



GENERAL POLICE ORDER CLEVELAND DIVISION OF POLICE



EFFECTIVE DATE: MARCH 1, 2002	REVISED DATE:	NO. PAGES: 1 of 1	NUMBER: 6.1.05
SUBJECT: ABANDONED BABY (72 HOURS OR LESS OF AGE)			
ASSOCIATED MANUAL:		RELATED ORDERS: 6.2.08	
CHIEF OF POLICE: <i>Edward F. Lohn, Chief</i>			

PURPOSE: To provide compliance with Ohio House Bill 660 that permits a parent to voluntarily deliver a child not more than 72 hours of age to an emergency medical service worker, peace officer or hospital employee.

POLICY: An officer of the Cleveland Division of Police shall accept possession of a child 72 hours or less of age and generate a Record Management System (RMS) report entitled Abandoned Baby.

PROCEDURES:

An officer who takes possession of a child shall take the following action:

- I. Perform any act necessary to protect the child’s health or safety.
- II. Notify 696-kids that a child has been taken into possession.
- III. If possible, give the parent who relinquishes the child the medical information forms concerning the child’s parents although there is no requirement for the parent to complete the forms. Also provide the pamphlet with services available to assist parents and newborns. Both are available at the Supply Unit.
- IV. Attempt to identify or pursue the person who delivered the child, if the child has suffered a physical or mental wound, injury, disability, or a condition that reasonably indicates abuse or neglect.
- V. Generate an RMS report entitled Abandoned Baby.

EFL/TAH/LM/pmz
Policy & Procedures Unit