powerdetails

Officer Wellness & Secondary Employment

Providing opportunity to earn additional income while protecting officers from exceeding their physical & mental limits in the line of duty

Secondary employment refers to Extra-Duty jobs, in which off-duty law enforcement officers provide their services to the local community.

While law enforcement officers arguably benefit the most from Secondary Employment opportunities, the additional income they earn can often come at the cost of their health and well-being.

The incentive to work more hours can push officers to exceed their physical and mental limits in the line of duty, which can lead to the development of fatigue.

What is Secondary Employment?

Secondary employment refers to Extra-Duty jobs, in which off-duty law enforcement officers provide their services to the local community.

Some examples include:

- Special events, such as concerts and sporting events
- Private venues such as movie theaters, restaurants, or churches

To prevent officer fatigue, law enforcement agencies must have the tools they need to enforce limits on Secondary Employment and promote policies that are both safe and fair.

Secondary Employment is a marketplace with 3 stakeholders



Businesses that desire security services from sworn law enforcement officers



Agencies who are responsible for the safety of the officers and the patrons of the businesses who hire them



Officers wishing to utilize their skills to increase their income and help their communities



Your Primary Partner for Secondary Employment

How to Promote Safety & Fairness

Fairness brings wellness!

Implementing a system that facilitates, measures, and corrects Extra-Duty employment issues may sound complex, but the PowerDetails platform makes it easy to manage these details and automatically enforces agency policies that promote safety and fairness.

1. Distribution

As your agency receives and approves job requests, PowerDetails will notify all eligible personnel and ensure that opportunities are distributed evenly between personnel, per your agency policies.

2. Policies

Accreditation groups such as CALEA offer secondary employment guidance in standard 22.2.5 - Extra Duty Employment. Having policies in place prevent officers from working too many hours and mitigates the risk of officer fatigue. It is also common for agencies to receive requests for public records that pertain to Extra-Duty Employment. Incidents during Extra-Duty shifts create the need for historical records.

For this reason, agencies must be able to locate and report the following information:

Location
Dates / Times
Personnel Names
Pay Rates
Hours Worked

3. Payments

How officers get paid matters a great deal. The system should avoid the following situations:

- Cash Payments
- Uncollected funds (Tracking Accounts Receivable to make sure each shift gets paid)
- Non-Standardized rates where some business might pay more to some officers over others

Best practices suggest that the agency collect payments and pay the officers via Payroll in a separate line item for "Extra Duty." These payments can be processed electronically, and officers receive 1099s for all wages received.

How to Identify Officer Fatigue

What is fatigue?

Fatigue can be caused by mental exertion, not just physical activity. And while fatigue is often temporary, it can also develop into unrelenting exhaustion that is not relieved by rest. When fatigue begins to impact an officer's psychological and emotional well-being, safety becomes a genuine concern.

1. Fatigue Effects & Impact

In 2018, the Fraternal Order of Police surveyed nearly 8,000 law enforcement officers and found that:

- 79% of participants have suffered critical stress in the line of duty
- 69% of participants reported that stressful experiences developed into unresolved/lingering emotional issues
- 90% of participants believe there is a stigma in law enforcement that prevents officers from seeking mental health treatment

2. Fatigue Treatment & Prevention

How can the law enforcement industry take action against fatigue? 73% of the participants in the Fraternal Order of Police survey considered Peer Support as the most helpful form of treatment. In order to make peer support more accessible, there must be cultural changes in Law Enforcement that promote and support officer wellness.

Some ways that agencies can provide better support include:

- Talking openly about mental health
- Being conscious of language when discussing officer wellness
- Educating officers about mental health and how to identify signs of fatigue



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