

# BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

### PROTECTED AIR SPACE POLICY

Reviewed by: Sergeant Rob Kosack	Effective Date: May 7, 1999
Authorized by: Interim Chief Greg Scott	Revision Date: November 13, 2020

#### PURPOSE

Generally, police matters are of public interest and concern; however, in matters of life safety and security, there is a need for area control around and above a critical incident scene. This SOP deals with protecting that space above a critical incident.

#### PROCEDURE

In the event of a major incident of such nature as to affect the safety of persons involved and stimulate general public and media interest, the incident commander shall be responsible for notifying the **Central Illinois Regional Airport Control Tower (BMI)** and/or the **Peoria TRACON (PIA)**. Upon making contact with BMI and/or PIA, incident command may request that restricted airspace (“no fly zone”) be established around the incident. Recommended size of this restricted airspace would be 1 1/2 miles around the incident, greater as needed.

When this restricted airspace is granted, aircraft will be rerouted to use alternate approaches to BMI when practical. In those situations where weather conditions are such that specific instrument approaches are necessary, this restricted airspace is not intended to limit those approaches, nor place undue limitations on other authorized aircraft. This restricted airspace would, however, place limitations on those aircraft operating under “visual flight rules,” as well as instrument flight training. This will minimize interference with the majority of air traffic in the Bloomington/Normal area.

1. Central Illinois Regional Airport Control Tower can be contacted at (309) 663-1268; ask for the manager or controller in charge.
2. Peoria TRACON can be contacted at (309) 697-0751, ext. 210; ask for the manager or controller in charge.

The incident commander must explain the situation and request all aircraft to stay clear and be rerouted. This must be for reasons of life safety and security.