



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300

FAX 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

September 11, 1995

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report Item No. 46, regarding the policy on employees being assaulted by the public while on duty, Personnel Director Michael P. Gardner reports the following:

Employees who are assaulted while on duty and who receive injuries from such assaults are eligible for benefits under the Worker's Compensation program. The Police Department and affected department staff can be made available to investigate, as appropriate. The employee is encouraged to press criminal charges under circumstances where that appears appropriate. Time off is provided to allow the employee to press such claims.

Should a complaint be filed by a member of the public against our employee, alleging assault while on duty, the Law Department will make an independent inquiry into the facts to determine whether, in the totality of the circumstances, and in light of the known facts, it is appropriate for a City attorney to represent the employee in the initial defense of any criminal complaint.

We supply some of our most vulnerable employees (police officers and parking control officers, for example), with portable radios in order to enable them to call for assistance whenever threatened. They are also trained in conflict avoidance techniques.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec

Consent Agenda Item Number 19

Response to Awaiting Report Item Number
Forty-Six regarding the policy on
employees being assaulted by the public
while on duty.

*for original see
1995 City manager
Requests # 286.*

In City Council,

Sept. 11, 1995

Placed on file