



**MYRTLE BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
& OPERATING PROCEDURES**

Subject: *Controlled Consumption of Alcohol for
Undercover Assignments*

Number: 218-A

Effective Date: January 1, 2001

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Rescinds: 216
218 – Controlled Consumption...

Dated: 10-30-1998
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Approved By:

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the control of alcohol consumption by officers operating in undercover capacities so that officers can accomplish job requirements while remaining in compliance with the City Policy 0018 entitled "Drug-Free and Alcohol-Free Workplace".

II. DISCUSSION

The City Policy listed above allows for the possession and use of alcohol when authorized. The guidelines listed below set forth the limitations and restrictions placed upon police employees operating in an approved undercover operation. Nothing in this regulation should be construed to allow for the use of any other controlled substance.

III. REGULATION

- A. Officers operating in an approved capacity will be allowed to consume a maximum of two drinks containing alcoholic beverages (i.e. beer, wine, mixed drink/liquor). The officer is expected to consume the least amount possible in support of the operation.
- B. Approval for the consumption of any alcoholic beverage under this regulation must come from a supervisory officer (Lieutenant or above) who has thoroughly reviewed the operational plan and has accepted supervisory responsibility over the operation.
- C. Alcoholic beverages will be purchased with approved department funds only and will be regulated by the existing regulations and procedures.

- D. Officers approved for the consumption of alcoholic beverages under this regulation are restricted from operating a motor vehicle until a period of four hours has elapsed from the last time of consumption.
- E. No official police enforcement action is allowed (absent a serious, life-threatening situation) by the officer consuming an alcoholic beverage(s) while in the undercover capacity and for a period of four hours after last consuming an alcoholic beverage.
- F. No officer will be required to consume alcoholic beverages if medical or personal issues conflict with the use of alcohol.
- G. The controlled consumption of alcohol under this regulation will be documented in detail in the incident report and/or case file generated by the undercover operation.