

# Metropolitan Police Department □ Washington, D.C.



## SPECIAL ORDER



Subject:

**Witness Protection Program**

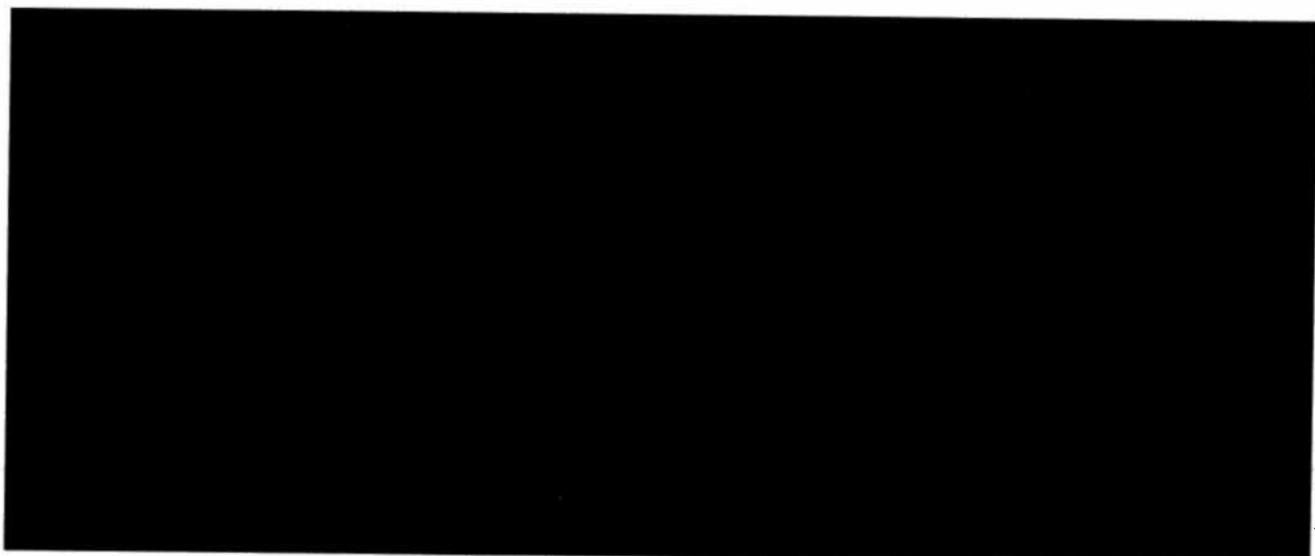
Series <b>91</b>	Number <b>14</b>	Distribution <b>A</b>
Effective Date <b>January 6, 1992</b>		
Expiration Date *		

With the increase of violent crime in the city, it is important that a safer environment be created to ensure that those who witness criminal activity feel a sense of security in giving testimony against those who commit crimes. Given the obvious fear experienced by prospective witnesses to a crime of violence, the department must be as responsible for the protection of witnesses as it is for the apprehension and prosecution of perpetrators. Clearly, witness intimidation cannot be tolerated. To that end, a Witness Protection Program has been instituted within this department and will be administered by the Intelligence Division, Investigative Services Bureau. This program will be coordinated with the Victim/Witness Assistance Unit of the United States Attorney's Office.

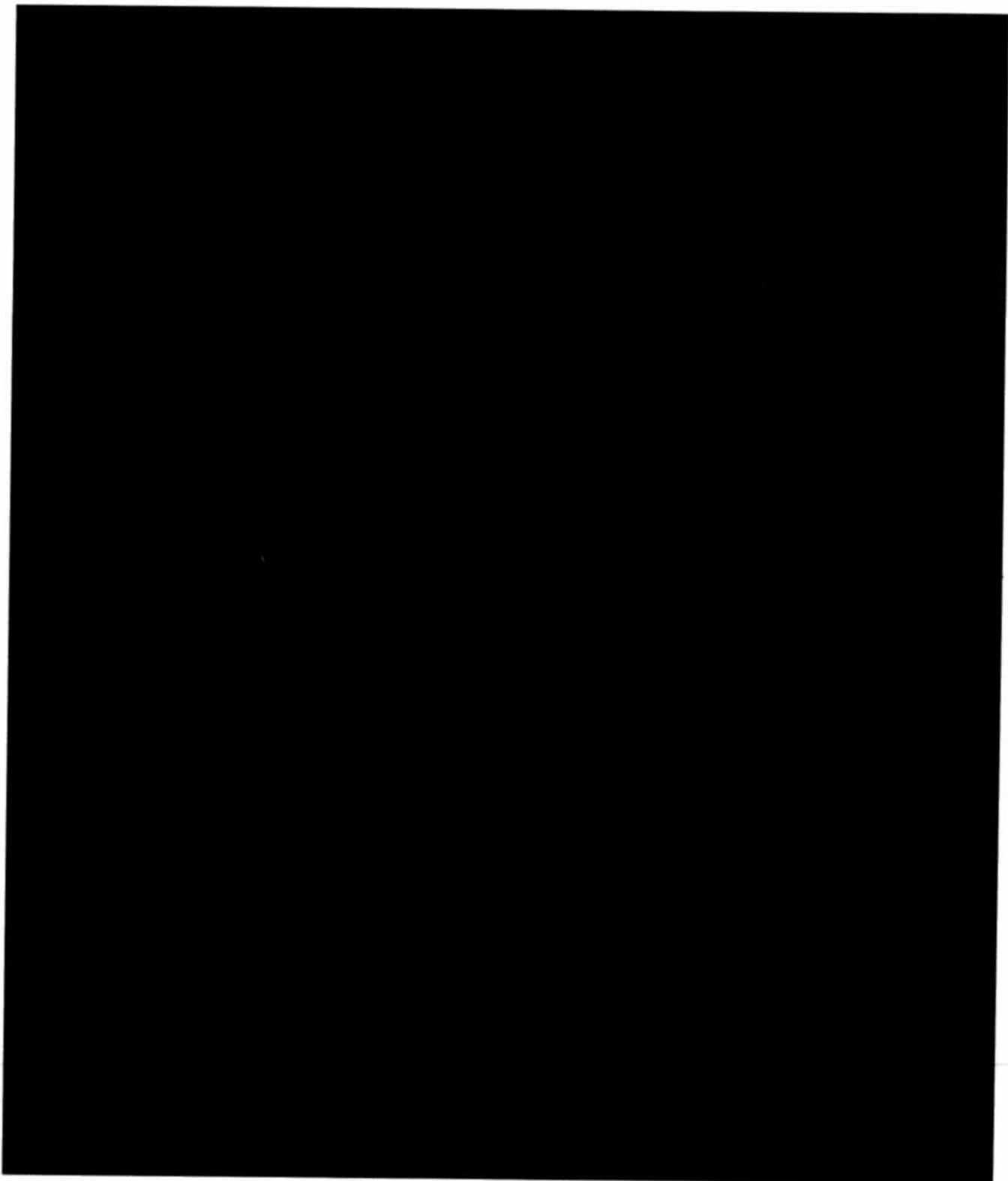
### PART I

#### A. Program Objectives.

The overall goal of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Witness Protection Program is to increase efforts to successfully prosecute criminals through the protection of witnesses and their families. When protection is warranted, this program will allow for an immediate response.



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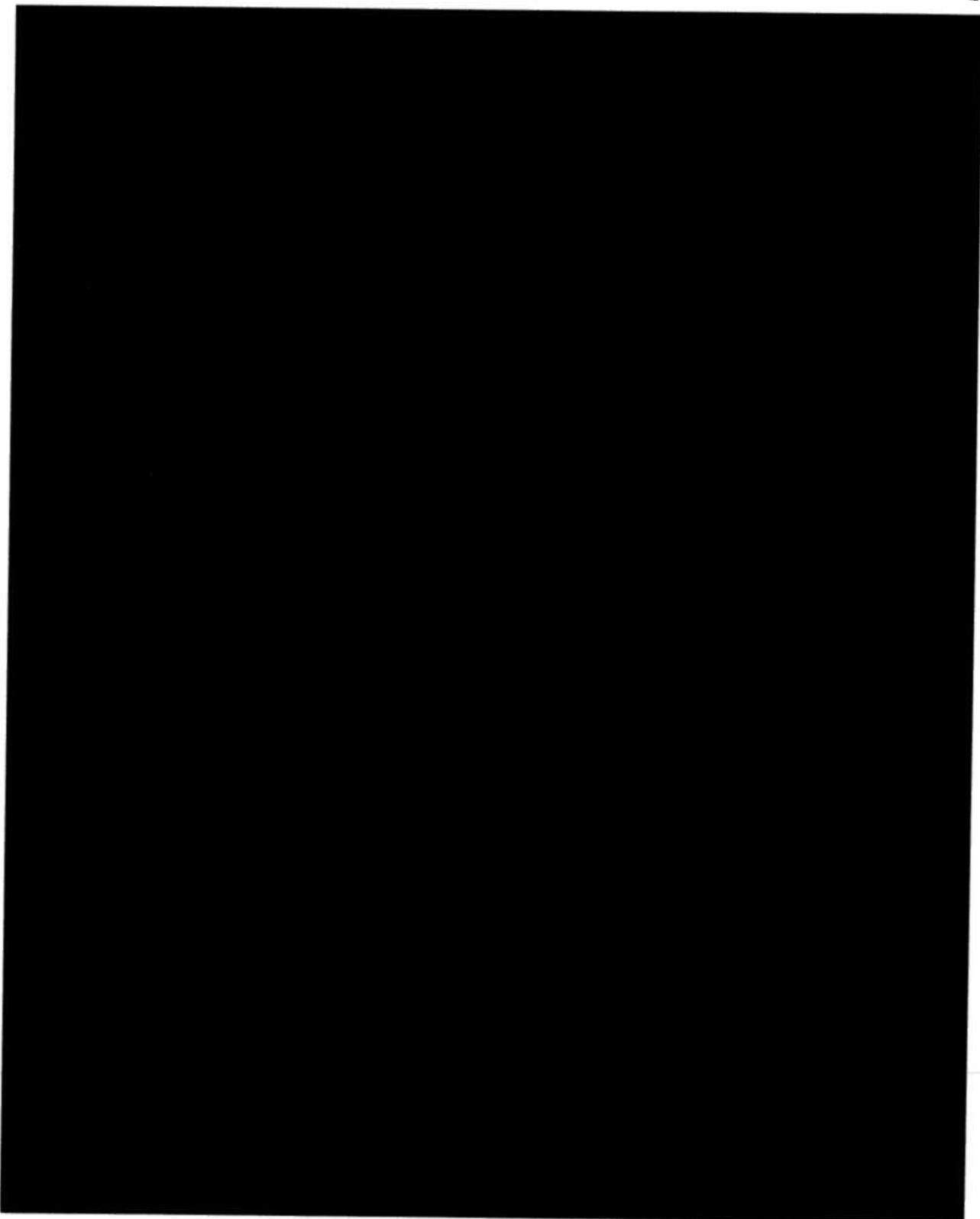
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**E.**



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**B. Director, Office of Finance and Resource Management.**

The Director of the Office of Finance and Resource Management shall:

1. Review reports from the Program Manager to ensure compliance with disbursement of funds.
2. Routinely confer with the Director, Intelligence Division, with respect to the availability of funds for the MPD Witness Protection Program.

**C. Commander, Domestic Security Branch, Intelligence Division.**



- a. Assess the situation and determine whether protection is warranted;

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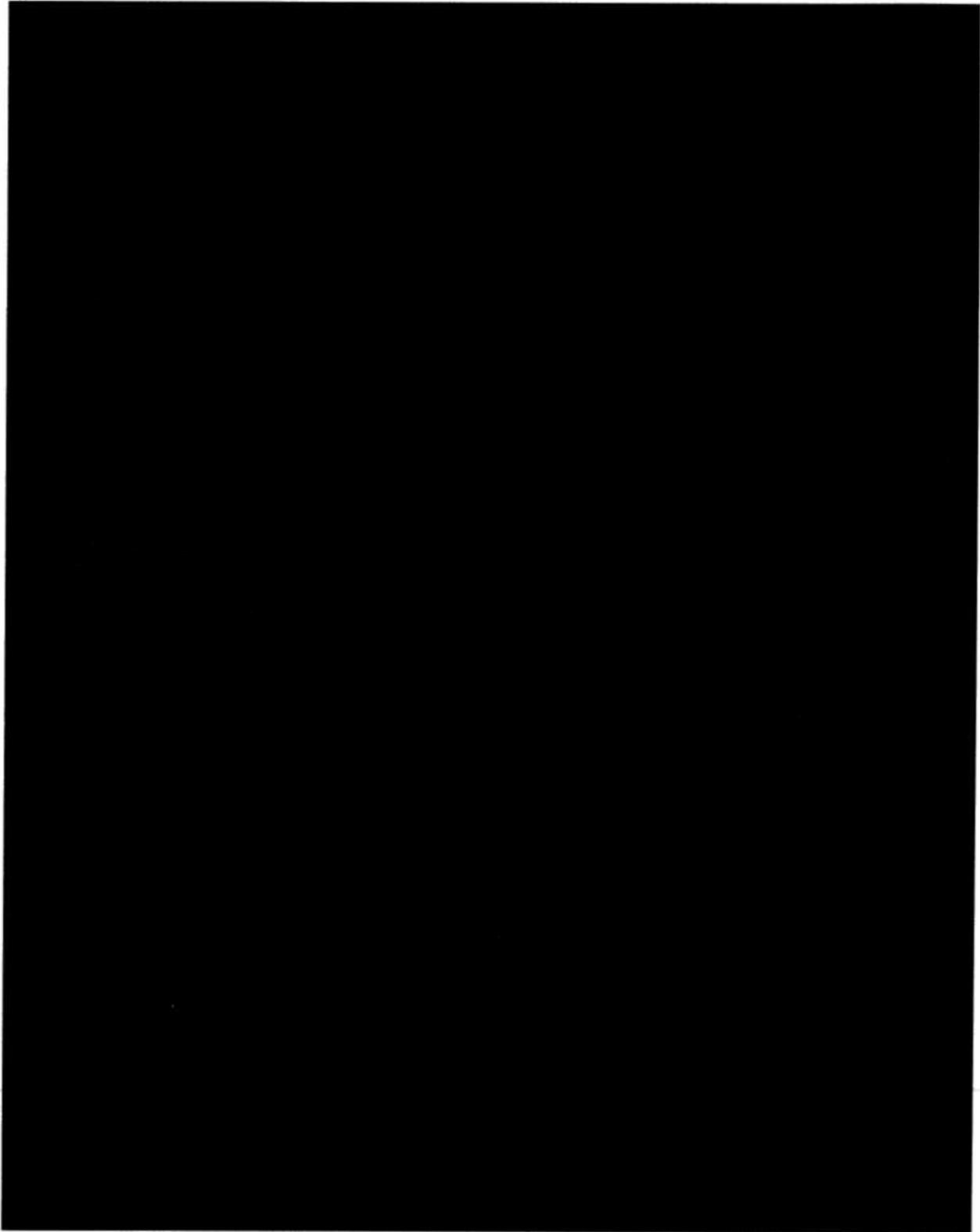
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- j. Prepare a memorandum of accountability for the Director, Office of Finance and Resource Management, outlining how funds were utilized;
- k. Ensure that each witness protection case is assigned to an investigator of the Intelligence Division;
- l. Ensure that the member initiating the original request for witness protection is notified of a decision to approve or disapprove an individual's acceptance in the MPD Witness Protection Program; and
- m. Notify an official of the unit responsible for the investigation of the offense in which the witness was threatened, advise them of the threat, and request that criminal prosecution be expedited.

**D. District Commanders**

District Commanders or their designee shall:

1. Contact the Program Manager through the Communications Division when notified of a witness in need of protection;
2. Ensure that the witness requesting protection is not left alone pending a decision by the Program Manager;
3. Organize a witness protection security detail as authorized by the Program Manager, Witness Protection Program; and
4. When necessary, provide temporary relief personnel and supervision for a witness protection security detail.
5. Notify the Program Manager when sufficient personnel, to establish a security detail from within his/her organizational element, are not available.



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