

Do you know who the KCPD Chaplains are and what they do?

Currently there are 13 Chaplains. We are all ordained pastors or priests representing a variety of denominations. We are volunteers; we are not paid. We are civilians, but sworn. We do this work because we have great respect for you and admiration for the work that you do, and believe that you, who "protect and serve," deserve to be served as well.

Our mission is to serve and support you in any way that we can. You may believe in God; you may not. You may be part of a faith tradition; you may not. Maybe you grew up in a church, a synagogue, or a mosque but haven't darkened the door in a long time. Perhaps you have never been involved with religion. You may be a believer, an agnostic, or an atheist. We want to serve all of you.

Our mission is not to proselytize or evangelize. In no way do we promote our denomination. Our only mission is to serve and support you when and if you need or want it.

We're happy to explore spiritual questions if that's what's on your mind. Do you ever wonder where God is when you're dealing with a horrible crime scene? If God is a loving God, why do terrible things happen to innocent people? We know your work is tremendously stressful and unpredictable. We can pray with you if you want prayer. We can listen when you want to talk with someone who is bound by confidentiality.

A Chaplain is on-call 24/7 and Chaplains are assigned to each patrol division. You can reach out by phone, text, or KCPD email to any Chaplain, any time day or night, not just those assigned to your patrol division. A Chaplain list may be found on the KCPD website.

So what else do we do? We make station visits, go to roll calls, and do ride-alongs. We officiate at weddings, funerals, and baptisms. We make hospital visits. We give invocations at the Board of Police Commissioners meetings, at Academy graduations, at promotion events, and whenever asked. We've been called to difficult scenes and can accompany you to support grieving and/or angry family members at death notifications.

Now I have a question that I hope some of you will answer. What else would you like us to do? How can KCPD Chaplains better serve and support you?

Blessings and Peace. Stay safe.

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