

RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT SCHEDULE OPTIONS

The following is an example of police coverage for a staffing level of one police chief and three full time officers:

Week 1

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Chief – off	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – off
Officer 1 - 10-10	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – 2-10	Officer 1 – 10-10	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off
Officer 2 -off	Officer 2 – 10-10	Officer 2 – 10-10	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – 10-10	Officer 2 – 10-10
Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5

Week 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Chief – off	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – off
Officer 1 - off	Officer 1 – 10-10	Officer 1 – 10-10	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – 10-10	Officer 1 – 10-10
Officer 2 -10-10	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – 2-10	Officer 2 – 10-10	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – off
Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5	Officer 3 – 9-5

As you can see, this schedule provides for at least one officer on duty every day from 10:00 AM until 10:00 PM. Weekdays are covered from 7:00 AM until 10:00 PM. These hours could be flexed to extend coverage until midnight if desired, but that would leave a gap in coverage from midnight on Saturday until noon on Sunday.

There is also room for part time officers to augment the regular schedule to provide for additional coverage during traditionally busy times, but those shifts aren't depicted here since they are not constant.

The drawback to this schedule, or any schedule with only 4 full time officers, is that it would be very difficult to have officers "on-call". Therefore, all of the coverage in off hours would be provided by Vermont State Police. VSP would respond to emergencies only, and there is no guarantee on the response time. The other drawback is that if an officer calls out sick or wishes to take leave time, there are limited coverage options to fill that shift vacancy.

In contrast, the following is an example of police coverage for a staffing level of one police chief and four full time officers:

Week 1

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Chief – off	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – off
Officer 1 - 12-12	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – 4-12	Officer 1 – 12-12	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off
Officer 2 -off	Officer 2 – 12-12	Officer 2 – 12-12	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – 12-12	Officer 2 – 12-12
Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – 9-7	Officer 3 – 9-7	Officer 3 – 9-7	Officer 3 – 9-7
Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 - off	Officer 4 - off

Week 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Chief – off	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – 7-3	Chief – off
Officer 1 - 12-12	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – 4-12	Officer 1 – 12-12	Officer 1 – off	Officer 1 – off
Officer 2 -off	Officer 2 – 12-12	Officer 2 – 12-12	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – off	Officer 2 – 12-12	Officer 2 – 12-12
Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – off	Officer 3 – 9-7	Officer 3 – 9-7	Officer 3 – 9-7	Officer 3 – 9-7
Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 – 8-4	Officer 4 - off	Officer 4 - off

With this schedule there is much more robust coverage, and accommodates for leave time and training opportunities without causing overtime. There is an officer on duty every day from no later than 9:00 AM until midnight. Having four full-time officers allows for there to be “on-call” coverage from the time that the night shift officer signs off until the time that the day shift officer signs on every night of the week.

This schedule also allows all officers to rotate shifts so each officer works both day and night shifts, and all officers have opportunity to have weekends off at some point.

There is also room for part time officers to augment the regular schedule to provide for additional coverage during traditionally busy times, but those shifts aren’t depicted here since they are not constant.

This is the schedule for which I would advocate because it affords the town the most police coverage and doesn’t rely at all on outside agencies to supplement police coverage. Response for anything while an officer is “on-call” is required to be no longer than 30 minutes from the time of the call and the residents can have a voice concerning what types of calls the police department would respond to during “on-call” times. As an example, the Vermont State Police may not respond to commercial burglar alarms after hours. If the Richmond Police Department were able to cover “on-call” hours, the residents and business owners would have a voice in what kinds of things they would like an immediate response to vs. things that can wait until an officer’s regular shift.

Note that the two examples above are for visual reference only. It may be necessary to make some modifications to ensure that the hours fit correctly into the pay period. No alteration of the schedules depicted would change the actual hours of police coverage, only which officer(s) is/are covering those hours.