

Provincetown Police Department

Chief of Police Ted Meyer

(508) 487-1219

policechief@provincetown-ma.gov

MEMO

May 13, 2004

To: All Personnel

Fr: Chief Ted Meyer

Re: Security Planning – Monday, May 17, 2004

Issue

- We expect a heavy national and international press turnout on Monday, May 17 according to info received from numerous sources. We've fielded a number of calls about parking. NECN is planning to have a large unit here all weekend - parked on the Pier. While we do not expect any unusual security problems, nor have we received intelligence to the contrary, we want to be prepared for contingencies. Currently we have no negative intelligence that might cause alarm other than the crush of press and happy couples!

Plans of Action

- There will be a general staff meeting Friday, May 14th at 2 p.m. in the Judge Welsh Room to review as a group final preparations being made for the week of May 17th and the implementation of the Goodridge decision on same-sex marriages.
- Preparations made by the Town Clerk, Tourism, Police, Parking, and Public Works Departments regarding processing of marriage licenses, media relations, security issues, etc. will be discussed.
- Parking Dept will bag all meters on Ryder St indicating "Tow Zone - Police and Press Parking Only". The meters will be bagged Sunday night and the night patrols will be expected to find owners of vehicles not moved or tow them. The signs will indicate no parking 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. There has been discussion about leaving open slots for those desiring to do other business in Town Hall. It is determined that the

priority is the business at hand and people will have to exercise patience or return another day.

- Ryder Street will be closed to through traffic at 6 a.m. as satellite trucks arrive for parking. (We will use our sawhorses and those from DPW) DPW will barricade the street at 3:00 a.m.
- Two officers will be assigned at 6:00 a.m. They will work on either end of Ryder assisting with press parking and providing information to others such as tour buses who need to know they will go to Standish, drop passengers at the Chamber of Commerce and park on the Pier as designated earlier by DPW and Pier Manager.
- Overflow satellite truck parking will take place on Ryder Ext. at the Transportation Center. Ryder Ext will be open to Cabral's from Commercial only. It will be blocked from the park to the edge of Cabral's parking lot and from the edge of the MPL to the corner by the Chamber of Commerce. A barrel will block an opening on the east side with a sign indicating Press Parking only. An officer will be on duty at that location (Chamber of Commerce) to direct press traffic and others, especially tour buses. Cabral has been advised his customers will only be able to exit or access on Ryder Ext. to Commercial. Vehicles not wanting to park at Cabral's will be able to turn and exit to Commercial.
- Further overflow news vehicles will be directed to park along the barrier at the MPL.
- Police patrols will provide special watch at the Pier this weekend.
- Vehicles using the MPL will access or egress on Standish.
- P&B buses will park on the Pier but also drop and pick up at the Chamber of Commerce.
- A third officer will be stationed inside Town Hall to assist with protecting the sanctity of marriage activities as outlined by the Town Clerk Doug Johnstone. This officer will also be responsible for monitoring press passes and all persons coming into the Town Hall. We will try to have a trooper available for support inside.
- The Chief and Staff Sergeant will manage all security activities.
- Major Mike Crisp of the State Police graciously will supply the Community Action Team (CAT) comprised of 6 motorcycle officers to help with traffic and security on Monday. They are highly experienced in crowd control and are scheduled to arrive shortly before 8. They will be under the command of Sgt. Mike McNamara. Major Crisp also will see if a patrol unit is available and he might attend as well. We are very appreciative of our associates in MSP and have made arrangements to provide lunch for the officers at the Landmark Restaurant.
- As is now known, we do not expect to see the Rev Fred Phelps crew but we also do not know if any other groups will decide to come up. Should dissenters, picketers or others appear on the scene, they will be directed to the BAS Relief where they

may exercise their freedom of speech rights. They will not be permitted to block sidewalks or streets such as congregating in front of Town Hall. Disruptions will be treated firmly and barring compliance upon lawful request of officers, violators will be subject to arrest.

- Sheriff Cummings will be providing us with one of his prisoner transporters as he did for the 4th of July along with 2 officers.
- The Press Conference is scheduled for 10 a.m. in the auditorium of Town Hall. Members of the media who possess press identification will be allowed upstairs at 9:00 a.m. to set up through either the elevator on the west side or east side stairway by the Tourism office. Those outside in identifying proper members of the press will support the officers inside.
- All barricades will be removed upon the exit of a majority of press vehicles.

Doug Johnstone

From: dcahqz [dcahqz@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2004 7:10 PM
To: Doug Johnstone
Subject: SECURITY ISSUE FOR 5/17

Doug,

My mind may in a little bit of overdrive regarding security issues for the 17th, but it is a worthwhile concern and I'm sure you would want to know.

Did you have any discussion about potential bomb threats? I believe the Police Dept. has a written protocol that contains a series of questions the recipient would ask the caller should a threat be called in. Perhaps that protocol could be made available at the main phone stations (eg. Town Manager's office and Town Clerk's desk), as well as recommended guidelines provided by the P.D. regarding notification and evacuation procedures should such an incident arise.

You're doing a terrific job and should be proud of yourself for all your good work.

Doug