the municipal court. If you are interested in volunteering at MPD please contact Officer Gunkle at JGunkle@mariettaga.gov or by phone at (770) 794-5353.



- **Internship Program**

The Internship Program offers internships to college students on an ongoing basis. The goal is to provide hands-on educational experiences for students interested in a career in law enforcement. Interns gain valuable insight into law enforcement career possibilities while pursuing academic goals. Benefits of an internship include college credit for work experience and training as well as the satisfaction in giving back to the community. For more information on the internship program contact Officer Baldwin at DBaldwin@mariettaga.gov or by phone at (770) 794-5356.



- **Police Explorers**

Police Explorers is a program for young men and women interested in learning about careers in law enforcement. Explorers learn about career opportunities and duties in a classroom environment and through hands-on field experiences. Topics covered include police duties, forensic sciences, self-defense, investigations and firearms. For requirement entry and information log on to



<http://www.mariettaga.gov/city/police/getinvolved/explorers>. For any other questions contact Officer Colquitt at (770) 794-2361 or by email at AColquitt@mariettaga.gov.

- **Ride-A-Long Program**

MPD offers the Ride-A-Long program to allow citizens to observe officers performing their duties. Citizens wanting to participate in a ride along can come to the police department and pick up a Ride-A-Long packet which will be returned to a Police Services Representative. The application will be reviewed by MPD staff and the ride-a long scheduled. To sign up for the Ride-A-Long Program, please contact the MPD Records Section at (770) 794-5300 and ask for the Deputy Chief of Uniform Patrol.

- **Police Athletic League (PAL)**

The worldwide PAL program is designed to utilize sports as a basis for positive interaction between police officers and children. PAL works to provide participants a foundation for good decision making. Marietta PAL has sponsored soccer, basketball, swimming, martial arts, track and cheerleading. For more questions on how to register your child for PAL contact Daneea Badio at DBadio@mariettaga.gov or by phone at (770) 794-2365.



- **School Resource Officers**

The Marietta Police Department utilizes four officers to work as a liaison between law enforcement and the Marietta school community. With three officers at the city high school and one at the middle school, these officers have an excellent opportunity to engage the youth of our city on a near daily basis. From teaching students various topics to assisting administration with programs and off campus activities our School Resource Officers play a vital role in our school system. Along with teaching and serving as an example for youth of all ages our resource officers mentor and challenge students to go further and do better. These officers are pivotal in maintaining our relationship with some of the youngest members of our community.



- **Law Enforcement Services Career Pathway**

In a pilot program, an MPD Officer has cross trained and is a certified teacher; teaching at Marietta High School. His curriculum is Law Enforcement and he engages more than fifty students a semester that have varying levels of interest in a career within this field. Our officer gets to provide valuable learning experiences to students from an academic standpoint but with the context of real life experience. The opportunity is invaluable for the students and a true highlight for our department. For more information on this program, contact the front desk at (770) 794-5300 and ask for CRU.



Training Citizens to be Safe

Beyond Community Policing

The Marietta Police Department strives to ensure the safety throughout the city by educating the community. In the past year, crime in the city of Marietta has decreased significantly and MPD believes part of that is due to giving the community the knowhow on what they can do to protect themselves and others. Listed below are the seminars and courses available to the citizens of Marietta throughout the year.

- **Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) Seminar**

Participants will receive instruction about how to prepare for and act during an active shooter event. Simple steps that can both limit the number of potential victims accessible to the shooter and assist emergency responders are discussed. This seminar is hosted periodically throughout the year.



- **Firearm Safety Seminar**

Participants will learn about firearm safety, firearm laws, recommended home defense weapons, civilian model stun guns and carry/use of pepper spray. This seminar is hosted quarterly.



- **Social Media Seminar**

Participants will be taught about social media security and how to protect one's self from becoming a victim. This seminar is hosted periodically throughout the year.

- **Teacher's Active Shooter Seminar**

Educators and school staff are provided with important information on what to expect when an active shooter event does occur. Additional topics include:

- Items within the classroom that can be used to protect you and your students.
- Ways to secure a classroom to deny the shooter access.
- Interaction with law enforcement and emergency service personnel.

This seminar is held periodically throughout the year.

- **Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) Women’s Self-Defense Course**

RAD is a simple yet effective self-defense course for women only. The curriculum focuses on techniques which are simple, effective and which have been proven useful in a self-defense situation. The course is designed for women of all ages and fitness levels. R.A.D. is a twelve-hour course delivered over four three-hour classes. Participation in all four classes is necessary to complete the course. This course is held four times a year.

- **RadKids**

Radkids is a personal empowerment safety education course which includes a 10 hour curriculum for children ages 5 to 7. Topics covered include: bully prevention; internet, home, school, vehicle and outdoor safety. Tricks commonly used by predators as well as physical resistance strategies against child abduction are covered. This course is held three times during the year.



- **Citizen’s Police Academy**

This program provides an opportunity for the citizens of Marietta to have the chance to experience what it is like to be a police officer. During the program, participants will get an inside look at various units within the police department including Crime Analysis, Narcotics, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Crime Interdiction Unit, Investigative Services, Traffic Enforcement, Community Response Unit, Crime Scene Processing, and more. This program is offered 2-3 times a year and last 10 weeks meeting only one night a week. For more information contact Officer Baldwin at (770) 794-5356 or by email at DBaldwin@Mariettaga.gov.



- **Pastor’s Police Academy**

The Pastor’s Police Academy was conceptualized to reach out to leaders of faith-based organizations to increase mutual understanding and resolve any community concerns. The Pastor’s Police Academy is held twice a year and meets for two hours, once a week for four weeks. Throughout these four weeks pastors study the law, judgmental use of force, cybercrime, and other related current topics. Pastors are welcome to ask questions, contribute new ideas, voice concerns or discuss contemporary police–community related issues while attending these sessions. For more information contact Officer Colquitt at (770) 794-2361 or by email at Acolquitt@Mariettaga.gov.

- **Pastor's Advisory Group**

To participate in the Pastor's Advisory Group a pastor must attend and complete the Pastor's Police Academy. The advisory group meets quarterly with the Chief of Police and CRU staff to discuss current issues in the community and thoughts on how to improve the community. For more information contact Officer Colquitt at (770) 794-2361 or by email @ AColquitt@mariettaga.gov.



- **Safety Talks**

The MPD Community Response Unit meets with Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups in the city or at the Marietta Police Department to talk about overall safety. The unit will discuss topics from safe bicycle riding to stranger danger. To request a visit from our officers or for a tour at the Marietta Police Department contact Sgt. Mixon at (770) 794-5358 or by email at Bmixon@Mariettaga.gov.



Upcoming **seminar/course dates** will be posted on Facebook: Marietta, Georgia Police Department and the City of Marietta Website <http://www.mariettaga.gov>. Instructions on how to RSVP will also be listed with the date announcements.

Citizen's Bill of Rights for Police Accountability



Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police Citizen's Bill of Rights for Police Accountability

Georgia Citizens Can and Should Expect Their Police Departments to:

Be Transparent. Police Agencies must willingly comply with State Open Records Laws. Police departments must not impede or unnecessarily delay public access to public records that concern police conduct.

Be Open. Police Agencies must provide proper notice through public announcements of police uses of force resulting in death and in-police custody death. Likewise, they must provide public notice of decisions to criminally and administratively charge or exonerate officers involved in police use-of-force-related or in-custody deaths.

Be Thorough. Agencies must establish and maintain fair, impartial, and objective internal or external systems for receiving and investigating citizen complaints of police misconduct. Every investigation should be thorough and all findings should be documented. Every investigation must be concluded and a final disposition of the allegations made within a reasonable period of time. Final dispositions must be based on a preponderance of evidence standard and must indicate whether the allegation has been sustained, not sustained, unfounded or exonerated. Once a final disposition on each allegation is reached, the public must be entitled to obtain copies or to otherwise review the results. Personal or identifying information about officers (e.g. birth dates, spouses, children, social security numbers, home addresses, etc.) shall be redacted in compliance with state law. Citizens must be provided access to view finalized police discipline files as allowed by state open records laws.

Be Fair to the Officer. Police Agencies should commence administrative action against officers, including those involving suspensions, demotions, terminations of employment, or loss of certifications only when the investigation has yielded evidence sufficient to sustain findings that the officer has violated laws, policies, or agency rules. To sustain such charges, the findings must be based upon a preponderance of the evidence standard. Discipline or other administrative action must be proportional to the severity of the violation, and must not be administered in an arbitrary or capricious manner or one that discriminates on any illegal basis or on any basis other than one that is rationally connected with the result.

Exhibit a Proper Sense of Urgency. Upon the occurrence of a death in police custody or a death resulting from police use of force, every Police Agency should initiate and/or request an independent investigation of the incident. Such investigation may be a criminal or an administrative investigation. The purpose of the criminal investigation is to determine whether any laws have been violated. The purpose of the internal investigation is to determine whether any policy has been violated. These investigations may be conducted in the following manner:

- a. A criminal investigation conducted by a law enforcement agency with appropriate jurisdiction;
- b. An administrative investigation conducted through an independent internal investigation undertaken by the agency internal affairs department under the authority of the chief law enforcement official of the involved police agency; and/or
- c. A criminal investigation conducted by the prosecuting authority of the concerned jurisdiction. For criminal investigation, the District Attorney will determine whether the investigation should be presented to a Grand Jury of the concerned jurisdiction.