

Chapter 9 - Miscellaneous Line Procedures

• 5-09/000.00 - Emergency Aid Plan

The county is required to pay for reasonable necessary emergency medical care provided by a county contract hospital, to persons in the custody of law enforcement officers if such persons:

- Are under arrest;
- Have not yet been booked; and
- Are committed to a county jail following such care.

When a prisoner receives medical care at a contract hospital, an "In-Custody Medical Treatment Form" (Department of Health Services Form #761472) shall be completed and signed by the handling deputy. If the inmate has been released, the handling deputy shall include the disposition, i.e., "Inmate Released - Cite # 1234567 issued," which will inform the hospital that the individual is no longer in our custody. The hospital should have this form available.

An in-custody medical treatment form shall also be utilized for medical services provided in the gathering of evidence for the purpose of prosecution, e.g., blood alcohol withdrawal and sexual abuse evidence collection.

• 5-09/000.05 - Responsibilities of Field Personnel

When a call for emergent medical services is received by station/unit desk personnel, they shall be responsible for prompt notification to the county fire department dispatcher. A field unit shall also be dispatched to the scene of an emergency.

When a suspect is arrested and requires **emergency** medical care, he shall be transported by ambulance to the nearest contract hospital. Normally, in an emergency situation, paramedics are present and will request the ambulance.

At the hospital, the handling deputy shall complete the in-custody medical treatment form. If the inmate has been released, the handling deputy shall include the disposition, i.e., "Inmate Released - Cite # 1234567 issued," which will inform the hospital that the individual is no longer in our custody. The deputy will receive a copy which shall be attached to the report.

In-custody medical treatment forms are to be used **only** for persons arrested and in the custody of the Department.

When a suspect is arrested and requires **nonemergent** medical care they shall normally be transported to LAC and USC Medical Center Jail Wards by Department vehicle, **not** by an ambulance.

When a juvenile is injured, the procedures governing emergency treatment for juveniles in the Juveniles chapter shall be observed.

Make complaint reports only when:

- A crime is involved;
 - Injured as result of traffic accident; or
 - Gross negligence.
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• 5-09/000.10 - Persons in Custody

The following procedures shall be followed when a person in custody at a Department facility, including court lockups, becomes ill or injured.

In most emergency situations, paramedics are called and they request the ambulance. When the paramedics do not feel that an emergency exists or that an ambulance is necessary, but recommend the individual be taken to a hospital or doctor, the station or unit personnel shall arrange/provide transportation. **Nonemergent** cases shall normally be transported to LAC and USE Medical Center Jail Wards by Department vehicle.

An ambulance is to be used only for transporting sick and/or injured in-custody patients requiring **emergency** medical care.

If paramedics have not arrived and it is apparent that an emergency exists and the situation requires an ambulance for transportation, a contract ambulance company shall be called.

Persons in custody shall be searched for concealed or dangerous weapons prior to being placed in the ambulance, if feasible. Otherwise, such search shall be made when the doctor in attendance permits. A deputy shall accompany persons in custody and shall obtain the names of doctor, ambulance driver, etc. and pertinent information on the condition of the injured person for the report. This information shall be documented in a supplemental report using the original URN.

Handcuffs shall be used on injured prisoners or persons in custody except in those cases where their use is prohibited due to their injuries or physical condition. Handcuffs may be placed on the prisoner with his hands in front to allow him to be placed on a stretcher.

Patients transported by ambulance will normally be transported to the nearest county-operated emergency room unless the situation dictates otherwise. The deputy accompanying the patient shall complete the in-custody Medical Treatment Form for the hospital and receive a copy for his report. If the inmate has been released, the handling deputy shall include the disposition, i.e., "Inmate Released - Cite # 1234567 issued," which will inform the hospital that the individual is no longer in our custody.

Under no circumstance will the ambulance company be requested to return an employee to their unit. The unit shall arrange/provide for such transportation.

In the event an injured prisoner or person in custody requires further immediate medical attention unavailable at the emergency contract hospital, the deputy shall telephone his watch sergeant, notify him of the circumstances and furnish the following information:

- Name and age of the prisoner;

- Possible diagnosis; and
- Reason for the request for emergency transportation.

The watch sergeant shall contact the LAC and USC Medical Alert Center for transportation arrangements.

A record of the names of doctors, ambulance drivers and attendants, time of request, and time of arrival shall be obtained for the deputy's report.

• 5-09/000.15 - Sexual Assault and Blood Alcohol Cases - Laboratory Specimens

An In-Custody Medical Treatment Form 76472 (furnished by participating hospitals) shall be completed when evidence is gathered from victims of sexual assaults and when a blood sample is taken for a blood alcohol analysis.

Section 5-09/350.10 of this chapter outlines the procedures for submitting data to Fiscal Administration for billing purposes.

• 5-09/000.20 - Department Employee

Regular employees, including reserve deputies and law enforcement explorers, injured in the course of duty shall be provided with an ambulance and/or hospital service when needed. Use original crime or incident code on all reports written.

Except for explorers, a copy of the incident report, and the form SH-AD-92 with the same URN as the report, are to be forwarded to Disability Management and Compliance Unit, as soon as possible.

Non-emergency injury/illness is covered by the Medical Service Order Form (76M119F).

Law Enforcement Explorers injured in the course of duty shall be provided with ambulance and/or hospital service when needed except that emergency and non-emergency injury/illness is covered, **primarily**, by the medical insurance of the explorer or his parents. Instructions to this effect should be given to the ambulance and hospital staff by field personnel.

After primary coverage is utilized and exhausted, secondary coverage for explorers is available through:

- Group insurance purchased by his Explorer Post (optional coverage);
- Sheriff's Explorer Scout Volunteers Accident and Disability Insurance (Department furnished coverage for all explorers); and
- Los Angeles County Accident Insurance for Volunteers (Countywide plan).

A copy of the non-employee injury report (SH-AD-668) is to be sent to Reserve Forces Bureau, Attn: Explorer Coordinator.

A form SH-AD-92 is **not** completed for Explorers.

• 5-09/002.00 - Portable Livescan Procedures

The portable livescan enables applicant related information to be processed electronically, including automated searches by name, date of birth, and the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS).

All livescan operators are required to have a background clearance from DOJ to operate the livescan; however, Sheriff's Department employees are exempt from this clearance. All livescan operators shall be required to attend livescan training prior to using the device. In addition, no persons under the age of 18 may operate the livescan.

- Fingerprinting An Applicant
 - The applicant must provide a completed "Request for Livescan Service" form (BCII-8016). The applicant must also have the requesting agency's **ORI**, **mail code**, and **billing code** entered on the form prior to getting fingerprinted. If the applicant is a Los Angeles County Sheriff's applicant, for either a sworn or civilian position, the Department's **ORI** (CA0190000) shall be used;
 - The livescan operator shall verify the identity of the applicant by any valid photo identification;
 - The information from the form shall be entered into the livescan;
 - The livescan device will determine the total amount of fees to be collected automatically; and
 - Applicant can now be fingerprinted.
- Collection of Fees
 - Fees will automatically be charged to the requesting agency per the ORI, mailing code and the billing code provided by the applicant; and
 - The station will only collect the indicated fee per the Departmental fee schedule indicated in the Manual of Policy and Procedures section 7-03/030.00.

The livescan operator will provide two copies of the three part 8016 form to the applicant and one copy will be retained by the unit for record keeping purposes.

- Applicant Resubmissions
 - Livescan transactions shall not be submitted more than once unless DOJ contacts the station or requesting agency and advises them that the request was unable to be processed. DOJ will then authorize the agency to resubmit the fingerprints.
- Correcting Errors On A Transmission
 - If an error or question arises by the operator, DOJ's fingerprint unit can be contacted at (916) 227-3312 (24 hours, 7 days a week). If the livescan is not working prior to any input of information, the livescan operator should call the LACRIS help desk at (562) 345-4400, 24 hours a day;
 - DOJ will request the LSID number to each specific machine. This number can be located on a sticker on both the laptop and on the scanner;
 - Once the transaction is deleted by DOJ, a new transaction can be sent; and
 - If a transaction is sent with an error in one of the mandatory data fields, the operator must submit a BCII 8017 form "request form for correction to livescan submission." This form shall then be faxed to the number listed on the form.

- **5-09/005.00 - Speech or Hearing-Impaired Communications**

Effective communication is a prerequisite to the effective delivery of many services that the Department provides. U.S. Justice Department regulations for Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) specifically require that the Department take the necessary steps to ensure that communication with individuals with speech and hearing impairments is as effective as communication with individuals without such disabilities. Effective communications can be accomplished through auxiliary aids and services such as qualified interpreters, written materials, and note pads. Department members should give primary consideration in providing the choice expressed by the individual with the hearing impairment. Primary consideration means that the member should honor the choice, unless he can show that another equally effective means of communication is available, or that the use of the means chosen would result in a fundamental alteration in the service, program or activity, or in undue financial or administrative burdens.

There are times when immediate communication is essential and any method that is available and works, including gestures and hand signals, will have to be attempted. Nevertheless, in some situations ineffective methods can result in tragedy. It is important that all Department members are mindful of the Department's obligation to ensure effective communication, that they are aware of various ways that effective communication might be facilitated, and that they are prepared to communicate effectively in various contexts.

- **5-09/005.10 - Communicating with Assistive Listening Devices**

Though there are many individuals who are deaf, there are many more individuals whose hearing is impaired to varying degrees. Effective communication with individuals with partial hearing impairments is also required. Depending on the degree of impairment, effective communication may be facilitated by facing the individual and speaking loudly. Some individuals, however, will require assistive listening devices to amplify the sound. If appropriate assistive listening devices are readily available, they should be provided. If they are not readily available or cannot be readily obtained, then a request for accommodation should be directed to the Department's ADA Coordinator.

- **5-09/005.20 - Communicating in Writing**

If immediate communication is important or the communication demands are limited, communication may be accomplished by writing. Though this may be necessary in emergencies and acceptable for brief contacts, it is rarely as effective and efficient as spoken communication or communication through a qualified sign language interpreter. In addition, many individuals who were born deaf or who became deaf at an early age may have difficulty with English and be unable to communicate effectively in writing. Their primary language is a sign language. This is not to say that individuals who are deaf simply use a different language. Deafness is a complex disability and communicating with individuals who are deaf often requires special skill and training.

- **5-09/005.30 - Communicating Through a Sign Language Interpreter**

If the communication with a deaf individual is critical (e.g., a suspect is being interrogated), it could become

involved. If communicating in writing is ineffective, or a sign language interpreter is requested, a qualified sign language interpreter should be provided. Be aware, however, that not every individual who can sign, can sign well enough to facilitate effective communication in all contexts. Individuals with limited signing abilities may not be able to sign fast enough, may lack special vocabulary and may not be able to cope with variations in sign languages. Since successful prosecutions could depend on whether a suspect understood the Miranda rights or understood questions during interrogation, the credentials of the sign language interpreter can be called into question. Therefore, if the communication is critical, a certified sign language interpreter should be obtained.

Often individuals with disabilities will have a family member or friend who is readily available and willing to interpret for them. In some contexts, it may be acceptable for these individuals to function as interpreters. Nevertheless, the Department cannot require individuals with disabilities to provide their own interpreters and cannot compel or expect others to serve as interpreters. Be sensitive to circumstances in which the individual with the disability may not want a family member or friend to be involved in the communication. Also be aware that friends and family members may have difficulty limiting their involvement in interpreting and may not interpret precisely what is being communicated. If this could present a problem, or if a qualified interpreter is not readily available and willing to interpret, the Department will need to provide an interpreter.

Qualified sign language interpreters can be obtained by placing a call to the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. When placing a call, be prepared to provide the following information:

- The nature of the interaction for which the interpreter is needed;
- When and for how long the interpreter is needed;
- The location at which the interpreter is needed;
- A contact person who will be available at the location when the interpreter arrives; and
- Any other special requirements.

It may take an hour or more for a qualified interpreter to respond to the location. Therefore, depending on the situation and the individual's wishes, it may be preferable to schedule a later appointment for the interaction. If a professional interpreter is obtained, the contact person at the unit may be required to sign an invoice after the service is provided. Divisions and units will not be responsible for the costs.

The following examples may be used as a guideline for handling the various types of situations encountered:

- Communicating with a hearing impaired suspect prior to an arrest when probable cause to arrest exists without having to interview;
 - If an individual without a hearing impairment would have been arrested on probable cause, then a suspect with a hearing impairment in the same situation does not need to be provided with a qualified interpreter; however, a qualified interpreter may still be required if a deputy is unable to convey to the arrestee the nature of the criminal charge by communicating with a note pad or other means of communication;
- Interviewing a suspect with a hearing impairment when the need to establish probable cause exists. If a deputy needs to interview a suspect with a hearing impairment to determine if there is probable cause to arrest, a qualified interpreter must be provided if written communication is ineffective; and
- Interrogating an arrestee with a hearing impairment.

If a hearing impaired arrestee cannot fully understand his Miranda warning without the use of an interpreter,

then a qualified interpreter shall be summoned before the interrogation is conducted.

- Communicating with a hearing impaired suspect prior to the issuance of a citation;
 - If an individual without a hearing impairment would be issued a citation without being questioned by the investigating officer, then a suspect with a hearing impairment does not need to be provided with a qualified interpreter. For example, if a suspect with a hearing impairment is caught on radar speeding, the investigating deputy does not have to provide an interpreter to the violator;
- Interviewing a victim or critical witness with a hearing impairment during the investigation of a serious offense;
 - If the investigating officer is able to communicate effectively on a note pad or other means and have the victim or witness with the hearing impairment write his responses, then the investigation may proceed without an interpreter present. However, if effective communications are not established by using a note pad or other means, then a qualified interpreter should be provided;
 - When qualified interpreters are used in the course of an investigation, all identifying information about the interpreter shall be included in the report. All written questions and responses between the hearing impaired person and the investigating officer shall be treated as evidence and handled accordingly. A copy of the written questions and responses shall accompany the report and the originals booked into evidence.

• 5-09/005.40 - Communication Through Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD)

Communication with those who have speech impairments and those who are deaf and hard of hearing will not always be in person. Often, individuals with these impairments will need to communicate via Telecommunication Devices for the Deaf (TDD) or computers. TDDs permit the users to communicate in a text format using a keyboard and some form of visual display. Any service or interaction that might ordinarily involve communication via telephone must also be available through TDDs.

A TDD user cannot communicate directly with someone who is using a telephone, but this does not mean that every desk or even every Unit must be equipped with a TDD. Relay services can be an effective bridge between the party who has only TDD and the party who has only a telephone. When a TDD or telephone call is placed to a relay service, the service will request the telephone or TDD number for the other party, place the call, and translate the call for both parties. Calls to individuals who are known to be using TDDs can be placed through the California Relay Service by dialing (800) 735-2922. Department members with hearing impairment may use a TDD to contact a hearing person through the California Relay Service by calling (800) 735-2929.

Individuals who use TDDs can also contact the Sheriff's Information Bureau (213) 229-1850 and leave messages for Department personnel. Department personnel can return the calls using the California Relay Service. The VESTA dispatch system installed at Sheriff stations can also communicate with non-verbal callers who use the text telephone device to communicate.

• 5-09/005.50 - Communications Through Computers

Computers equipped with modems and communications software offer both the Department and individuals with disabilities the capability of communicating in a text format very similar to that of TDDs. In some cases it is even possible for TDD and computer users to communicate. Computer to computer and TDD to computer communications, however, generally require prior communication between the parties to ensure that the computer receiving the call is on and that both machines have compatible configurations.

• **5-09/005.60 - Request for Emergency Services**

The U.S. Justice Department regulations for Title II of ADA also require that agencies that provide emergency services provide direct access for individuals with TDDs. The purpose of the regulation is to avoid individuals having to know and dial a separate number (perhaps for a relay service) to obtain emergency services. The Department provides emergency access to individuals with hearing and speech impairments through the State's 911 translation service.

911 calls from TDD are identified to Station/Unit desk personnel by a synthesized voice message. When a TDD call is received, desk personnel must stay on the line until they receive a verbal translation of the TDD caller's emergency. Thus, individuals who use TDD can have direct access to emergency services by simply dialing 911. If for any reason the transfer cannot be made, desk personnel should manually transfer the call to the Sheriff's Information Bureau (213) 229-1850. All Station/Unit desk personnel must be trained in this procedure before assuming their duties and periodically retrained to ensure their readiness to properly handle these calls.

• **5-09/010.00 - Reporting and Disposition Procedures for Stolen, Recovered, and Found Bicycles**

An Incident Report (SH-R-49) shall be completed for all stolen, recovered, and found bicycles and an URN shall be assigned. Arrests shall be documented in the incident report.

Any requested information which is not available at the time the report is filled out shall be indicated on the form by placing a short line immediately following the requested item.

Distribution and disposition of the bicycle report shall be as follows:

- Station/unit distribution as needed; and
- Reporting station/unit shall be responsible for entry of data into DOJ, Automated Stolen Bicycle System.

Station/unit detectives shall be responsible for investigation of all stolen, recovered, impounded, and found bicycle cases.

Recovered and found bicycles may be released by station/unit personnel in the absence of station/unit detectives upon satisfactory identification and signature of the legal owner.

No recovered or found bicycle shall be released at the station/unit to its legal owner without proper registration if such registration is required by county ordinance or any ordinance in cities contracting for such services with the Department.

An exception shall be made in cases where a city issues its own bicycle licenses. The owner of the bicycle shall be advised to obtain a current bicycle license immediately and the bicycle released.

• **5-09/010.05 - Unclaimed Bicycles**

Recovered and found bicycles that have not been claimed within 10-30 days (dependent upon station storage facilities) or after station/unit detectives' investigation has been completed, shall be released to the Central Property custodian.

The Central Property custodian shall accept only those bicycles which have been processed as follows:

- The bicycle tag has been completed indicating station/unit, date, correct frame number, etc., the proper disposition entered and the tag signed by the investigating detective;
- Bicycles having a valid license attached should also have a certification on the bicycle tag by the investigating detective to the effect that either the registered owner has moved and cannot be located or that the owner does not want the bicycle; and
- Bicycles ready for acceptance have been segregated in the bicycle storage area of the station.

A copy of the JDIC record status must accompany each bicycle. A Property Control Card (76P791-CR-37) shall be written for bicycles being transferred, prior to delivery. The Central Property custodian shall retain the bicycle for a minimum period of three months from the recovery date unless a properly identified legal owner claims the property.

• **5-09/020.00 - Worthless Checks**

Worthless checks of the following classifications shall be investigated by the indicated unit of this Department:

- Station/unit detective:
 - Account closed;
 - Not sufficient funds (NSF);
 - Counterfeit Checks;
 - Forgery;
 - Unlawful possession; and
 - Fictitious print.

Account Closed/Not Sufficient Funds (NSF): Refer to the Case Assignment and Reporting volume.

All cases with an arrest made shall be immediately referred to the station/unit detective during normal business hours. The arrest and report are to be reviewed by the patrol sergeant for completeness and accuracy prior to assignment.

Victims of cases where no arrest is made shall be referred to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's "Bad Check Restitution Program," PMB 880, 7095 Hollywood Boulevard #104, Hollywood, California 90028-8903, telephone number (800) 842-0733, or Internet website of <http://da.co.la.ca.us/badcheck.htm>. The "Bad Check

Restitution Program” will determine if restitution can be recovered and/or if additional investigation is needed for prosecution.

Frequent or high volume complaints (supermarkets, banks, etc.) may report such incidents via U.S. mail by completing a Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office “Bad Check Complaint Form.” The check(s) must bear a bank rejection notice or “reason dishonored” stamp imprinted on the check(s) which shall be included with the “Bad Check Complaint Form.”

If further investigation is necessary for possible prosecution, the “Bad Check Restitution Program” will refer the case to the station/unit of jurisdiction.

Counterfeit (Currency, coins, U.S. Warrants, etc.) refer to the Case Assignment and Reporting volume.

When the station/unit receives a call that a forgery suspect is at the location or fled the location, a patrol unit shall be dispatched. An Incident Report (SH-R49) shall be taken whether or not an immediate arrest is made.

Station/Unit Detectives Assignment

If the incident reported is a station/unit detective assignment, the following steps shall be adhered to:

- Assign an URN to each check case; and
- Make the following distribution:
 - Original SH-R-49 with one copy of check to RIB;
 - Copy to station/unit file; and
 - Copy and original check to the assigned detective.

The Department's policy is not to establish a minimum dollar amount for accepting worthless check cases for prosecution. It is each station's/unit's responsibility to consult with the local court jurisdiction for a consensus policy regarding prosecution criteria.

• 5-09/030.00 - Domestic Violence

All calls reporting threatened, imminent, or on-going family violence and/or the violation of any protective order or restraining order, including orders issued pursuant to Section 136.2 P.C., shall be dispatched as a priority call. Family violence calls of an emergent nature shall continue to be dispatched as such.

Field personnel receiving family violence calls for service shall handle them without delay.

Field personnel who are called to the scene of a domestic disturbance shall determine if the incident involved "Criminal Domestic Violence," "Noncriminal Domestic Violence," or if it was a "Domestic Dispute."

The following are definitions and guidelines to be used in the reporting of domestic violence:

- Abuse - means intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury or placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to himself, herself, or another;

- Domestic violence - means abuse committed against an adult or a minor who is a spouse, former spouse, cohabitant, former cohabitant, or person with whom the suspect has had a child or is having or has had a dating or engagement relationship;
- Criminal domestic violence - is domestic violence involving an arrestable violation of the law;
- Noncriminal domestic violence - is domestic violence where a specific crime has not been committed, but there is apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury;
- Domestic dispute - is any familiar cohabitant or dating relationship incident absent of abuse or apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury;
- Weapon - as for the purpose of domestic violence reporting shall include any object capable of inflicting injury. This includes hands, fists, feet, and any other body part; and
- Dominant aggressor - means the person to be the most significant, rather than the first aggressor.

In all incidents involving domestic violence, an Incident Report (SH-R-49) shall be written. All domestic disputes require a definitive log entry only.

If, during the investigation of a domestic violence incident, it is determined that a crime has been committed, the suspect (dominant aggressor) shall be arrested. Section 836(d) P.C. permits an officer to make an arrest without a warrant for a misdemeanor not committed in the officer's presence when the officer has probable cause to believe that the suspect has committed an assault or battery against those described under "Domestic Violence" above.

In all domestic violence reports, the deputy shall:

- Inquire if the victim was strangled or suffocated by the alleged abuser during the incident and document the results of the inquiry;
- Document any observed signs that the alleged abuser was under the influence of alcohol and/or a controlled substance;
- Document if any law enforcement agency (including LASD) has previously responded to a domestic violence call at the same address involving the same suspect and victim;
- Inquire whether firearms or other deadly weapons are present at the location and if they were used or threatened to be used. Include the results of the inquiry and any injuries in the narrative of the domestic violence report;
- If firearms or other deadly weapons are confiscated, document all weapons and receipt numbers in the domestic violence report;
- Document the name and date of birth of all children living at the location, and indicate all children who were present during the incident;
- Contact the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and initiate a suspected child abuse report (SCAR) if the child is a witness, a victim, or is potentially at risk. The SCAR number provided is to be noted in the report;
- Offer an Emergency Protective Order (EPO) to the victim and document the results of the offer; and
- Document that a Family Abuse Intervention Resource (FAIR) brochure, Report Information brochure, and a Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) brochure was given to the victim at the scene.

The victim of domestic violence shall be given a Family Abuse Intervention Resource (FAIR) brochure, Report Information brochure, and a Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) brochure at the scene of the incident.

Deputies shall, if practical, interview all family members (children, siblings, parents, etc.) living or present at the location at the time of the incident. When practical, interviews should occur in a venue separate from the alleged suspect and with appropriate sound barriers to prevent the conversation from being overheard.

A deputy shall offer the victim an Emergency Protective Order. If the victim requests an Emergency Protective Order, the deputy shall attempt to obtain the Emergency Protective Order. If the victim refuses an Emergency Protective Order, the deputy has the discretion to obtain an Emergency Protective Order on the victim's behalf without the victim's consent if the deputy believes the victim is still in danger.

Pursuant to Section 18250 P.C., a deputy shall take temporary custody of any firearm or other deadly weapon in plain sight or discovered pursuant to a consensual or other lawful search. Upon taking custody of a firearm or other deadly weapon, deputy personnel shall issue a receipt to the owner or person who possessed the weapon. If mere possession of the weapon is a criminal offense and ownership is clearly established, deputy personnel shall take appropriate law enforcement action.

In all cases of criminal domestic violence, the investigating detective shall present the case to the district attorney's office for filing, including those where the victim declines prosecution. If the district attorney declines prosecution, the handling detective shall request a formal rejection notice.

• **5-09/030.10 - Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)**

The Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) is a warning system whereby victims would be notified of their perpetrator's impending or actual release from the Department's custody.

Field deputies' responsibilities:

When handling a domestic violence incident, the deputy shall:

- Give the VINE information sheet to the domestic violence victim;
- Explain the VINE program to the victim; and
- If an incident report is written, document in the incident report that a VINE information sheet was given to the victim and the VINE program was explained to the victim.

Release responsibilities for domestic violence arrestees/inmates:

Prior to the physical release of an arrestee/inmate with a domestic violence charge, whether it be bail, bond, citation, or 849b1 P.C., the arrestee/inmate's release shall be processed electronically through the Justice Data Interface Controller System (JDIC) or the Automated Justice Information System (AJIS).

During those occasions when the AJIS network is out of service, (i.e., routine maintenance), arrestees/inmates with a domestic violence charge shall not be released until such time as the AJIS network is brought back on line.

Due to the urgency of keeping AJIS updated with the immediate release information, every unit commander whose unit releases arrestees/inmates with a domestic violence charge shall have personnel available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to update AJIS.

• **5-09/030.15 - Domestic Violence - Elder Abuse Liaison**

Each station/unit with patrol functions shall assign the detective lieutenant the collateral duty of domestic violence and elder abuse liaison. The central coordination point for this subject matter will be the Advanced Officers Training Unit. Unit commanders shall periodically update the Advanced Officers Training Unit Roster with these liaison lieutenants' names.

• **5-09/040.00 - Temporary Restraining Orders/Injunctions**

Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO) and injunctions are court orders issued to prohibit or direct certain activities on the part of a person or group of persons.

A TRO is an ex parte order initiated by one party and issued prior to a formal hearing. It is written onto the face of petitions that have been filed in court and may have been served to parties concerned in an action.

An injunction is issued at the time of a hearing. It is a formal order signed by the judge of the superior court issuing the order.

• **5-09/040.05 - Domestic Violence Prevention Act**

The 1980 Domestic Violence Prevention Act generally provides for the following:

- Permits family/household members to petition for an ex parte (initiated by one member) Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) to prevent domestic violence;
- Permits the court to restrain any party from molesting, attacking, striking, stalking, threatening, sexually assaulting, battering, harassing, telephoning, destroying personal property, contacting either directly or indirectly, by mail or otherwise, or doing similar acts to specifically named family/household members;
- Permits the court to order a party to vacate a dwelling if that party threatens to or assaults a member of the household;
- Extends the duration of a restraining order to a length of time specified by the court (up to five years); and
- Provides for the delivery of the order to local law enforcement agencies by the petitioner or the petitioner's attorney.

Only those TROs issued pursuant to the Domestic Violence Prevention Act shall be physically placed with the concerned law enforcement agency.

When a TRO, court order or protective stay away order (pursuant to section 136.2(g) PC) has been issued to prevent the recurrence of domestic violence and is directed to this Department, the following procedures shall be adhered to:

- Bailiffs shall sign for the receipt of the document on the original order when presented by the county clerk;

- The document shall be delivered/mailed by the county clerk or Court Services Division to the Sheriff's station/unit having jurisdiction where it is anticipated a breach may occur;
- The station/unit having jurisdiction shall be responsible for recording and maintaining a file of all TROs received for the duration of the life of the order;
- The station/unit shall attach all extensions, modifications, and/or terminations received to the original document(s) on file;
- Upon service of the TRO, the assigned station/unit shall immediately notify the Department of Justice, via CLETS, of the name, race, and the date of birth of the person who is restrained, as well as the date of issuance and the duration of the order; and
- The Records and Identification Bureau shall forward TROs received from the court, plaintiffs, or attorneys to the station/unit having jurisdiction.

Court deputies shall attach a copy of the TRO and any extension or modification to the complaint when it is filed.

• **5-09/040.06 - Verbal Service of Domestic Violence Restraining Orders**

Deputy responsibility:

If a domestic violence restraining order has not been served, a deputy may verbally serve the respondent/defendant. The deputy shall provide the respondent/defendant a verbal summary of the terms and conditions from the Miscellaneous Field section of the California Restraining and Protective Order System (CARPOS). The deputy shall also inform the respondent/defendant that he/she may obtain the full terms and conditions of the restraining order from the court of issuance.

Once the restraining order has been served, the deputy shall:

- Enforce the order;
- Complete a comprehensive entry in the MDT/MDC log;
- When appropriate, write an incident report documenting the circumstances and action taken (attach a copy of the restraining order or computer print-out); and
- Complete a proof of service (attach a copy to the incident report if written).

The deputy shall inform the station secretary concerning a required update in CARPOS and provide the completed original proof of service.

Secretary's responsibility:

The station secretary will utilize the Restraining Order System #2 (ROS5) or the Service Restraining Order System #4 (ROS4) screens to update the restraining order record as served.

The ROS5 screen is used by the entering agency of record. The ROS4 screen is used to enter proof of service information when the serving agency is different from the entering agency. The mandatory fields are:

- File Control Number (FCN) (automatically assigned by DOJ);

- Name (Restrained person);
- Served by (name of person serving order);
- Date served (date of service);
- Time (time served); and
- Agency serving order (Serving Agency)

The secretary shall forward the original proof of service to the station/unit's court deputy.

Court deputy's responsibility:

The court deputy shall deliver the original proof of service to the Department's office in one of the courthouses.

Court's office for the Sheriff's responsibilities:

The court's office for the Sheriff shall forward the original proof of service to the Court Services Division (CSD), Civil Management Unit, for scanning into the TRO-WEB system.

Civil Management Unit's responsibilities:

CSD, Civil Management Unit, shall scan the original proof of service into the TRO-WEB.

Once scanned, CSD, Civil Management Unit, shall forward the original proof of service to the appropriate court which issued the restraining order.

• **5-09/040.07 - Service of Domestic Violence Protective Order - Relinquishment of Firearms**

Pursuant to Family Code, Section 6389, personnel conducting the service of a domestic violence protective order shall: request the restrained person immediately relinquish the firearm which is indicated in the protective order.

If the restrained person relinquishes a firearm, personnel shall:

- Obtain an URN using a statistical code of 855 (Relinquish Firearms - Protective Order);
- Issue a "Firearm's Receipt";
- Advise the restrained person that he or she has 48 hours from the service of the protective order to submit the proof of relinquishment to the court;
- Book the firearm at the nearest Los Angeles County Sheriff's station and advise the restrained person which Sheriff's station the firearm was taken to; Process the firearm in accordance with MPP section 5-09/180.00, Firearms Processing; and
- Write an incident report indicating that the firearm was relinquished pursuant to a service of a protective order. If personnel are writing an incident report based on a crime and not solely on the relinquishment of a firearm pursuant to service of a protective order, the service of the protective order and relinquishment of the firearm shall be documented in the incident report. The statistical code for the crime shall be used for the URN.

Personnel shall not search for the firearm listed in the application for a protective order unless they have consent, search warrant, or an exigency arises. The restrained person may refuse to relinquish the firearm. If this occurs, personnel shall advise the restrained person that:

- He or she has 24 hours from service of the protective order to relinquish his or her firearm to their local law enforcement agency or sell the firearm to a licensed gun dealer; and
- He or she has 48 hours from the service of the protective order to submit the proof of relinquishment to the court and give, deliver, or submit a copy to the law enforcement agency serving the protective order.

If the restrained person refuses to relinquish the firearm and no other crime occurred, no incident report shall be written. Personnel serving the protective order shall make a detailed log entry of the request and refusal.

• **5-09/040.10 - Enforcement of Temporary Restraining Orders and Injunctions in Family Law Cases**

Often, the deputy is called to the scene of a family disturbance and encounters a situation where a husband and wife are in the process of obtaining a dissolution of marriage (divorce). Emotions run high and the danger of the situation escalating into a crime of physical violence is great. For this reason, the superior court will often issue restraining orders to prohibit certain activity on the part of one or both of the principals. Therefore, it is not correct to advise the parties that the dispute is civil and take no action.

Field personnel who are called to the scene of a domestic disturbance and require information regarding TROs (as defined under the Code of Civil Procedure) shall contact their station/unit. Station/unit personnel shall check the TRO file and the TRO~WEB to determine whether a valid TRO exists. If there is no record of a TRO in the station/unit file, TRO~WEB, or one of the parties involved states there was a modification, station/unit personnel should make a reasonable attempt to verify the TRO's validity and content.

The following important items should be carefully examined prior to arresting for violation of a TRO:

- The complainant has a valid copy of the TRO bearing a file stamp of the issuing court;
- Check the dates on the order to ensure the TRO is valid; and
- Make reasonably sure the person has been served with the order.

If the above criteria is satisfied, an arrest shall be made.

In the event the suspect has left the location and a deputy has reason to believe a crime was committed, he shall make a reasonable attempt to locate and arrest the suspect. If the deputy is unable to locate and arrest the suspect, he shall write a report. He shall also advise the victim of the follow-up criminal procedure and the file number of the report.

A violation of any court order/TRO is a misdemeanor, and is an arrestable offense under section 273.6 PC whether or not it is committed in the presence of the deputy.

If a deputy encounters a situation involving a TRO, and the copy of the TRO is in the possession of another police agency located in close proximity to the site of the violation, the deputy shall obtain a copy of the TRO from that agency before booking the suspect. If the location of the agency is such that this would be

impractical, an abstract of the TRO shall be obtained by station/unit personnel before the suspect is booked. A copy of the TRO shall be obtained before the complaint is filed and shall be attached to the complaint.

When deputies are confronted with this situation and are in doubt as to the validity of such documents, they are advised to consult with their supervisors as to the proper procedure to follow. If any reasonable doubt remains, the deputy should not arrest for violation of the court order.

Under no circumstances shall the deputy suggest or request the complaining party to use the private person's arrest procedure when the deputy can legally make the arrest.

When a deputy verifies that a TRO exists but cannot verify proof of service or prior knowledge of the order by the suspect, the deputy shall:

- Inform the suspect of the terms of the order and allow him an opportunity to read, if practical, and comply with the order;
- Advise the suspect that he has now been served and that any violation of the order will result in his arrest;
- Make a report, even if the suspect complies after admonishment of the TRO; and
- Update the station's/unit's copy of the TRO to indicate that the suspect was advised of the TRO.

The report shall include the following details:

- Name of the suspect admonished of the terms of the TRO;
- The specific terms of the TRO that the suspect was violating;
- Name of the advising deputy; and
- Make sure to note a special request distribution (SRD) at the end of the report, listing the court that issued the TRO.

Court deputies should handle the filing of the complaints in the same manner as any other misdemeanor.

If an injunction or supplemental court order is directed to the Department, ordering him to enforce the injunction, the deputies shall do the following:

- Ensure the order is signed by the judge and has the seal of the court;
- Advise the suspect of your intent to arrest for noncompliance with the injunction; and
- Make an arrest if the violation(s) continues.

• **5-09/040.15 - Enforcement of Temporary Restraining Orders and Injunctions in Labor Disputes**

Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO's) and injunctions are being issued with increasing frequency. They are commonly issued in response to demonstrated labor dispute violence or other alleged unfair labor practices as defined in the labor code. TROs and injunctions usually limit the number of pickets to a specific number of precise geographical locations and/or forbid unlawful acts.

Plaintiffs can seek remedy from TRO and injunction violations in two ways:

- Through contempt of court proceedings; or
- Enforcement of penal code section 166(4).

Deputies shall enforce specific violations of the penal code, vehicle code, etc., according to established Department procedures.

Trespassing (602 PC) provisions are clouded in labor dispute situations, and deputies should consult with Emergency Operations Bureau (EOB), Industrial Relations Detail representative before enforcing provisions of this penal code section.

Upon receiving requests to enforce TROs and injunctions from management representatives or union officials, deputies shall, prior to taking any enforcement action pursuant to court orders:

- Consult with their station/unit supervisor; and
- Consult with an EOB, Industrial Relations Detail representative immediately by telephone.

The EOB, Industrial Relations Detail representative shall:

- Offer an opinion as to the validity of the court order; and
- Recommend a possible course of action to the handling deputies and/or station/unit supervisors.

Peaceful picketing, singly or in numbers, hand billing, and related activities are lawful unless specifically forbidden by court order. Pickets may not, however, deliberately block driveways and other entrances, or commit other acts that constitute specific violations of the law.

• **5-09/045.00 - Protection of Victims/Witnesses**

No Department member shall offer a victim or witness any assurance a suspect and/or any other person does not present a danger to their safety. Department members shall not offer nor provide victims or witnesses protection without the expressed consent of their unit commander.

Any warnings to victims or witnesses and all offers of Department protection shall be documented in a first or supplemental report. The report shall also contain the individual's response to the Department's warning of danger or offer of protection and whether or not any protection was provided.

Questions regarding a Department member's legal duty to warn or protect victims or witnesses shall be directed to the Department Legal Advisory Unit.

• **5-09/050.00 - Protection of Endangered Witness**

All requests and court orders for witness security and/or relocation will be assigned to the Detective Division. Units receiving such requests shall immediately make a telephone notification to Major Crimes Bureau, Metro Detail, for further instruction. During weekends, holidays, and all other non-business hours, notification shall be

made to Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau and they will notify the on-call Major Crimes Bureau Supervisor. The method and level of security shall be determined by the Detective Division in cooperation with the requesting division, agency, district attorney, or court. Necessary personnel and equipment from the Detective Division will be augmented, on request, by the field personnel. Major Crimes Bureau will effect all necessary arrangements and any other specific requirements. Narcotics Bureau and Homicide Bureau are exempted from this policy and will handle their own witness protection cases. All funding for Endangered Witness Security Operations will be processed by the Major Crimes Bureau.

• **5-09/060.00 - Public Safety Hazards**

Public safety hazards apply to excavations, bodies of water, self-locking or asphyxiating appliances which are discarded or abandoned, and any building which creates a hazard due to deterioration, fire, vandalism, etc.

• **5-09/060.05 - Responsibility of the Field Divisions**

When any public hazard comes to the attention of the field divisions, a preliminary investigation shall be conducted to determine whether there is a violation. Where applicable, remove, or have the owner remove, or abate the hazard if such can be accomplished at the time of the preliminary investigation; however, if this cannot be accomplished immediately and the hazard warrants warning devices, appropriate steps shall be taken to provide them. The hazard shall not be left untended until the warnings are in place.

The field unit handling the preliminary investigation shall submit an Incident Report (SH-R-49) which shall include the following information:

- Specific location, description of the property and hazard;
- If the hazard is an excavation, the description shall include the approximate size and depth, contents, covering, fencing, location in relationship to the nearest highway, and estimated number of residents within one-half mile of the excavation;
- Name of the owner or person in possession or control of the property,
- Name of the person making or maintaining the hazard; and
- What action was taken to temporarily remove or abate the hazard.

The area car shall make periodic patrol checks of the hazard until it is corrected.

• **5-09/060.10 - Responsibilities of Station/Unit Detectives**

Station/unit detectives shall verify the information in the incident report to determine if a violation still exists. If the investigation substantiates that a safety or water hazard exists (except a swimming pool fence violation), a copy of the incident report shall be forwarded to the nearest regional office of the Department of Public Works.

In contract cities where the Department of Public Works is not under contract, the local department performing the same function shall be utilized if the city ordinance does not prohibit such procedure. The file shall remain "A" active until notification is received from the Department of Public Works that the hazard has been

corrected or that abatement proceedings have been filed with the board of supervisors or the city council.

If the hazard is corrected prior to resolution, the file shall be inactivated with the necessary supplemental reports; however, if the hazard has been declared a nuisance by legislative resolution, the following procedures shall be followed:

- Obtain the name of the owner of the property, person in possession of the property, and the person making or maintaining the hazard on the property;
- Notify the person concerned by certified mail, utilizing the Hazard Notice (form SH-CR-333); and
- Post a copy of the notice as required by section 50234 of the Government Code.

Upon completion of the above procedures, an oral conference shall be held with the station/unit detective supervisor to determine if a complaint should be sought. In closing the case file, all necessary supplemental reports containing the following information shall be submitted:

- Date of resolution by the board of supervisors;
- Date of mailing of the Notice to concerned party or parties;
- Nature of criminal action taken, if any;
- Date of posting; and
- Date of correction by owner if completed prior to commencement of county abatement.

If the hazard exists due to a violation of either section 402b of the Penal Code or County Ordinance Title II, section 44, and is not immediately corrected, proceed in the normal manner to obtain a criminal complaint.

If the hazard exists due to a violation of section 24403 H&S, proceed in the normal manner to obtain a criminal complaint.

If the hazard exists due to a violation of County Ordinance Title II, sections 48 and 50, the following procedures shall apply:

- Where the hazard is caused by inadequate or faulty gate catches or inadequate security, notify the owner or possessor in person or by certified mail;
- If the owner or possessor is notified and immediate compliance is not obtained, seek a criminal complaint or issue a citation for the responsible party or parties. Initiate abatement procedures upon approval of the detective supervisor;
 - Notify the board of supervisors or city council; and
 - After a resolution is passed, proceed as outlined in the abatement proceedings;
- If unable to notify the owner or possessor, post a copy of the certified letter at the site of the hazard;
 - Initiate abatement proceedings; and
 - If contact is not received from the owner or possessor, or correction has not been made within a reasonable time from posting of the letter, seek a criminal complaint against the responsible party or parties.

Where it appears that fencing is inadequate, the nearest regional office of the Department of Public Works shall be called upon for an official ruling as to a violation. If a violation exists, the owner or possessor shall be given notice in person or by certified mail to immediately proceed with corrective steps.

If the owner or possessor is notified and the corrective measures are inadequate, unreasonably delayed or refused, seek a criminal complaint or issue a citation. Initiate abatement procedures. The Director of Public Works will evaluate any corrective measures to determine their adequacy.

If the hazard is an abandoned pool site under valid county engineer construction permit, the procedures outlined for hazards other than swimming pool fence violations shall be followed.

When the hazard is a violation of County Ordinance Title II, section 46 (Oil Well Fence), and a complaint is received or a violation observed, the following shall apply:

- Report incident as outlined in section 5-09/060.05; and
- Conduct periodic patrol checks until the hazard is corrected.

The assigned station/unit detective shall:

- Verify the incident report information and forward a copy to the Department of Public Works;
- If, within a reasonable time, the hazard has not been corrected, obtain a progress report from the Department of Public Works; and
- Obtain a criminal complaint if the circumstances warrant.

• **5-09/065.00 - Contact with Homeless Individuals**

When contacting homeless individuals, Department personnel should take into consideration the possibility of mental illness and/or distress to maintain safety and compassion. Personnel should attempt to assist individuals experiencing homelessness through the referral process in lieu of arrest for non-violent, low level offenses when possible. The referral process includes contacting homeless outreach experts and service providers to obtain temporary housing, medical, mental health, or other applicable services. Department personnel shall also respect an individual's right to refuse assistance.

Department personnel shall not involuntarily move a homeless individual from a location where the person may lawfully stay, absent legal justification to do so, such as when there is a safety or security concern.

Community Partnerships Bureau's Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST), is available to conduct homeless encampment checks when a homeless encampment or convergence exceeds the capabilities of station personnel.

• **5-09/065.10 - Personal Property Belonging to a Homeless Person**

The personal property of homeless individuals shall be treated with the same consideration and respect as any other individual's personal property. Reasonable care shall be used when handling, collecting, and retaining the personal property of homeless individuals. Sensitivity should be given to the special needs such as medication, important papers, medical appliances, pets, and/or other circumstances surrounding each contact. Department personnel should recognize that homeless individuals suffering from mental illness often become emotionally attached to personal belongings, regardless of their apparent intrinsic value.

Department personnel who encounter homeless encampments should not collect tents, sleeping bags, bedding, or other property reasonably believed to be contaminated by human waste, vermin, or other hazardous materials. Department personnel shall photograph the contaminated property and document facts in the incident report or appropriate Department record, establishing why the contaminated property was not safe to retain. If the homeless individual is unable or unwilling to remove the property, Department personnel should contact Community Partnerships Bureau, Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST) to coordinate with the Department of Public Works, and/or the appropriate local public sanitation agency, to safely dispose of hazardous materials, contaminated, or abandoned property.

When a homeless individual is arrested or otherwise removed from a public place, Department personnel shall make reasonable accommodations to permit the individual to lawfully secure his/her personal property.

Department personnel shall ensure an arrestee's medication, important paperwork, and other property are placed inside his/her property bag when booked at any patrol station or custody facility. Additional items and personal belongings not fitting in a property bag should be booked as bulk property. If the arrestee has more personal property than can reasonably be collected and transported as bulk property, a supervisor shall be consultee. Excess property should be photographed and reasonably secured in its place.

For detailed procedures regarding the handling and safekeeping of personal property, refer to Property and Evidence Procedures as outlined in MPP Volume 5, Chapter 4. If the property includes a pet, Department personnel shall account for the safety of the animal and document such action pursuant to MPP section 3-01/050.42, Safety of Stranded Animals, for further information.

The Sheriff's Community Partnerships Bureau, Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST), is available to assist Department personnel with homeless issues that extend beyond the capabilities of station personnel and/or any questions relating to homelessness.

• **5-09/070.00 - Alleged Mentally Ill Persons**

Persons requesting information relative to filing an application for a petition on behalf of a mentally ill person, as outlined in the Welfare and Institutions Code, shall be referred to the Counselor in Mental Health at the Psychiatric Unit of the LAC and USC Medical Center.

• **5-09/070.05 - Emergency Detention**

When any person is taken into custody as authorized by section 5150 WIC, he shall be transported to the designated area hospital, psychiatric unit, if bed space is available. Availability may be ascertained by contacting the admitting office of the psychiatric unit by telephone prior to departure to the center.

When bed space is not available at the designated area hospital, the deputies may be required to transport to the designated back-up hospital.

Admission procedure and necessary paperwork will be the same at both locations. Prior to transporting, the deputy shall verbally inform the person of information found in the Detainment Advisement on the Mental Health Form (MH 1533).

If the person is admitted, the deputy shall prepare, or have prepared, the following forms:

- Incident Report (SH-R-49);
- Application for 72-hour Detention for Evaluation and Treatment (Form MH 1533) to be prepared in triplicate with the URN number written in the upper right corner. Distribute as follows:
 - Two copies to the admitting desk; and
 - One copy to be attached to the case report;
- Property Receipt - Hospital to prepare a receipt for the person's personal property and deputy to obtain a copy the receipt. The URN is to be added to the Department's copy and attached to the case report; and
- Receipt for Transporting Patient - (If issued by the hospital):
 - Original copy to station/unit URN file.

When the alleged mentally ill person is refused admittance by the attending doctor at the psychiatric unit, the alleged mentally ill person shall be released from custody and shall be returned to the scene of apprehension. Should he refuse transportation, he may be released at the hospital.

• **5-09/070.10 - Non-Detention Field Situations**

When an alleged mentally ill person does not meet the requirements for an emergency admission to the psychiatric unit, the patient should be referred to the local office of the County Department of Mental Health.

• **5-09/070.15 - Station/Unit Mental Health Liaison Lieutenant's Responsibilities**

Each station/unit shall designate a lieutenant as a mental health liaison officer. The liaison officer shall be responsible for:

- Maintaining current contact with each county mental health center office within the station's/unit's district;
 - Determining the capability of these offices in rendering assistance to the Department; and
 - Disseminating this information to station/unit personnel.
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• **5-09/070.20 - Authorized Escapee Apprehension by Stations/Unit**

When circumstances necessitate an urgent apprehension, the station/unit mental health liaison officer may authorize, by telephone, the apprehension of escapees and patients who have violated leave. Authorization shall be to personnel of the station/unit having jurisdiction for the location of apprehension and shall be to pick up and return such violators to the appropriate hospital.

State mental hospital escapees or leave patient violators shall be returned to the Metropolitan State Hospital at Norwalk.

Veterans Administration Hospital escapees or leave patient violators shall be returned to the Brentwood VA Hospital on Sawtelle or to the Sepulveda VA Hospital in Sepulveda, in accordance with the instructions in the order to apprehend.

Field personnel routinely confronted in field situations with possible escapees or leave patient violators shall contact the station/unit mental health liaison lieutenant for instructions.

Voluntary commitment escapees are not subject to apprehension and return by peace officers.

Requests for apprehension in incorporated cities with police departments shall be returned to the sender with instructions to send the apprehension request directly to the concerned agency.

• **5-09/080.00 - Conservatee - Unauthorized Leave or Transfer**

A person appointed conservator in accordance with provisions of chapter 3, commencing with section 5350 WIC, may, under section 5358.5 WIC, request assistance in the detention and return of a conservatee who leaves a treatment facility without approval, or in the removal of the conservatee to a county designated treatment facility, when the court has authorized the conservator to involuntarily commit the conservatee to a facility.

Chapter 3, section 7325 WIC, requires any peace officer, upon written request of the administrator of a state hospital, the administrator of a Veterans facility, the administrator of a designated county facility, or a patient's conservator, to apprehend, take into custody, and deliver a conservatee to a state hospital, a veterans administration facility, or a county designated facility, providing the facility is within the county in which the patient is apprehended.

Prior to personnel of this Department accepting a request for apprehension and rendering assistance to authorized persons, the following conditions must be met:

- Requests for apprehension or assistance must be in writing;
- Requests for apprehension or assistance must be accompanied by a certified copy of the judicial commitment documents or a certified copy of documents establishing the conservatorship, authorizing the conservator to commit the conservatee to a designated facility; and
- Identification establishing the individual requesting assistance as an individual legally empowered to request assistance in taking, detaining, and transporting the patient in question.

Metropolitan State Hospital, 11400 South Norwalk Boulevard, Norwalk, 90650, will receive patients taken into custody by this Department when they are from a facility other than a veterans administration hospital.

To eliminate undue delays at Metropolitan, it is recommended that the assistant to the medical director be contacted and advised of the situation prior to transporting the patient to the hospital, telephone (562) 863-7011.

Unauthorized leave patients from a veterans administration hospital are to be returned to either the Brentwood VA Hospital on Sawtelle or the Sepulveda VA Hospital in Sepulveda, whichever is closest to the point of apprehension.

Whenever practicable, Department members shall be in plain clothes and unmarked vehicles during the apprehension and transportation of these patients. The transportation shall be accomplished at the earliest feasible time.

• **5-09/090.00 - Dead Bodies - Homicides, Suicides, Accidental and Natural**

In cases involving homicide, suicide, or accidental death, the handling deputy shall be responsible for the following:

- Arrest the perpetrator, if known and present;
- Protect the scene;
- Collect all available information relating to the incident;
- Notify the station/unit watch commander;
- Immediately notify Homicide Bureau, via telephone or radio (telephone preferably), furnishing all available information and take such action as Homicide may request;
- If death is a result of an aircraft accident, immediately notify Aero Bureau via telephone or radio (telephone preferably), furnishing all available information and take such action as Aero Bureau may request;
- Immediately notify station/unit traffic supervisor of traffic collision and immediately notify the Traffic Services Detail if the traffic collision involves Department personnel;
- Identify, separate, and detain all witnesses;
 - If unable to detain, determine where, when and how witnesses may be contacted by detectives;
- Identify the deceased, provided this can be done without disturbing the body;
 - Name, age, race, sex, occupation, marital status, next-of-kin; and
 - Determine if the next-of-kin has been notified.

The notification of next-of-kin shall be the responsibility of the Homicide Bureau. In apparent natural death cases, the handling field deputy should immediately determine, when possible, the deceased's physical condition prior to death and whether or not the deceased was under a physician's care within the last 60 days. Based upon the information obtained, the handling field deputy shall proceed as follows:

Deceased Attended by a Physician Within the Last 1-20 Days Inclusive

- If, within 20 days of his death, the deceased was under a physician's care, contact the physician and determine if he can and will sign the death certificate;
- If the deceased's physician will sign the death certificate, determine the mortuary preference from the next-of-kin and expedite the release of the body to the mortuary; and
- If the physician will not or cannot sign the death certificate, notify the Homicide Bureau and furnish all available information, including a mortuary preference. If there is no mortuary preference by the next-of-kin, the coroner, upon contact by the Homicide Bureau, will designate a mortuary.

Deceased Attended by a Physician Within the Last 21-60 Days Inclusive

- If, within 21-60 days of his death, the deceased was under a physician's care, determine the attending

physician's name, phone number, and the date he last saw the deceased. The handling field deputy should not spend an unreasonable period of time in attempting to identify the attending physician. If the information is not immediately available at the location, proceed with the incident as a regular coroner's case;

- Determine the mortuary preference from the next-of-kin, notify the Homicide Bureau, and expedite the release of the body to the mortuary;
- If there is no mortuary preference by the next-of-kin, the coroner, upon contact by the Homicide Bureau, will designate a mortuary; and
- Prepare a person dead report without a coroner's case number. This number will be obtained by the Homicide Bureau at a later date.

All person dead reports (homicide, suicide, accidental, and natural) shall list the person dead as a "V" for victim on the incident report.

If, in the above instances, the handling field deputy is unable to notify the next-of-kin, he shall notify the Homicide Bureau which shall have the responsibility for making the notification.

• **5-09/090.05 - Determination of Death**

The responding deputy's first responsibility is to assess the condition of the patient/victim. This assessment of the patient/victim is necessary in order to determine the proper course of action to be taken. It shall be the policy of this Department that deputy personnel will resolve any doubt of life or death in favor of an assumption of life and provide appropriate medical assistance. If the patient/victim is obviously dead, the reporting deputy should describe, in detail, in the appropriate reports, the objective symptoms of death which prompted the conclusion that the patient/victim was beyond help.

Department personnel who are not physicians shall not pronounce persons dead or use the phrase "the victim was pronounced dead" in Department reports unless the victim was so pronounced by a physician. Include the name of such physician in the appropriate reports.

• **5-09/090.10 - Movement of Deceased Persons - Non-Coroner's Cases**

In the instance of an apparent natural death, unattended by a physician, where the victim was seen by a doctor within 20 days prior to his death and the doctor states to the deputy that he will sign the death certificate, notification to or inquiry by the coroner concerning such death is not required.

In these non-coroner's cases where the location of the body creates an untenable situation, e.g., the body is in a location open to family or public view which cannot be closed off or the family removed, then the body may be moved to the nearest available secluded location pending the arrival of the mortuary. Notification to Homicide Bureau and approval by the coroner is not necessary.

If there is any question as to whether or not the death requires an inquiry by the coroner, the deputy shall advise Homicide Bureau of the situation. The coroner will be notified by Homicide Bureau of the death and all known attendant circumstances and details. The coroner will then determine if the death requires an inquiry pursuant to Government Code Section 27491.

• 5-09/090.15 - Movement of Deceased Persons - Coroner's Cases

There will be limited instances involving coroner's cases where it is also advisable to move the deceased pending the coroner's arrival.

In these cases where the victim is known or believed to be dead due to apparent natural causes or by accident and the victim is unattended by a physician or has not been seen by a doctor within 20 days prior to his death, the deputy shall contact Homicide Bureau for permission to move the deceased to a more-suitable, nearby location pending arrival of the coroner.

Upon calling Homicide Bureau, the Deputy requesting permission to move the deceased should be prepared to provide information as to why the deceased should be moved and the intended place of relocation. The Homicide Bureau must then obtain permission from the coroner's office.

At the scene of an officer-involved shooting or homicide, prior to removing the body from the crime scene, attempts should be made to calm and persuade the crowd to disperse. Movement of the deceased should only be considered if it is not appropriate to cover the body or to move the family members or spectators away from the deceased. These intense situations escalate rapidly and delays in removing the body could become perilous.

Contact the inciting party(s), family member(s), or friend(s) of the deceased at the scene. Explain to the parties involved the reasons for having the body remain at the scene. (The chances are greater for solving the crime if the evidence remains intact for the homicide detectives and the coroner, etc.).

If circumstances dictate, protect the body and/or crime scene from public view. This may be accomplished by the positioning of radio cars or Department crime scene barriers. Every effort should be made to protect the integrity of the crime scene.

Field personnel at the scene need to be cognizant of their actions and possible consequences.

When the situation occurs wherein the crowd is becoming unruly and there is the potential for officer safety to be at risk and/or innocent bystanders being hurt, the watch commander shall immediately respond to the location, evaluate and decide whether or not the decedent needs to be transported in order to diminish the potential danger.

If the decision is made to move the decedent, the following steps shall be taken:

- The watch commander shall contact Homicide Bureau who will contact the coroner and request permission to move the body. If circumstances make it impossible to contact Homicide Bureau for permission to move a deceased person and it is imperative that the deceased be moved, the deputy may move the body, notifying Homicide Bureau as soon as possible thereafter. It should be noted that the request for movement of a deceased person is a common sense judgment wherein sympathetic perception and concern for the deceased's family, fellow workers, the general public, or officer's safety must be taken into consideration; In extremely emergent situations, the watch commander may cause the body to be moved prior to receiving the coroner's approval. The watch commander must be prepared to fully justify his decision to the coroner's office;

- Follow instructions from Homicide Bureau regarding outlining the body and evidence with yellow crayon/chalk;
- Prior to moving the body and/or evidence, record digital video of the crowd and draw a sketch of the entire crime scene and the crowd. Still photos shall also be taken whenever possible. Consider using aerial photography;
- Have the body transported to the command post, hospital, or other safe location via ambulance or paramedics. A deputy must accompany the body until relieved by Homicide Bureau or the coroner. In extreme conditions and only as a last resort, transportation may be facilitated by radio car; and
- Notify Homicide Bureau as to where the body was transported.

Make a second evaluation of the crowd after the decedent has been transported from the scene:

- If the crowd becomes calm, then leave the evidence undisturbed and continue to protect the crime scene until Homicide Bureau arrives; or
- If the crowd does not become calm and it becomes apparent the evidence is in jeopardy, assign an assisting unit to gather and transport the evidence to the station.

• **5-09/090.20 - Disposition of Personal Property**

The government code prohibits the search for, or removal of, personal property of the deceased except by the coroner or his representative. Homicide personnel have permission from the coroner to search and remove personal property when such search and removal is essential to their investigation. Deputies shall witness the search of the body and the premises by the coroner or his representative and shall sign the "Coroner's Inventory of Personal Effects of Deceased Person" as witness to the search. The first carbon copy (blue copy) shall be retained by the deputy who shall enter the URN on the face of the inventory form. The inventory form and the Sheriff's report shall be forwarded to Homicide Bureau.

In non-coroner cases, the deputies shall not search the body or take possession of any property, this being the responsibility of the family or mortuary.

In coroner and non-coroner cases, when the deceased has no known relatives, the public administrator shall be notified. Notification will be made by the coroner on coroner cases and by the mortuary on non-coroner cases.

• **5-09/090.25 - Reporting Procedure**

The deputy shall adhere to the following:

- Prepare an original report (in homicide cases, the original crime report shall be restricted to the basic essentials of the offense and shall be sent via JDIC to homicide Bureau and the coroner's office as soon as possible); and
- Prepare a supplemental report for homicide cases (the supplemental report shall contain all the available information on the case).

The crime lab shall prepare a supplemental report on their findings and investigative data.

In homicide cases, copies of all the supplemental reports shall be forwarded to the Homicide Bureau. Do not broadcast as these are confidential reports. A copy is not to be placed on the station press board.

- **5-09/090.30 - Notification of Next-Of-Kin**

Any personnel designated to make notification of a death to a next-of-kin or other relative shall do so in person. Such notification shall be accomplished in a compassionate and understanding manner. The person notified will be advised that any additional information regarding the death may be obtained by contacting the Homicide Bureau or the requesting agency. When a member of this Department asks a member of another department or agency to make a death notification, a request for the notification to be handled as described above shall be made.

NOTE: For media participation in this notification, refer to section 5-09/250.15, Film Crews.

After notification has been made, Homicide Bureau shall be advised of the name, address, and phone number of the person notified and the time, date, and location of said notification as well as the name, rank, and agency of the person making the notification. In the event that notification cannot be accomplished, advise Homicide Bureau or the requesting agency and follow their instructions.

- **5-09/090.35 - Death Notifications of Foreign Nationals**

The death notification of a foreign national who may be visiting/residing in our jurisdiction shall be made to the consular official of the national's country. Such notification shall be in addition to any other notifications outlined in this chapter and shall be made by the International Liaison Unit of the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. The reporting deputy in non coroner cases shall, without delay, advise the International Liaison Unit. The Homicide Bureau, in coroner cases, shall be responsible for advising the International Liaison Unit.

If the deceased is a Chinese National, a representative from the People's Republic of China must be notified immediately of the death.

- **5-09/100.00 - Strike Reports**

Incidents regarding labor disputes or strikes coming to the attention of deputies in the field shall be reported on the Labor Dispute Complaint Report (Form SH-CR-531). Information relative to the status of any negotiations, or the intent of management with regard to continuing operations during the dispute, should be included in the narrative.

Reports originating in the field by patrol deputies or by the Emergency Operations Bureau (EOB), Industrial Relations Detail representative shall be promptly submitted to the station/unit having jurisdiction. The desk sergeant shall review and send copies to their respective division headquarters and to EOB, Industrial Relations Detail.

Standard station/unit reporting procedures including an original URN shall be used to report and process all

strike-related crimes; the designated strike URN shall be referenced in the crime report.

Supplemental reports using the designated strike URN shall be used to report noncriminal strike-related activities and incidents.

The EOB, Industrial Relations Detail shall be notified immediately after strike-related arrests are made. A copy of all strike-related crime reports shall be mailed to the EOB, Industrial Relations Detail.

• **5-09/110.00 - Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Enforcement or Violations**

Patrol divisions are responsible for enforcing the regulatory provisions and making preliminary investigations of violations of the Business and Professions Code (B&P) pertaining to the control of alcoholic beverages. For all incidents reportable to ABC, deputy personnel shall use clearance code "845" in conjunction with any other applicable statistical codes for purposes of tracking ABC violations. Station commanders shall appoint a lieutenant to serve as the liaison agent for the California State Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC). A lieutenant shall attend all public ABC hearings or meetings relating to locations within their station's jurisdiction on behalf of the Department.

Information and Reports

With the exception of reports relating to narcotics, station commanders and the Major Crimes Bureau commander shall forward to ABC the following information:

- Copies of arrest reports wherein the violation of any law is alleged to have occurred on premises licensed by ABC;
- Information regarding licensed premises allegedly involved in cases where a juvenile is detained for violation of a law normally enforced by ABC;
- A copy of each report concerning licensed premises that have been found in violation of licensing regulations;
- Information indicating criminal activity or extensive criminal association by a licensee or applicant for a license; and
- "Police Problem" establishments that may require investigation or enforcement action by ABC.

The above reports or information shall include the following data:

- Name of licensee;
- Type of license;
- Address of establishment;
- License number; and
- The Narcotics Bureau commander may, at his discretion, forward reports wherein premises licensed by ABC are used as a contact point for narcotics traffic, even though the crime may have been committed elsewhere.

Other detective units concerned in the investigation of violations or incidents shall also forward a copy of such

reports to ABC.

Application Investigation and Processing

The investigation and approval of alcoholic beverage license applications are functions of ABC. It is the policy of this Department to become involved in an ABC license application only in those instances in which the licensing of a premise would create an adverse affect to the basic objectives of law enforcement. Unit commanders shall assign a lieutenant to handle any formal request by ABC regarding an application for an alcohol license.

Investigation of ABC license applications for locations in the unincorporated areas of the County shall be the responsibility of the Station in whose jurisdiction the business is to be located. If the location is in a contract city, additional coordination with the city administration shall be established. A Liquor License Application Investigation form (SH-AD-274) shall be completed and an URN assigned.

Station commanders shall determine the appropriate depth of the investigation based upon the probable adverse affect of the granted license on an area's crime pattern or on general law enforcement. When the investigation reveals adequate and valid law enforcement-related grounds for protest, the station commander's recommendation shall be submitted to the district office of ABC on official Department stationery and shall be signed under the name of the Sheriff. The letter will include recommendations based upon criminal statistics, and law enforcement service needs. A copy of the investigation form shall accompany the letter.

When a protest is filed, copies of documents submitted to ABC shall be forwarded to the concerned division operations for the area commander's review. Any supplemental correspondence or information relating to the investigation may be made part of the station files.

The station commander shall not contact ABC when the investigation fails to reveal a basis for protest.

Station commanders shall retain appropriate files, indicating current license status, ownership, etc., on each licensed premise. Standard café incident files may be integrated with ABC license files.

• 5-09/110.05 - Environmental Impact Reports, Guidelines, and Procedures

Law Enforcement Responsibility

The Department is obligated by law to review new construction and other community developments requiring Environmental Impact Reports (EIR). Beneficial improvements as well as detrimental aspects of a proposal can be evaluated. This opportunity to identify potential hazards and situations having a causative effect on crime may allow them to be mitigated through the review process.

Departmental Procedures

Environmental Impact Reports are an important phase of crime prevention, therefore, unbiased Departmental responses shall be based on facts, crime statistics, and community needs for law enforcement services. The Department's Environmental Impact Reports, Review Procedures, and Guidelines Booklet details the EIR

process and provides necessary guidelines for report preparation. Inquiring agencies usually request a response within 30 days, therefore, it is imperative that reports be processed promptly.

The following steps shall be followed when formal requests for comment are received.

1. Requests received by patrol stations shall be logged upon receipt;
2. Other Departmental units sometimes receive requests. They shall be forwarded to the appropriate station;
3. Station personnel shall review the proposal and either recommend changes in the project or recommend approval of the proposal as submitted;
4. The station commander shall have a response prepared and sent to the requesting party; and
5. A comment filing system shall be maintained by each station. The filing system shall contain at least the following information:
 - Station;
 - Project number;
 - Date received;
 - Project name;
 - Project description;
 - Project contact;
 - Assignment to;
 - Department/location;
 - Date completed/returned; and
 - Disposition.

• 5-09/110.10 - Formal Requests for Comment on Other Discretionary Permits

Environmental Impact Reports (EIR) are not required for all public projects. Occasionally a formal request for comment will provide governmental agencies and the public with an opportunity to review and comment on other proposals. Formal requests for comment shall be processed and logged in the same manner as an EIR.

• 5-09/120.00 - Missing Persons (Definitions)

A missing person is defined as a person who is reported missing to a law enforcement agency, until the person is located or determined to be a voluntarily missing adult. Missing persons include:

Involuntary Missing - The abduction of a child under circumstances other than "family abduction"; children who have been rejected and/or abandoned by their families; missing adults or children who have left and are viewed as unable to care for themselves.

At Risk - The person/child who is "at risk" includes, but is not limited to, evidence or indications of any of the following [Penal Code section 14215(b)]:

- The person/child missing is the victim of a crime or foul play;
- The person/child missing is in need of medical attention;
- The person/child missing has no pattern of running away or disappearing;
- The person/child missing may be the victim of parental abduction; or
- The person/child missing is mentally or physically impaired.

Critical Child Missing - When any child under 12 years of age is reported missing, or when a child, regardless of age, is “at risk” as defined above.

Non-Critical Child Missing - When any child 12 years of age or older is reported missing and is NOT “at risk” as defined above.

Parental/Family Abduction - Abduction or concealment of a child by either a parent or their agent in violation of current law (Penal Code sections 277, 278, 278.5, 278.7).

Runaway - Any child who displays a pattern of disappearing for extended periods of time, on his own volition, without parental or guardian knowledge and/or consent.

Unknown Missing - Cases where there are insufficient facts to determine the missing person disposition.

Suspicious Circumstances - Circumstances which give rise to the belief that a crime may have been involved; the disappearance is out of character for the person and no known reason can be determined.

Child Abduction:

277 PC: Child abduction definitions.

278 PC: Every person, not having a right to custody, who maliciously takes, detains, conceals, or entices away, any minor child with the intent to detain or conceal that child from a person, guardian, or public agency having the lawful charge of the child is guilty of a misdemeanor/felony.

278.5 PC: Detention or concealment of a child in violation of a custody decree or by a lawful custodian, which includes a parent, where a legal relationship exists between a child and the child’s natural or adoptive parent (Family Code Section 7600), even if no custody decree exists, is a misdemeanor/felony.

278.7 PC: A good faith belief that the taking, detaining, concealing, or enticing away of the child is necessary to protect the child from immediate bodily injury or emotional harm.

279.6 PC: A peace officer investigating a report of a violation of section 277, 278, 278.5, 278.7 may take a minor child into protective custody if the officer has reasonable cause to believe (or good cause to believe), that any person will unlawfully flee the jurisdictional territory with the minor child.

Places/Facilities for Care and Detention - 207 WIC

A minor taken into custody upon the grounds that he or she is a person described in section 601 WIC, or adjudged to be a ward of the juvenile court solely upon that ground, may be held in a secure facility, other than a facility in which adults are held in secure custody, in any of the following circumstances:

- For up to 24 hours after having been taken into custody, in order to locate the minor's parent or guardian as soon as possible and to arrange the return of the minor to his or her parent or guardian;
 - For up to 24 hours after having been taken into custody, during which time efforts are to be diligently expended to locate the child's parent or guardian who resides out of state and/or to arrange the return of the child to his/her parent or guardian who resides out of state; and
 - The initial 24-hour custody period may be extended to no more than 72 consecutive hours, if it is ascertained that:
 - The return of the child cannot be accomplished reasonably within 24 hours due to the distance of the parent or guardian from the county of custody;
 - Difficulty in locating the parent or guardian; and
 - Difficulty in locating resources necessary to provide for the return of the child.
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• 5-09/120.03 - Missing Persons

A Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) shall be taken immediately when requested (including telephonic requests) without delay, and regardless of jurisdiction. The employee taking the report shall have an authorized person sign a "Notice to Person Reporting Missing Person," on the reverse side of the Missing Person Report (SH-R-12).

All new missing person reports shall be entered into the NCIC system by station/unit personnel within one hour of taking the report, including courtesy reports.

If the missing person is a child who is currently enrolled in school (public or private, grades pre-school through 12), the station/unit detective shall give written notification to the school that the child is missing. The notification shall consist of our Sheriff's Department's Special Bulletin "Missing Persons" format and will include a photograph, if available, all pertinent information, and shall be given within ten days of the disappearance. This notification should be hand delivered to establish a personal form of communication. If a school receives a record inquiry or request from any person or entity for the missing child about whom the school has been notified, the school must immediately notify the detective. If the child is located within the initial ten day period, no notification is required.

If the missing person is a child and is not located within 30 days, station/unit detectives shall obtain dental records, X-rays, a recent photograph, and check with the coroner's office regarding unidentified coroner cases which possibly match the child's description.

• 5-09/120.04 - Missing Person Checkoff Forms

Deputy Checkoff List of Missing/Abducted Child/Person

Department personnel who respond to a missing/abducted child or person call for service shall use the Deputy Checkoff List for Missing/Abducted Child/Person form (SH-R-12A) to assist them in the investigation. The form shall be completed and attached to the Missing Person Report (SH-R-12).

Incident/Watch Commander Checkoff List for Missing Children

During phase 1 of the critical missing person investigation, the watch commander shall complete the attached Watch Commander Checkoff List for Missing Children form (SH-R-12B) for every child under 12 years of age and any person under the age of 21 who qualifies as an "at risk" (MPP 5-09/120.00, Missing Persons Definitions) missing person. The form shall be attached to the Missing Person Report (SH-R-12).

• **5-09/120.05 - Missing Children**

When a child is reported lost or missing, Department search procedures shall be followed. The search procedures are in three phases. In order that the employee in command be kept informed, the chain of command shall be adhered to within the division currently responsible for each phase of the investigation and such officer shall have full command. Complete cooperation shall be given by other divisions concerned, through functional supervision. The exception will be emergency situations that may arise which, due to the time element, cannot be handled through routine channels.

• **5-09/120.07 - California Child Safety Amber Network Procedures (Amber Alert)**

This policy describes procedures for initiating a California Child Safety Amber Network alert, also known as an AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response) ALERT. The California Child Safety AMBER Network (CCSAN) consists of the following:

- The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a nationwide system designed to inform the public of an emergency. It is accessed through the California Emergency Management Agency (CAL-EMA);
- The Emergency Digital Information System (EDIS) is a direct computer link to media outlets and other agencies. Information may be printed, broadcast, read on-air, or captioned on television;
- Technology to Recover Abducted Kids (TRAK) is an image-based investigative tool which links state, county, and local law enforcement agencies together. The system is capable of simultaneously sending information and photographs directly to multiple locations and media outlets; and
- California Highway Patrol's changeable electronic message signs (CMS) utilizes California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) highway transportation system signs located on major highways throughout the state. Portable signs can be placed in other locations as needed.

In order for an abduction to qualify for an AMBER Alert, all four of the following conditions must exist:

- It has been confirmed that an abduction has occurred;
- The victim must be 17 years old or younger or have a proven mental or physical disability;
- The victim is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death; and
- Information is available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the victim.

An AMBER Alert is not appropriate when:

- There is no evidence of foul play;
- The child is a runaway;
- The abduction is due to a custody dispute and there is no reason to expect a threat to the life or physical

health of the child; and/or

- An adult is missing, unless there is proven physical or mental disability that may subject the victim to imminent danger.

NOTE: If the abduction does not satisfy the AMBER Alert criteria outlined above but the handling station/unit watch commander feels the situation merits attention, contact the SCC watch commander for possible options such as issuing an "ABDUCTION" Alert which involves the creation and distribution of an EDIS bulletin.

DESK PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES:

When desk personnel receive a call for service regarding a child abduction, they shall attempt to determine the circumstances involved in the abduction prior to dispatching units. It is important to determine if the abduction was a kidnapping for ransom or extortion. To make this determination, desk personnel should ask a series of questions such as, "Do you know the suspect?", "Do you know any reason why someone would want to abduct the child?", "Has there been a demand for ransom for the safe return of the child?", "Has the informant/family member(s) received any type of threat prior to the abduction?", "Did the suspect make any statement at the time of abduction regarding instructions not to notify law enforcement?"

If there is any indication that the crime is a kidnapping for ransom or extortion desk personnel shall not proceed with an AMBER Alert but instead notify station/unit detectives and Major Crimes Bureau immediately. Desk personnel shall not dispatch a patrol car or uniformed deputies unless ordered to do so by station/unit detectives or Major Crimes Bureau. All kidnapping for ransom cases will be considered confidential until the case is resolved.

If the abduction does not appear to be a kidnapping for ransom or extortion, and the abduction meets the criteria for an AMBER Alert as outlined previously above, desk personnel receiving information necessitating an immediate field response shall handle and dispatch such calls in accordance with desk operation procedures.

If the station/unit activates an EOC after an AMBER Alert is initiated, all calls received by desk personnel pertaining to the AMBER Alert shall be forwarded to the EOC. If the information necessitates an immediate field response, personnel shall handle and dispatch such calls in accordance with desk operation procedures.

When the station/unit EOC is not activated, desk personnel shall field all calls and log all contacts where information has been provided in response to the AMBER Alert issued by the station/unit. Desk personnel shall relay all information received relating to the abduction to station/unit detectives or designated personnel as it is received. If telephone calls increase in number, requiring additional personnel to adequately handle the volume of calls, desk personnel shall inform the station/unit watch commander. The station/unit watch commander may increase desk staffing or activate the station/unit EOC in order to handle all calls expeditiously.

FIELD DEPUTY'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

When a deputy receives a call of a child abduction that has just occurred, the deputy shall respond to the location without delay and conduct a preliminary investigation. The preliminary investigation shall be thorough enough to establish that a crime has occurred. The handling deputy shall collect specific information in order to determine if the circumstances meet the criteria necessary to initiate an AMBER Alert. If the deputy's

investigation reveals that the abduction may be a kidnapping for ransom or extortion, all uniform presence should be removed from the location and station/unit detectives, along with Major Crimes Bureau, should be contacted immediately.

Qualified AMBER Alerts

If the handling deputy determines that the abduction qualifies for an AMBER Alert, he/she shall notify the station/unit watch sergeant and watch commander immediately by telephone. The deputy shall provide them with details of the abduction in order to initiate an AMBER Alert, if approved.

If the decision is made to initiate an AMBER Alert, the handling deputy shall request a recent photograph of the abducted person(s) and, if available, photographs of the suspect(s) and/or the suspect vehicle from the informant and/or relatives. The photograph(s) should be recent and clearly display the victim's and/or suspect's facial features. The handling deputy shall ensure the photograph(s) is driven to the station/unit and delivered to the watch commander without delay.

The handling deputy shall immediately complete a Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) and follow missing/abducted persons procedures.

WATCH SERGEANT AND WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES:

The decision to request an AMBER Alert is the responsibility of the station/unit watch commander. The watch commander shall base this decision on the established AMBER criteria and facts obtained by the handling deputy regarding the abduction. If the decision is made to request an AMBER Alert, the watch commander shall:

- Consider activation of the station's/unit's EOC in order to handle the anticipated increase in the volume of phone calls to the station/unit and institute a clue management system;
- Immediately complete an AMBER Request Form (available in Outlook under Public Folders / All Public Folders / All Forms / Patrol / Miscellaneous / AMBER Request Form);
- Complete the AMBER Request Form and send it to the SCC Bridge e-mail group. If e-mail is not available, fax the form to SCC at (323) 261-4936;
- Immediately upon completion of the above steps, contact the Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC) watch commander at (323) 267-2504 to advise of the new AMBER Request Form sent via e-mail;
- Immediately notify Major Crimes Bureau as Amber Alerts are their responsibility;
- When the handling station/unit receives information which updates or corrects what was previously reported, they shall send a new AMBER Request Form to SCC. If there is an update, such as additional information, the "Update" box shall be checked and if there is a correction, such as the color of the suspect vehicle, the "Correction" box shall be checked; and
- All updates or corrections that have been e-mailed to the SCC Bridge e-mail group shall be followed up with a telephone call to the SCC watch commander to ensure the information has been received.

The watch sergeant shall:

- Handle any functions delegated to him/her by the watch commander; and
- If the EOC is activated, ensure it is adequately staffed to receive a high volume of telephone calls.

SHERIFF'S COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES:

The *final decision* to initiate an AMBER Alert shall be the responsibility of the SCC watch commander. After receiving the abduction information from the station/unit and consulting the station/unit watch commander, the SCC watch commander shall determine if the abduction meets the AMBER Alert criteria. If the criteria is not met (e.g. victim is 18 years old), the SCC watch commander shall discuss other available options with the station/unit watch commander and Major Crimes Bureau to determine the best course of action.

If an AMBER Alert is to be initiated, the SCC watch commander shall ensure that the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau is notified of the Amber Alert.

Necessary data shall be immediately entered into the JDIC screen designed to notify the Emergency Digital Information Service (EDIS) of an abduction.

An audio message shall be recorded describing the abductor, the victim, and any vehicle or other pertinent information. This audio message will be used on the Emergency Alert System. Photographs of the victim will not, in most cases, be available for the initial JDIC/EDIS message. Therefore, once the JDIC/EDIS message is complete, with or without the photograph, it shall be sent immediately.

After the EDIS alert has been broadcast, the SCC watch commander shall initiate an Emergency Alert System warning message. This EAS warning message will be received by various media agencies, who may or may not broadcast the AMBER Alert message.

Upon receipt of any photographs, SCC shall forward all scanned images of victim/suspect via e-mail to the California Highway Patrol Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC). After the e-mail has been sent, the SCC watch commander shall telephone ENTAC to confirm receipt of photographs and request they be entered into the TRAK system. The SCC watch commander shall also request the CHP to begin posting victim/suspect/vehicle information on changeable message signs within the designated target area.

Countywide Law Enforcement Broadcast (C-Code)

The SCC watch commander shall ensure that a crime broadcast regarding the child abduction is sent utilizing the C-Code. This will verbally notify all Sheriff's stations/units and law enforcement agencies within the County of Los Angeles regarding the incident.

National Warning System (NAWAS)

The SCC watch commander shall ensure that a request is made via NAWAS to notify surrounding counties' communications centers or state office emergency services centers of the AMBER Alert.

Sheriff's Data Terminal (SDT)

The SCC watch commander shall ensure that a crime broadcast is disseminated throughout all Sheriff's Data Terminals, as well as through the Los Angeles California Highway Patrol Communication Center.

SHERIFF'S HEADQUARTERS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES:

Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau personnel, after receiving notification from SCC, and after consulting with Major Crimes Bureau, shall immediately prepare an informational message for "City News Service" and "NIXLE." The message shall be sent to both agencies as soon as they are complete.

PROCEDURES FOR ACTIVATIONS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WITHIN LOS ANGELES COUNTY:

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Communications Center is the "point of contact" for AMBER Alerts for law enforcement agencies within the County of Los Angeles. When a Los Angeles County law enforcement agency requests activation of the AMBER Alert system, the agency shall contact the SCC watch commander. Once the information is confirmed, the SCC watch commander shall ensure the activation is broadcast according to this policy. All questions regarding AMBER Alerts from other law enforcement agencies within Los Angeles County should be directed to Sheriff's Communications Center at (323) 267-2504.

PROCEDURES FOR ACTIVATIONS IN OTHER COUNTIES:

When the Department is alerted regarding a surrounding county's activation of the AMBER Alert system, SCC watch commander shall contact the reporting county and confirm the information. SCC will take the necessary steps to ensure the message is broadcast. All questions regarding AMBER Alerts from other counties should be directed to Sheriff's Communication Center at (323) 881-8100.

NOTIFICATION OF FOUND VICTIM:

The watch commander at the station/unit which initiated the AMBER Alert is responsible for notifying the Sheriff's Communication Center watch commander when the victim has been found. It is the responsibility of the SCC watch commander to make C-Code and NAWS notifications.

• **5-09/120.10 - Child Noncritical**

When any child 12 years of age or older is reported missing and the child is NOT "at risk" as defined in section 5-09/120.00, the assigned patrol deputy shall:

- Interview the informant in person;
- Fill out the Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) and have an authorized person sign the "Authorization to Release Dental/Skeletal X-rays/Photograph and Description Information of Missing Juveniles" (State form SS 8567) and the "Notice to Person Reporting Missing Person" on the reverse side of the SH-R-12;
- Send a local JDIC "Be On The Lookout" (BOLO) broadcast;
- Notify the school the missing child attends within ten days of the child's disappearance;
- Advise the informant to notify the station/unit detectives if the child is located; and
- Make an NCIC entry within one hour of taking the report.

The station/unit watch sergeant or field sergeant shall review the case and determine if additional action by the patrol unit is indicated at the time. If no immediate attention is indicated, the report shall be processed in the same manner as all missing persons reports. The sergeant shall also ensure the missing persons report has been entered into NCIC within one hour of taking the report.

The station/unit watch commander shall immediately review the case, and if immediate police attention is indicated, follow the procedure for critical age or "at risk" situations.

The case assignment shall be to station/unit detectives. They shall be responsible for:

- Contacting the informant to determine if the child has returned or his whereabouts is known;
- Checking Juvenile Automated Index regarding any prior record on the child;
- The station/unit detective shall verify that a "missing person" entry into NCIC was made;
- Sending a broadcast if necessary; and
- If any child is still missing after 30 days, check with the coroner's office for unidentified coroner cases, obtain dental records and X-rays and submit copies of the report and releases, along with dental records and X-rays to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, within 40 days of the original report.

If an authorized signature to request the release of dental records and X-rays cannot be obtained, the station/unit detective shall supply the dentist with an "Authorization for Seizure of Dental Records (SS-8567)," per section 14205 PC.

• **5-09/120.15 - Child - Critical (Phase I)**

When any child under 12 years of age is reported missing, or when the child, regardless of age, is "at risk" as defined in section 5-09/120.00 of this manual, the complaint deputy receiving the information shall dispatch a patrol unit to the scene at once and notify the station/unit watch sergeant and the station/unit watch commander.

The assigned patrol deputy shall:

- Interview the informant at the scene;
- Fill out the Missing Person Report (SH-R-12);
- Obtain an authorized signature on the "Authorization to Release Dental/Skeletal X-rays/Photograph and Description Information of Missing Juveniles" (State form SS 8567) and the "Notice to Person Reporting Missing Person" on the reverse side of the missing person report;
- Obtain a recent photograph of the child and note the date that the photograph was taken;
- Pertinent facts shall be telephoned, radioed, or sent via MDT/MDC to the watch commander;
- Initiate a search log (the log shall contain the area searched, name and employee number of person searching area, and time area searched); and
- Make entry into NCIC within one hour or sooner, if practical, of taking the report.

As many deputies as needed will be charged with the responsibility of a thorough search of the interior of the house, as well as the attic, under house, yard, garage, out buildings, basement, abandoned refrigerators, trunks, boxes, etc. Check attractive nuisances, e.g., abandoned vehicles, crawl spaces, etc. If the child was seen at a different location, another patrol unit shall be sent to that location and additional assistance shall be requested when necessary.

The following information shall be ascertained from the informant in the following order:

- The exact location, time, and date the child was last seen and whether the child is a habitual runaway;
- Parents of the child, length of time at present address, whether divorced or separated, whereabouts of divorced parents and attitude toward the child;
- Name and address of child's school, length of time attended, school associates and name of teacher;
- Names, addresses, phone numbers, and relationship of all relatives;
- Names, addresses, and phone numbers of all friends and neighbors of the parents;
- Names, addresses, phone numbers, and schools of all the child's friends;
- Recent trips taken, places recently attended, shows the child was interested in;
- Hobbies and activities child is interested in and location of any such hobby areas; and
- Location of any nearby swimming pools, horse stables, or other entertainment centers.

The immediate ground area shall be patrolled with particular attention given to accident areas (lakes, streams, new construction, etc.), local business locations, movies, hobby and toy stores, etc. Immediate neighbors and all persons in position along the last known route traveled by the missing child shall be contacted.

The investigation of the scene shall be continued under the supervision of the station/unit watch commander. The Missing Person Report shall be delivered to the station/unit, an URN assigned, copies reproduced and the case assigned to station/unit detectives.

The station/unit watch commander shall ensure that a local JDIC "Be On The Lookout" (BOLO) broadcast is sent if it has been determined that the child is missing only, and an "All Points Bulletin" APB broadcast if a crime, suspicious circumstances or at risk situation is involved. Concerned patrol units shall be notified by radio and contact made by telephone with adjacent station/unit and police departments, MacLaren Children's Center, and Los Angeles Police Department.

Details of the search and notifications to other agencies or units of this Department shall be entered in the station/unit log or, if necessary, a special log will be established. If the child has not been located after four hours of searching, brief the station/unit detective commander on the progress of the search and the number of patrol personnel remaining to assist, and then turn the responsibility over to him for phase II of the investigation.

• **5-09/120.20 - Child - Critical (Phase II)**

The assigned station/unit detective shall start or continue a special log, check with Juvenile Automated Index regarding the prior record on the child and send additional JDIC broadcasts if necessary. The detective shall assume functional supervision of the investigation and make an early determination of the following:

- Indication of an accident;
- Possibility of a routine runaway;
- Possibility child is in the custody of an estranged parent or agent of parent (family abduction); and
- Indication of foul play or homicide (the nature of which is assignable to Homicide Bureau).

The station/unit detective commander will determine the urgency of the situation, the scope of the search and estimate the manpower needs. Phase III will be initiated unless it is clear from the facts at the time that such an effort would be of no avail.

In an accident case and where search or rescue operations are an issue, the primary case assignment shall be to station/unit detectives with concurrent assignment to patrol. This includes cases where the use of emergency personnel or equipment may be needed. (See the Emergency and Disaster Chapter for field search or rescue operations responsibility and procedures.) Notify the unit commander immediately.

In all cases other than homicide or kidnapping, assign to station/unit detectives.

In cases of known foul play or homicide, the primary case assignment shall be to Homicide Bureau with concurrent assignment to station/unit detectives. The assigned station/unit detective shall immediately notify the Homicide Bureau.

The unit commander should alert his superior officers and others whose assistance may be needed, including the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau.

- **5-09/120.25 - Child - Critical (Phase III)**

The primary unit of assignment shall be responsible for coordination, function, and functional supervision of phase III operations. This unit shall designate an officer of at least the rank of lieutenant as operations commander. The station/unit detective commander shall act as operations commander until he is designated as such or relieved by the designated Operations Commander.

The operations commander shall designate two detectives and one patrol supervisor. The detectives shall assist in coordinating the investigative activities - one will coordinate the operation at the scene while the other coordinates the operation at the station/unit. The patrol supervisor shall provide supervision for the uniformed patrol personnel.

The operations commander will occupy the position of greatest need, reviewing all activities in connection with the investigation at frequent intervals.

- **5-09/120.30 - Child's Picture - Television**

The Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau has arrangements with several television studios to release pictures of missing children when requested by this Department. Check with Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau for current procedure; however, this service is entirely dependent upon the studio's available air time. There is no charge for this service, but investigating detectives must use discretion and not abuse this privilege. Signed consent of the parents or guardian is not required, but is desirable.

A clear photograph, preferably a full face, with the date the photograph was taken, will be provided by the investigating detective to the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. This bureau will arrange for duplication of the photograph and distribution to the television stations.

- **5-09/120.35 - Child's Picture - Sheriff's Special Bulletin**

When the investigating detective considers it necessary for a Sheriff's Special Bulletin (SH-AD-267) to be printed in a missing child case, he shall obtain a clear photograph of the child, preferably a full face, and the date the photograph was taken. He shall contact Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail. This detail shall prepare the format including the physical description and any information that would be of assistance in locating the missing child. An original and one copy of the Printing Request (SH-AD-1) shall be completed and shall be approved by the Homicide Bureau commander. Picture, format, and printing request shall be completed and shall be delivered to Printing Management, Fiscal Administration. Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, shall be responsible for routing the bulletin to all concerned agencies and for its cancellation when the child is located.

• **5-09/120.40 - Found Missing Runaway Child**

On a routine missing runaway child who has been found and no further action is required, station/unit detectives shall cancel the "Missing" child entry through NCIC and inactivate Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS) within 24 hours. The station/unit detectives shall complete a supplemental report indicating the above.

• **5-09/120.45 - Missing Child Turning Eighteen Years Old While Still Missing**

In cases where a missing child becomes an adult, while still a reported missing child, the case may be reassigned to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, with the prior approval from Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail. The investigating detective from the station/unit must determine the person is still missing and all workable leads have been exhausted, prior to contacting Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, for reassignment approval. If Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, approves the reassignment, the investigating detective of the station/unit shall prepare a supplemental report indicating all information developed in attempting to locate the missing person and the case shall be reassigned to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail.

The statistical code shall be changed by the station/unit to a "400" in a supplemental report and the Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS) shall be updated using the Case Status Disposition Code of 110 and the Participant (Suspect) Disposition Code of 99. Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, shall update all NCIC entries, unless the station/unit is directed by Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, to update NCIC.

If Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, does not approve the reassignment of the case, or there were no suspicious circumstances surrounding the disappearance and the case was that of a routine runaway, the station/unit detective **may** close the case. The detective shall submit a closing supplemental report indicating the reasons for closing the case. If the missing person is a runaway, all of the following reasons shall be included in the closing supplemental report:

- There are no suspicious circumstances involving the missing person;
 - The missing person has turned eighteen years old or is emancipated; and
-

- The missing person is considered voluntarily missing.

If the station/unit detective closes the cases, he or she shall update and cancel all computer entries (i.e., LARCIS, etc.). Station/unit detectives shall attempt to contact the informant of the missing person report and advise them of their intentions. The results of this shall be noted in the closing supplemental report.

- **5-09/120.50 - Missing Adults**

A Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) on adults shall be taken on the request of an informant without delay (including telephonic requests). Stations/units shall notify Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, and initiate an immediate missing person's local broadcast when the missing person is:

- Elderly;
- Suffering from Alzheimer's Disease;
- Suffering from severe mental or physical handicap;
- Suffering from advanced senility;
- Missing with evidence of suspicious circumstances;
- Missing with any condition requiring continuing medication or care;
- Infected with a highly communicable disease; and/or
- Suicidal.

The deputy taking the report shall call the informant's attention to the agreement which appears directly above the informant's signature on the Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) and advise that compliance is expected by calling the Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail. If the informant has no phone, obtain any other phone number where the informant can be reached.

A missing person's entry shall be made into NCIC within one hour of the report being taken. A copy of the report shall be retained in the station's/unit's file for such period of time as determined by station/unit policy. The station/unit shall fax a copy of the report, including any photos or attachments, to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, by the end of the handling unit's shift. The original report, photographs and attachments shall be mailed to the Missing Persons detail. The station/unit secretary will image the original report into the electronic archive SECDA.

When necessary, station/unit JDIC broadcasts bulletins and flyers shall be the responsibility of the handling deputy at the direction of the Missing Person Detail. It shall be the responsibility of the Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, to authorize the issuance and cancellation of such bulletins and flyers.

Cancellation of adult missing person reports can be made by the station secretaries at the direction of Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail.

If a person reported missing is not located within 30 days, Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, will request a copy of the missing person's dental records and x-rays.

Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, shall send the dental records and a completed copy of the

Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) to the Department of Justice. It shall be the responsibility of Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, to close all files on missing persons.

• 5-09/120.51 - Feather Alert

Effective January 1, 2023, the State of California enacted Government Code section 8594.13, which created a new missing person alert for indigenous women/persons who go missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances. The Legislature intends to provide law enforcement with additional tools to disseminate timely, accurate information to engage the public more effectively in assisting with locating missing indigenous people and to compensate for the unique challenges that indigenous communities face in accessing media coverage and the ability to share information. The California Emergency Services Act authorizes use of the Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC) to inform the public of local, state, and national emergencies. Existing law requires a law enforcement agency to activate the Emergency Alert System within the appropriate area when that agency identifies critical alert criteria.

A **Feather Alert** will be activated when specific criteria involving an indigenous person are met. It allows the California Highway Patrol to issue a be-on-the-lookout alert, electronic flyer, or changeable message signs in cases where a vehicle may be involved, and specific identifying information about the vehicle is available for public dissemination.

A **Feather Alert** may be requested when sworn Department personnel are dispatched to a call regarding a missing person and identify the following criteria:

- The missing person is an indigenous woman or indigenous person;
- Available local and tribal resources have been utilized;
- The person has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances;
- The person is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, or environment or weather conditions; or the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person; or there are other factors indicating that the person may be in peril; and
- There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

Investigating personnel shall contact the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the missing persons tribal area to advise them of the reported missing person and request their cooperation in determining if the person is indeed missing under the above circumstances. If the missing person's tribe does not have a law enforcement agency, investigating personnel should contact the Tribal Leader of the tribe and the local sheriff's department that has jurisdiction over the tribal area for assistance. Investigating personnel should contact Homicide Bureau Missing Persons Detail or Major Crimes Bureau, in the case of abductions, if they need assistance in contacting the local law enforcement agency or if they have any questions.

If the above-listed criteria are met and the missing person is an adult, investigating personnel shall notify the Homicide Bureau, on-call detective, at (323) 890-5500 and a copy of the approved report will be emailed to the Homicide Bureau Missing Person Unit (MissingPersons2@lasd.org). If the missing person is a juvenile, investigating personnel shall notify that station's on-call detective.

Investigating personnel shall request the Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC) to activate a **Feather Alert** if the specific criteria are identified. When criteria for multiple Emergency Alerts are met, SCC will determine which alert(s) are initiated.

Department personnel shall also follow existing Department policy and procedures pertaining to missing persons, as directed in the following Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) section(s), where applicable:

- 5-09/120.00, Missing Persons (Definitions)
- 5-09/120.03, Missing Persons
- 5-09/120.04, Missing Person Check Off Forms
- 5-09/120.05, Missing Children
- 5-09/120.50, Missing Adults

SHERIFF'S COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES:

The final decision to initiate a **Feather Alert** shall be the responsibility of the SCC Watch Commander. After receiving the information from the Station/Unit and consulting the Station/Unit Watch Commander, the SCC Watch Commander shall determine if the information meets the **Feather Alert** criteria. If the criteria are not met, the SCC Watch Commander will discuss other available options with the Station/Unit Watch Commander and Homicide Bureau's Missing Person Detail to determine the best course of action.

If a **Feather Alert** is initiated, the SCC Watch Commander shall ensure that the Sheriff's Information Bureau is notified of the **Feather Alert** and local Tribal Law Enforcement at the following:

US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Office of Justice Services, District IX (California)
(916) 978-6057

If it is emergent and the Watch Commander cannot reach the above listed contact and still needs to speak with someone, they may call the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs (833) 560-2065.

All necessary data shall be immediately entered into the JDIC screen to notify the Emergency Digital Information Service (EDIS) of an abduction.

An audio message shall be recorded describing the abductor, the victim, and any vehicle or other pertinent information. This audio message will be used on the Emergency Alert System. Photographs of the victim will not, in most cases, be available for the initial JDIC/EDIS message. Therefore, once the JDIC/EDIS message is complete, with or without the photograph, it shall be sent immediately.

After the EDIS alert has been broadcast, the SCC Watch Commander shall initiate an Emergency Alert System warning message. This EAS warning message will be distributed to various media agencies.

Upon receipt of any photographs, SCC shall forward all scanned images of the victim/suspect via e-mail to the California Highway Patrol Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC). After the e-mail has been sent, the SCC Watch Commander shall telephone ENTAC to confirm receipt of photographs and request they be entered into the TRAK system. The SCC Watch Commander shall also request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to begin posting victim/suspect/vehicle information on

Changeable Message Signs within the designated target area.

- **5-09/120.52 - Ebony Alert**

California Government Code section 8594.14 establishes a new missing person alert for when Black youth, including young women and girls, who are reported missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances, at risk, developmentally disabled, or cognitively impaired, or who have been abducted. The Legislature intends to provide law enforcement with additional tools to disseminate timely, accurate information to engage the public more effectively in assisting with locating missing Black youth. The California Emergency Services Act authorizes the use of the Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC) to inform the public of local, state, and national emergencies. Existing law requires a law enforcement agency to activate the Emergency Alert System within the appropriate area when that agency identifies critical alert criteria.

An **Ebony Alert** will be activated when specific criteria involving missing Black youth are met. It allows the California Highway Patrol to issue a be-on-the-lookout alert, electronic flyer, or the use of changeable message signs in cases where a vehicle may be involved, and specific identifying information about the vehicle is available for public dissemination.

An **Ebony Alert** may be requested when sworn Department personnel are dispatched to a call regarding a missing person and after evaluating the following factors determines that an Ebony Alert would be an effective tool in the investigation:

- The missing person is between 12 to 25 years of age;
- The missing person suffers from a mental or physical disability;
- The person is missing under circumstances that indicate any of the following:
 - o The missing person's physical safety may be endangered;
 - o The missing person may be subject to trafficking;
- The person has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances;
- The person is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, environment or weather conditions, that the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person, or that there are other factors indicating that the person may be in peril;
- Available local resources have been utilized; and
- There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

If the missing person is an adult, investigating personnel shall notify the Homicide Bureau, on-call detective, at (323) 890-5500 and a copy of the approved report will be emailed to the Homicide Bureau Missing Person Unit (MissingPersons2@lasd.org). If the missing person is a juvenile, investigating personnel shall notify that station's on-call detective.

Investigating personnel shall request the Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC) to activate an **Ebony Alert** if the specific criteria are identified. When criteria for multiple Emergency Alerts are met, SCC will determine which alert(s) are initiated.

Department personnel shall also follow existing Department policy and procedures pertaining to missing

persons, as directed in the following Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) section(s), where applicable:

- 5-09/120.00, Missing Persons (Definitions)
- 5-09/120.03, Missing Persons
- 5-09/120.04, Missing Person Check Off Forms
- 5-09/120.05, Missing Children
- 5-09/120.50, Missing Adults

SHERIFF'S COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES:

The final decision to initiate an **Ebony Alert** shall be the responsibility of the SCC Watch Commander. After receiving the information from the Station/Unit and consulting the Station/Unit Watch Commander, the SCC Watch Commander shall determine if the information meets the **Ebony Alert** criteria. If the criteria are not met, the SCC Watch Commander will discuss other available options with the Station/Unit Watch Commander and Homicide Bureau Missing Person Detail to determine the best course of action.

If an **Ebony Alert** is to be initiated, the SCC Watch Commander shall ensure that the Sheriff's Information Bureau is notified of the **Ebony Alert**.

If an abduction has occurred, all necessary data shall be immediately entered into the JDIC screen designed to notify the Emergency Digital Information Service (EDIS) of the abduction.

An audio message shall be recorded describing the abductor, the victim, and any vehicle or other pertinent information. This audio message will be used on the Emergency Alert System. Photographs of the victim will not, in most cases, be available for the initial JDIC/EDIS message. Therefore, once the JDIC/EDIS message is complete, with or without the photograph, it shall be sent immediately.

After the EDIS alert has been broadcast, the SCC Watch Commander shall initiate an Emergency Alert System warning message. This EAS warning message will be received by various media agencies, who may or may not broadcast the **Ebony Alert** message.

Upon receipt of any photographs, SCC shall forward all scanned images of the victim/suspect via e-mail to the California Highway Patrol Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC). After the e-mail has been sent, the SCC Watch Commander shall telephone ENTAC to confirm receipt of photographs and request they be entered into the TRAK system. The SCC Watch Commander shall also request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to begin posting victim/suspect/vehicle information on Changeable Message Signs within the designated target area.

References

[Ebony Alert](#)

[California Highway Patrol Alerts](#)

- **5-09/120.53 - Silver Alert**

California Government Code section 8594.10 establishes a new missing person alert for when an elderly, developmentally, or cognitively impaired person has gone missing and is determined to be at risk. The California Emergency Services Act authorizes use of the Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC) to inform the public of local, state, and national emergencies. Existing law requires a law enforcement agency to activate the Emergency Alert System within the appropriate area when that agency identifies critical alert criteria.

A **Silver Alert** will be activated when specific criteria involving elderly, developmentally or cognitively impaired persons are met. It allows The California Highway Patrol to issue a be-on-the-lookout alert, an electronic flyer, or the use of changeable message signs in cases where a vehicle may be involved, and specific identifying information about the vehicle is available for public dissemination.

A **Silver Alert** may be requested when sworn Department personnel are dispatched to a call regarding a missing person and determine that the following conditions are met:

- The missing person is 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled, or cognitively impaired;
- The investigating law enforcement agency has utilized all available local resources;
- The law enforcement agency determines that the person has gone missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances;
- The law enforcement agency determines that the person is in danger because of age, health, mental or physical disability, or environment or weather conditions, that the person is in the company of a potentially dangerous person, or that there are other factors indicating that the person may be in peril; and
- There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

If the above-listed criteria are met and the missing person is an adult, investigating personnel shall notify the Homicide Bureau, on-call detective, at (323) 890-5500 and a copy of the approved report will be emailed to the Homicide Bureau Missing Person Unit (MissingPersons2@lasd.org). If the missing person is a juvenile, investigating personnel shall notify that station's on-call detective.

Investigating personnel shall request the Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC) to activate a **Silver Alert** if the specific criteria are identified. When criteria for multiple Emergency Alerts are met, SCC will determine which alerts are initiated.

Department personnel shall also follow existing Department policy and procedures pertaining to missing persons, as directed in the following Manual of Policy and Procedures (MPP) section(s), where applicable:

- 5-09/120.00, Missing Persons (Definitions)
- 5-09/120.03, Missing Persons

- 5-09/120.04, Missing Person Check Off Forms
- 5-09/120.05, Missing Children
- 5-09/120.50, Missing Adults

SHERIFF'S COMMUNICATIONS CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES:

The final decision to initiate a **Silver Alert** shall be the responsibility of the SCC Watch Commander. After receiving the information from the Station/Unit and consulting the Station/Unit Watch Commander, the SCC Watch Commander shall determine if the information meets the **Silver Alert** criteria. If the criteria are not met (e.g., the victim is not 65 years of age or older), the SCC Watch Commander shall discuss other available options with the Station/Unit Watch Commander and Homicide Bureau Missing Person Detail to determine the best course of action.

If a **Silver Alert** is to be initiated, the SCC Watch Commander shall ensure that the Sheriff's Information Bureau is notified of the **Silver Alert**.

If an abduction has occurred, all necessary data shall be immediately entered into the JDIC screen designed to notify the Emergency Digital Information Service (EDIS) of the abduction.

An audio message shall be recorded describing the abductor, the victim, and any vehicle or other pertinent information. This audio message will be used on the Emergency Alert System. Photographs of the victim will not, in most cases, be available for the initial JDIC/EDIS message. Therefore, once the JDIC/EDIS message is complete, with or without the photograph, it shall be sent immediately.

After the EDIS alert has been broadcast, the SCC Watch Commander shall initiate an Emergency Alert System warning message. This EAS warning message will be received by various media agencies, who may or may not broadcast the **Silver Alert** message.

Upon receipt of any photographs, SCC shall forward all scanned images of victim/suspect via e-mail to the California Highway Patrol Emergency Notification and Tactical Alert Center (ENTAC). After the e-mail has been sent, the SCC Watch Commander shall telephone ENTAC to confirm receipt of photographs and request they be entered into the TRAK system. The SCC Watch Commander shall also request the Department of the California Highway Patrol to begin posting victim/suspect/vehicle information on Changeable Message Signs within the designated target area.

• 5-09/120.55 - Returning or Locating a Missing Adult

Upon receipt of any information by station/unit personnel concerning the return or location of a missing adult, Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Unit, shall be notified immediately. A Found Person Report (SH-R-12C) detailing the below information shall be completed by station/unit personnel and faxed to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail by the end of shift.

Absent any suspicious circumstances, a reporting party can cancel a missing persons report via telephonic notification. A found missing person report shall be taken by desk/station personnel.

Telephonic notification to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, shall include the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) reporting the return or location of the missing adult;
- Address to which the missing adult returned or where located;
- Time the missing adult returned or was located;
- Conditions under which the missing adult was returned or was located; and
- Whether or not the person who originally reported the missing adult has been notified of the return and the location of the missing adult.

Station secretaries may remove any information regarding missing adult persons (Missing Person personal information, Missing Person Vehicle, etc.) at the direction of the Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail.

Locating Outside Agency Missing Persons Adult:

When an outside agency's missing person is located, a Found Person Report (SH-R-12C) shall be written. The station/unit secretary shall send a JDIC to the outside agency indicating the missing person has been located. The case shall be assigned to patrol and made inactive. No further action is necessary.

• 5-09/120.60 - Courtesy Reports - Missing Persons

A courtesy report for a missing person shall be completed on a Missing Person Report (SH-R-12) and will have the same assignment and URN as active cases for our own Department. Forward the report to Homicide Bureau's, Missing Person's Detail. They will be responsible for contacting the respective agency for approval of assuming the investigation. Absent alternate direction, department personnel shall err on the side of caution and complete a missing person report.

On all missing person courtesy reports the following procedures shall be completed by the deputy taking the report:

- Have an authorized person sign the "Authorization to Release Dental/Skeletal X-rays/Photographs and Description Information of Missing Juveniles" (State form SS 8567) and the "Notice to Person Reporting Missing Person" on the reverse side of the Missing Person Report, unless the report is taken telephonically; and
- Enter into NCIC within one hour of taking report.

Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail will be responsible for the following:

- Notify and send a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency where the missing person resides. That agency is responsible for the investigation;

- Notify and send a copy of the report to the agency where the missing person was last seen and/or possible destinations of the missing person;
- Include in the report the name and rank of person(s) notified; and
- Ensure that a copy of the report is sent to the concerned agency by the most expeditious manner.

In addition to the standard procedures, the following procedures must be adhered to in certain cases as outlined below:

Courtesy Reports for Missing Adults

When the courtesy report is on an adult, the station/unit taking the report is responsible for making an immediate Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS) entry and sending a copy of the report via Fax to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail by the end of shift.

Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, shall be responsible for monitoring the case until investigative responsibility is accepted by an outside agency.

If the missing adult is not located within 30 days, Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail, shall obtain dental records and x-rays and send a copy of the report, dental records, and x-rays to the Department of Justice.

Courtesy Reports for Another Agency (Missing Children)

The station/unit shall make an NCIC entry within one hour of taking the report.

Should suspicious circumstances, foul play, homicide, or an at-risk situation be suspected, the station/unit taking the report shall send a copy of the report and when possible, dental records, to the Department of Justice within twenty-four (24) hours. SRD copy of all reports and releases to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail.

If the child is not located within 30 days, the station/unit detectives shall obtain the dental records and x-rays

Accepting Existing Reports from Another Agency - (Missing Adults)

Outside agencies making a request to relinquish an existing Adult Missing Person Report investigation to a Sheriff's Department station, shall be advised to contact the Homicide Missing Person Detail directly. Department personnel shall not make an additional report, modify the JDIC entry or generate a new URN without direction from the Homicide Missing Person Detail.

Upon acceptance of the existing investigation, the Missing Person Detail will direct the requesting agency to the appropriate LASD station to file a report. The Missing Person Detail will also contact the LASD station to advise of their approval to accept the report.

After approval from Homicide Bureau's, Missing Person's detail, station personnel shall issue a "locate" to remove the originating agencies entry.

The report shall then be handled as any other missing person report taken by this Department.

Courtesy Reports for another Sheriff's Station/Unit

Prepare the case as though a station/unit case. An URN number shall be obtained from the concerned station/unit and marked "Courtesy Report for _____ Station/Unit."

The station/unit taking the report shall make the necessary computer entries, forward the report to the concerned station/unit, and SRD to Homicide Bureau, Missing Persons Detail.

• **5-09/130.00 - Drug/Driving Under the Influence - Driver's History Check**

In order for the prosecuting attorney and the court to have adequate information to comply with specific sections of the vehicle code, Driving under the influence (DUI), and other traffic violation conviction records will be needed for all persons charged with a present offense of either 23152(a) or 23153(a) CVC. These specific sections of the vehicle code are:

- Section 13352(a)(4) requires a three-year revocation of the driver's license upon a second conviction of felony drunk driving within three years;
- Section 23152(a) provides for a mandatory jail sentence and fine upon a first conviction;
- Section 13209 provides that, before sentence may be imposed upon a person convicted of misdemeanor drunk driving, or driving under the influence of drugs, the court must receive a report of all types of traffic violations on that person's driving record; and
- Section 23175 provides that persons convicted of three or more violations of sections 23103 as specified in section 23103.5, 23152, or 23153 within seven years may be charged with a felony on subsequent arrests.

The deputy making an arrest and charging a violation of either section 23152(a) or 23153(a) CVC shall obtain a booking number and complete the Booking and Property Record (B&PR)(Form SH-J-293) as required.

The secretary receiving the completed B&PR shall enter the booking information in AJIS and make a DMV driver's history check via JDIC. A certified copy of the DMV Driver's History shall be requested for records meeting the criteria of section 23175. Upon receipt of a certified copy, it shall be delivered to the district attorney for incorporation in the file. Copies shall be attached to the arrest report and distributed as required.

• **5-09/140.00 - Transportation of Females**

[Title Only]

• **5-09/140.05 - Notification Prior to In-Custody Female Transportation**

Whenever a female is arrested, she shall, if circumstances permit, be transported by a female deputy, or by two male deputies.

If circumstances prevent a female deputy or two male deputies from being available for transportation, a lone

male deputy may transport a female arrestee. He shall transport her directly from the location of arrest to a hospital or the most appropriate site for booking.

Prior to transporting females, units with a Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) equipped vehicle shall record the transportation of females using the MDC and body worn camera (BWC).

MDC procedure:

- Press the "STATUS TXT" screen button;
- When the status text dialogue box opens, type "Transp 1 Fem, start (mileage)" on the "STATUS TEXT:" line;
- Press the 10-15 screen button on the same dialogue box; and
- When the unit arrives at the station, press the "STATUS TXT" screen button, and enter "End (miles)" on the "STATUS TEXT:"line and press the "STATION" status screen button.

Department personnel with or without an MDC, shall activate their BWC prior to initiating in-custody transports of females. The BWC shall continue recording until the contact has ended.

Units not equipped with an MDC shall, prior to transporting any female, notify the Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC) operator and give the location, beginning mileage and intended destination. A lone male deputy shall include in his radio transmission that he is a "lone male deputy." The SCC operator shall acknowledge the transmission and reply with the time.

When the female has been transported to the desired destination, the deputies shall notify the SCC operator of the ending mileage. The SCC operator shall acknowledge in the same manner as for the initial message.

The beginning and ending mileage and times shall be entered in the Deputy's Daily Work Sheet (DDWS) or included in the report of the incident.

• **5-09/140.15 - Scene of Apprehension - Alleged Mentally Ill**

Whenever any female is taken into custody, as authorized by section 5150 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, she shall be transported to a designated psychiatric facility by no less than two deputies.

• **5-09/140.20 - In Custody at the Station**

Routine transportation of females from stations to CRDF shall be the responsibility of the Court Services Division Transportation Bureau in accordance with the same procedure applicable to field arrests.

• **5-09/140.25 - Assistance to Citizens**

If situations dictate a need to transport a female, such transportation should be made by a female deputy or two male deputies, if practical.

• **5-09/150.00 - Sheriff's Online Reporting System (SORTS)**

A Department member shall not decline taking a report from a reporting party that would otherwise qualify for the online reporting system. Personnel may explain the online reporting system to the reporting party as an option for documenting those incidents; however, a unit shall be dispatched if the reporting party requests an in-person response. A response by personnel shall not be required if the reporting party prefers to report the incident online.

• **5-09/150.10 - Responsibilities**

All reports submitted through the Department's online reporting system shall be approved, denied, or contact made with the reporting party of the report within 48 hours of its submission, excluding weekends and holidays, unless extenuating circumstances exist. It shall be the responsibility of the unit commander or his or her designee to ensure the online reports are in compliance with this section.

• **5-09/160.00 - Emergency Telephone Calls**

When a telephone call reporting a situation requiring emergency action is received by this Department, and the matter is one in which this Department does not have a primary enforcement jurisdiction, the following procedures shall apply:

- If there is any question of jurisdiction or when available information indicates that our emergency service can arrive sooner than that of the agency having jurisdiction, a unit of this Department and necessary allied emergency equipment, shall be dispatched;
- Necessary information shall be obtained from the caller and information relayed at once to the agency having jurisdiction; and
- If the call involves a traffic accident within the jurisdiction of the California Highway Patrol, handle in accordance with the provisions of volume 5, chapter 5, of this manual.

The incident and action taken shall be entered into the dispatch system and a tag number assigned so that the incident will appear on the printout log.

• **5-09/170.00 - Patrol Rifle Deployment**

The deployment of patrol rifles requires sound judgment and an understanding of tactical considerations. Patrol rifles can provide deputies with capabilities which may not be available with the use of a handgun or shotgun.

Deputies shall be able to articulate their decision to deploy a patrol rifle. This decision may be based upon,

but not limited to, the following:

- Nature of the incident or call for service;
- Suspect's history, if known;
- Weapon(s) involved;
- Potential for an encounter with an armed suspect;
- Capabilities and limitations of the patrol rifle;
- Proficiency of the deputy with firearms; and
- Public perception.

Instances where a patrol rifle may be deployed include, but are not limited to:

- Tactical operations such as containments and high profile event deployments;
- Entry in or around structures in search of suspects;
- Suspects who are armed with a weapon, not necessarily a firearm, whose capabilities could result in death or serious bodily injury to deputies or the public;
- Potential for extended range deadly force engagements; and
- Active deadly weapon assaults.

The deployment of another weapon may be more appropriate based upon the information provided. Any concerns regarding patrol rifle deployment shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with sound tactical principles.

• **5-09/170.05 - Authorized Patrol Rifles**

The Department-authorized patrol rifle is of the AR-15 platform. Authorized weapons must meet the following specifications:

- Manufactured by Colt, Fabrique Nationale – Herstal (FN), or other manufacturer approved by the Senior Department Armorer and Rangemaster;
- Capable of semi-automatic fire only (SEB is authorized select-fire rifles);
- Equipped with barrel lengths approved by the Senior Department Armorer and Rangemaster;
- Shall be equipped with fixed or adjustable stocks; and
- Shall be equipped with iron conventional sights. Rifles may also be equipped with Department-approved sighting systems. Sights will only be removed and/or installed by Weapons Training Unit personnel.

Patrol rifles may be equipped with mounted flashlights in a configuration approved by the Senior Department Armorer and Rangemaster.

Modifying any Department patrol rifle, beyond its original Department-issued configuration is strictly prohibited without the prior approval of the Senior Department Armorer and Rangemaster. Prohibited modifications include, but are not limited to, aftermarket pistol grips, vertical foregrips and hand guards, butt stocks, and

internal components. Only the Senior Department Armorer may attach or install any item that modifies the function of the rifle. Personal slings, that do not require hardware installation, are permitted.

The on-duty use of personally owned rifles is prohibited.

• **5-09/170.10 - Qualifications for Patrol Rifle Use**

Patrol rifle-certified personnel are those who have attended and passed the Weapons Training Unit patrol rifle certification course. Personnel must maintain their certification by attending training and qualifying as indicated by the Weapons Training Unit.

Guidelines for patrol rifle training and qualification will be maintained on the Weapons Training Unit intranet website.

Only Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) personnel are exempt from receiving initial certification and recurrent training from the Weapons Training Unit. SEB patrol rifle instructors may certify, train, and qualify SEB personnel on the use of the patrol rifle. All other sworn members of the Department must receive initial certification, recurrent certification, and training from the Weapons Training Unit.

Exemptions to the qualification requirements outlined in this policy may include, but not limited to:

- IOD status;
- Light-duty status prohibiting the shooting of a firearm;
- FMLA leave; and
- Certified pregnancy.

A pregnant employee shall automatically be exempt from shooting requirements upon submission of a Certification of Pregnancy form (SH-AD-648). This exemption shall remain in effect until thirty (30) days after the employee has returned to duty following her maternity leave of absence.

Sworn personnel who do not meet the qualification requirements due to an approved exemption shall immediately shoot and pass the qualification course when the exemption is no longer applicable.

• **5-09/170.20 - Reporting the Use of the Patrol Rifle *Rescinded***

Rescinded

• **5-09/170.25 - Patrol Rifle Issuance, Storage, and Maintenance**

BC Armory personnel will issue Department-approved patrol rifles to units that have personnel who are currently qualified with the patrol rifle. Each unit commander holds the discretion of individually assigning patrol rifles to those sworn personnel who maintain their patrol rifle qualification. When a Department member who is assigned a patrol rifle transfers, their assigned patrol rifle SHALL remain with the unit of assignment; it shall not be taken to their new unit. It will be the new unit commander's discretion to issue the respective Department member a patrol rifle from that unit's armory.

Cleaning of the patrol rifle shall only be performed by personnel possessing current patrol rifle qualification. Maintenance and repair shall be performed by armorers of the Weapons Training Unit. Station/unit personnel shall not disassemble or "field strip" patrol rifles except as required for cleaning purposes. Field Strip and cleaning procedures shall be specified by the Weapons Training Unit and maintained on the Weapons Training Unit intranet website. Unit commanders shall ensure that all equipment issued by the Weapons Training Unit associated with each patrol rifle – such as optics, magazines, flashlights, slings, and ammunition carriers – are accounted for and serviceable. Optic batteries will be replaced annually by Weapons Training Unit personnel. Batteries shall only be changed by the Weapons Training Unit. Optics and accessories shall remain on the patrol rifle.

• **5-09/170.30 - Routine Field Deployment of the Patrol Rifle**

The patrol rifle shall normally be carried locked in the rifle rack of patrol units equipped with a rack. Otherwise, the rifle shall be carried in a Department-authorized case secured in the cargo-carrying area of the vehicle. The rifle shall be carried with the bolt closed on an empty chamber, safety on, and a loaded magazine in the weapon.

Magazines shall be loaded as follows: 30-round magazines with 28 rounds or 20-round magazines with 18 rounds.

Patrol rifles shall not be deployed in non-supervisor patrol vehicles unless qualified personnel are assigned to that vehicle.

Patrol rifles shall be deployed in field supervisor vehicles.

The use of personally-owned rifle magazines is permitted, as long as they meet the criteria as specified by the Weapons Training Unit. A list of magazine specifications will be maintained on the Weapons Training Unit intranet website.

• **5-09/180.00 - Firearms Processing**

Deputies who initially receive a firearm shall:

- Make the firearm safe for handling;
 - Firearms that cannot be rendered safe shall be labeled as "NOT RENDERED SAFE," and stored in the
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watch commander's safe, or otherwise secured from contact, until which a time they can be directly transported to the Firearms Identification section of the crime lab;

- Process the firearm for fingerprints, if the circumstances warrant;
- Identify the firearm by serial number or markings, if possible. If there is no serial number, or the number is obliterated, note that condition. A service request for serial number restoration can be made in PRELIMS. Deputies shall not scratch initials or badge numbers on the firearm or otherwise mark it for identification purposes;
- Issue a Surrendered Firearms Receipt (SH-CR-627) to any person surrendering firearm. Obtain person's signature on the receipt if possible;
- Affix a PRELIMS item label to the evidence packaging, or tag to the long guns without packaging, and place the firearm in evidence; and
- Prepare the appropriate report.

Firearms held for evidence may be submitted to the crime lab for various processing as follows:

- Fingerprints or handler's DNA swab preservation – A Print Deputy Request (PDR) can be completed in PRELIMS for routine fingerprinting or handler's DNA swab preservation to be completed at the station, prior to submission to the crime lab;
- Specialized laboratory examination requests shall be made through submission of a service request in PRELIMS directed to the appropriate laboratory section(s) and/or NIBIN (National Integrated Ballistics Information Network) entry. Submit candidate firearms to the crime lab for entry into the NIBN Database. A service request is not required if NIBN entry only, is needed. Evidence custodians shall confirm the firearm has been rendered safe and any PDR or necessary service requests have been submitted and approved prior to transferring the firearm to the crime lab.

▪ **Submission of Firearm:**

- All centerfire semiautomatic handguns, .25 Auto caliber or larger, shall be submitted to the SSB/Firearms Identification section for test fire and NIBIN database entry;
- Unless case circumstances warrant, firearms seized for safekeeping will not be accepted by the crime lab for NIBIN entry. Contact a Firearms Identification Section supervisor for case specific exceptions or with any questions at 323-260-8560;
- Empty pistol magazines, when available, shall be submitted and packaged with the firearm.
- If ammunition is packaged with the firearm, it shall be packaged separately within the packaging to prevent contact with sharp objects or inadvertent chambering in the firearm during transport;
 - Ammunition shall not be taped together, marked, or otherwise altered in any manner;

- Rifles chambered in handgun calibers may be submitted. Contact a Firearm Identification section supervisor prior to submission;
- **Submission of Expended (fired) Cartridge Cases:**
 - All crime-related centerfire handgun expended cartridge cases, .25 caliber or larger, shall be submitted to the SSB/Firearms Identification section for NIBIN database entry;
- **Special Considerations:**
 - All homicide-related evidence submissions shall be made by handling detectives; and
 - For submissions of large numbers of firearms (greater than five firearms at a time), please contact the SSB/NIBIN personnel prior to submission to make arrangements for receiving the firearms.

Evidence custodians shall not deliver a firearm to Central Property that should have been first submitted to the crime lab for testing. Surrendered firearms or firearms seized for safekeeping will not be routinely accepted for testing. Firearms sent to Central Property shall be accompanied by a JDIC record status.

Station/unit detectives or Detective Division personnel to whom the case is assigned shall:

- Be responsible for the disposition of all firearms, regardless of the assignment of the original case;
- Determine if test firing or other specialized laboratory examinations are necessary and if so, complete a service request in PRELIM and deliver to the crime lab once approved;
- Check for any "records" or "wants" concerning the firearm with DOJ/AFS;
 - Clear any "wants" before forwarding them to Central Property and Evidence;
- Release firearms not sent to the crime lab or firearms returned from the lab as follows:
 - Introduce the firearm into court as evidence if expert testimony is not required;
 - Release the firearm directly to the Central Property custodian. A copy of the JDIC record status must accompany each firearm that is transported to Central Property;

All firearms/weapons released to Central Property for disposal shall be recorded on a Personal Property form (76P791-CR37). Investigating officers shall ensure that the proper documentation is attached to the form.

• 5-09/180.05 - Possession, Confiscation, and Release of Firearms - Mentally Ill Persons

Firearms, either in the possession or under the control of any person detained or apprehended for examination of his mental condition, shall be confiscated. The Department shall retain custody of the weapon

until released for one of the following reasons:

- Person released without commitment;
- Restoration of the mental capacity of the person pursuant to WIC;
- Appointment of a guardian - weapon released to guardian; or
- Any other disposition ordered by the concerned court.

On the face of the property release form, note that "Release was pursuant to requirements of 8103 WIC."

- Section 8103 WIC has the effect of requiring the release of firearms;
- Section 8103 WIC asserts that no person adjudicated by a court to be a danger to others as a result of a mental disorder or mental illness, after October 1, 1955, shall have any firearms in his possession or under his custody or control unless he has been issued a certificate of competency; and
- Seventy-two hour observation patients are not subject to adjudication and are not required to possess a certificate.

The addition of station/unit detectives in a joint assignment with the station/unit mental health liaison lieutenant will expedite the investigation and disposition of such cases. Station/unit detectives will handle the interviews and obtain and release the weapon due to proximity of subject to concerned station/unit.

• **5-09/180.10 - Prohibited Possession - Seizure/Surrender of Assault Weapons**

Pursuant to Penal Code section 30900, any person possessing an "assault weapon" is required to register that weapon with the California Department of Justice (DOJ).

Any person (registrant) who registers an assault weapon and is subsequently identified by DOJ as prohibited under 30950 PC (i.e., convicted felons, habitual drug users, minors, mentally ill, convicted specified misdemeanants) is required by law to surrender the weapon to a police or sheriff's department. DOJ notifies both the registrant and the concerned local police or sheriff's department by letter.

Major Crimes Bureau is responsible for investigating these notifications. DOJ Prohibited Registration/Possession of Assault Weapons notification letters must be forwarded to the unit commander of Major Crimes Bureau for disposition. An URN number will be assigned and the investigative file maintained at Major Crimes Bureau.

The Major Crimes Bureau investigator shall attempt to ascertain whether or not the registrant surrendered the weapon in compliance with the DOJ notification. If compliance cannot be determined, the investigator shall, if necessary, obtain a search warrant for seizure of the weapon. Service of the search warrant shall be accomplished by the Special Enforcement Bureau.

The Major Crimes Bureau investigator is responsible for placing any seized weapons in evidence at Central Property. Major Crimes Bureau is also responsible for the handling of suspects, criminal filings, return of the search warrant and any other necessary follow-up investigation.

In the event a registrant surrenders the weapon to a deputy in the field or at a patrol station/unit, a report shall

be written and Major Crimes Bureau immediately notified. In most cases, a person surrendering an assault weapon to a Department member should not be arrested when the only violation pertains to the prohibited possession of the assault weapon. In lieu of arrest, a complaint should be sought through the district attorney.

The Major Crimes Bureau unit commander shall notify DOJ of all relevant facts concerning the surrender of the weapon, and/or actions taken by the Department. Notification shall be in writing to California Department of Justice, Automated Firearms, Licenses and Permits Unit, P.O. Box 903417, Sacramento, CA 94203-4170.

In all cases, whether the weapon is seized by search warrant or obtained by surrender in compliance to a DOJ notification letter, a court order providing for the destruction of the weapon must be obtained prior to its destruction.

• **5-09/190.00 - Issuing New Serial Numbers for Pistols, Revolvers, and Long Guns**

This Department has been authorized by the State Department of Justice to assign and stamp new serial numbers on pistols, revolvers, and long guns.

All persons requesting new serial numbers shall be directed to Arson/Explosives Detail which shall conduct an investigation regarding the weapon and owner and initiate a first report. If the weapon and owner are cleared, a copy of the report and the weapon shall be delivered to the Scientific Services Bureau, Firearms Identification Unit. This unit shall be responsible for the following:

- Assign and stamp a serial number on the weapon; and
- Hold the weapon at the lab pending release to the investigator.

The Arson/Explosives Detail shall submit a supplemental report indicating the serial number assigned and stamped on the weapon and the date released to owner.

• **5-09/200.00 - Emergency Driving Policies**

It is the policy of this Department to perform all code 3 responses in accordance with applicable laws, utilizing red light and sounding a siren, as may be reasonably necessary, with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway. The safety of all persons and the exemption of the county and its employees from civil and criminal liability are considerations that demand responsible and controlled code 3 responses at all times. All personnel involved in emergency driving or code 3 operations shall never abdicate their responsibility to continuously evaluate the necessity for initiating and continuing code 3 operations. The necessity for self-discipline and accountability for decisions is paramount to the safety of the community and deputy personnel. Code 3 responses include pursuits as well as all other types of code 3 operations resulting from dispatched information or request/information from other units. Self-initiated activity which does not constitute a pursuit (5-09/210.00), such as a deputy initiating a traffic stop, is not considered a code 3 response.

Code 3 operations, initiated solely for training purposes (e.g. response drills, pursuit driving) are strictly prohibited on public streets or any other area accessible to the public. Nothing in this policy is intended to place this restriction upon the Department's Emergency Vehicle Operations Center (EVOC).

This policy shall not be altered by substitutions or additions by unit-level directives.

- **5-09/200.05 - Civil/Criminal Liability**

Under section 17004 of the Vehicle Code, Deputy personnel are not liable for civil damage on account of personal injury to, or death of, any person; or damage to property resulting from the operation, in the line of duty, of an authorized emergency vehicle responding to an emergency call. Immunity from liability for the county or the employee may only be in force when the vehicle is operating with red light and sounding a siren, as may be reasonably necessary, and then only when the vehicle is operated with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway. Failure to operate an emergency vehicle according to these standards may subject the operator or the county to civil liability for death or injury to persons or property and may subject the operator to criminal liability.

Hazardous speeds, dangerous maneuvers and loss of vehicle control, regardless of the circumstances, may be in violation of the standard requiring due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.

Emergency vehicle exemption statutes do not relieve a peace officer from the duty of exercising "due regard" for the safety of others.

Acting without due regard for the safety of others, even when red light and siren are employed, may subject the operator and the county to civil and/or criminal liability.

Refer to:

- 17004 CVC - Authorized Emergency Vehicle.
 - 21055 CVC - Exemption of Authorized Emergency Vehicle.
 - 21056 CVC - Effect of Exemption.
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- **5-09/200.10 - Code 2**

This Department does not recognize "Code 2" or "Code 2-1/2" responses.

Members are required to operate vehicles in strict compliance with the rules of the road unless exempted under code 3 conditions pursuant to, and in conformance with, Vehicle Code section 21055. Exemptions from civil and criminal liability are dependent upon strict compliance with these guidelines.

- **5-09/200.15 - Code 3 Defined**

A proper code 3 response consists of operating an authorized emergency vehicle with red light and sounding a siren, as may be reasonably necessary, and operating that vehicle with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway (Refer to 21055 CVC).

• **5-09/200.20 - Initiation of Code 3 Responses**

Desk personnel receiving calls shall identify those requiring emergency response and shall dispatch field units code 3. The following emergencies are examples of operations that may require code 3 responses:

- Officer needs assistance;
- Traffic accidents with injuries;
- Baby/person choking;
- Breathing ceased/heart stopped;
- Blood runs; and/or
- Felony in progress/just occurred, suspect in area.

Desk personnel are encouraged, when appropriate, to provide a code 3 designation with emergency calls. Field personnel should not normally initiate a code 3 response based upon an emergency call received without code 3 authorization, since desk personnel usually have better information upon which to determine the appropriate response.

A code 3 response may not be appropriate in a medical emergency where another agency has previously dispatched emergency assistance (Example: A code 3 response to a medical emergency may be inappropriate when the fire department is the informant on a rescue call).

It is imperative that, under circumstances indicating the possible need of emergency services, code 3 emergency driving policies be employed. Any doubt concerning emergency circumstances or questions of jurisdiction should be resolved by responding code 3. However, acting without due regard for the safety of others while operating in an emergency driving mode may subject employees to administrative action.

• **5-09/200.25 - Use of Code 3 - Authority/Responsibility**

Desk personnel and drivers of vehicles equipped with an authorized red light and siren may initiate code 3 responses. All persons authorizing, supervising, or participating in code 3 responses must be able to justify their decisions and actions within the guidelines of this section.

Desk personnel authorizing a code 3 response are also responsible for immediate notification to any other agencies adjacent to Sheriff's stations/unit which is also dispatching emergency equipment that this Department is making a code 3 response. Notification is required regardless of whether assistance from other agencies are requested. When desk personnel authorize or become aware of a pursuit, need for emergency assistance or any other type of code 3 response, they shall immediately notify their watch commander.

Field deputies initiating or participating in pursuits shall immediately notify SCC and shall be guided by subsequent subsections. Immediate notifications to other agencies may be accomplished through SCC by desk personnel.

Field deputies initiating code 3 responses in non-pursuit emergencies must notify SCC and receive an acknowledgment of the notification before beginning the response. In making this notification, personnel need

not wait for approval from their desk; however, personnel shall abide by orders subsequently received regarding the response.

- **5-09/200.30 - Vehicle Speeds**

In non-pursuit code 3 operations, vehicle speed should not exceed that which is reasonable and prudent and within the restrictions imposed by section 22350 California Vehicle Code, "Basic Speed Law." This will often be less than the posted speed limit. Red light and siren must be used to warn other motorists and assist in gaining the right-of-way.

- **5-09/200.35 - Code 3 Vehicle Operation and Tactics**

Using tactics during code 3 operations shall require a coordinated effort among all units involved. The use of these tactics does not excuse the individual deputy from operating with due regard for the safety of all persons on the highway.

Entering and Clearing Intersections

To minimize the risk to deputy personnel and the public during all code 3 operations including pursuits, deputy personnel shall slow and, if necessary, stop at all intersections when faced with a red traffic signal light or stop sign. Using a continuous siren, the deputy shall then proceed with extreme caution. The deputy shall drive slowly, paying particular attention not only to yielding vehicles in the intersection, but to approaching vehicles as well. Deputy personnel shall clear the intersection "lane-by-lane" and, if necessary, stop at each lane before proceeding. Moreover, this cautious driving approach should be extended when driving through intersections on a green signal, particularly when there are "blind spots" and where the deputy's field of vision is obstructed, in any way, of a potential traffic hazard.

Blocking Intersections

Blocking intersections is permitted only in those instances where it is clear that public safety would be enhanced. Blocking actions must be the direct result of a coordinated effort between the blocking radio cars and the units responding code 3. Only distinctively marked radio cars or motorcycles equipped with emergency lights and siren may be used to block an intersection during code 3 operations. Blocking of an intersection does not relieve others operating code 3 from exercising due regard for their safety and the safety of others as they traverse the intersection. Due to the inherent dangers of traversing an intersection against the signals of traffic control devices, the requirement to safely clear the intersection, "lane-by-lane" remains in effect.

Caravanning

Caravanning is defined as multiple radio cars responding as a group from one designated location to another. These radio cars operate in concert with one another, often employing vehicle movement and blocking tactics as a group. Designated field units actively engaged in a pursuit, which is effectively a following tactic, shall not be considered caravanning.

Spacing

All units operating code 3 or engaged in a pursuit, whether directly behind a suspect vehicle or another police vehicle, shall space themselves at a distance that will ensure proper braking and reaction time in the event the pursued or lead vehicle stops, slows or turns.

• **5-09/200.40 - Code 3 Responses to Critical Incidents**

Following a code 3 response to a critical incident, it shall be the responsibility of the watch commander to ensure the code 3 response is fully debriefed. This debriefing will be conducted to assess the performance and tactics utilized, along with strategies which may be improved in future code 3 responses. This debriefing shall be documented in the watch commander's log.

For purposes of this section, a critical incident may be, but is not limited to:

- Deputy-involved shootings;
- Any application of deadly force;
- Deputy-involved traffic collisions;
- An incident requiring multiple deputies to respond; or
- Any other major incident identified by a supervisor.

Note: A one or two unit response to an emergent call for service does not generally fall under the definition of a critical incident.

Supervisors should consider the following topics when debriefing a code 3 response to a critical incident:

- Discussion about the nature of the request and the coordination of the responding units;
- Appropriate unit response relative to the nature of the request;
- Who was authorized to respond and their travel distance;
- Driving habits, including the proper clearing of intersections lane by lane, tunnel vision, location awareness, distracted driving/MDC use, appropriate speeds, etc;
- The use of emergency lights and siren;
- Additional factors considered during a code 3 response, such as weather/traffic conditions, driver's experience and vehicle capabilities;
- Positioning of vehicles upon arrival to allow access for additional emergency vehicle traffic;
- The timely canceling of code 3 responses after sufficient deputies have arrived and secured the scene; and
- Any code 3 response-related actions the field supervisor feels the need to debrief.

The positive and negative aspects of the critical incident should be debriefed in a constructive manner with all personnel involved. This may also include desk personnel. All aspects, from responding to the critical incident to the outcome of the critical incident, should be included in the debrief.

• 5-09/205.00 - Code 9 and Pre-Stop Coordination

The tactics employed prior to attempting a vehicle stop are separate and distinct from those in a pursuit operation. Certain field situations require “pre-stop coordination” prior to initiating a vehicle stop including, but not limited to, a single deputy who observes a vehicle suspected of a crime. In such situations, the deputy shall coordinate additional units to assist in a subsequent vehicle stop. The purpose is to increase deputy safety as well as discourage the suspect’s inclination/ability to flee. This is not only an accepted and trained tactic, it has repeatedly proven to be successful.

Pre-stop coordination is not a pursuit activity and should not be confused with “following only” as referenced in the policy. Pre-stop coordination begins prior to attempting a vehicle stop and ends with the activation of lights and siren.

The Sheriff’s Communications Center (SCC) has designated a code 9 for personnel to broadcast their desire to initiate pre-stop coordination (thus avoiding the use of the term “following”). To facilitate pre-stop coordination, personnel shall advise they are a code 9 on a vehicle and, once given the duplex patch, give the reason for the stop, exact location, current direction of travel, and vehicle description.

When a code 9 (pre-stop coordination) is initiated:

- SCC shall automatically initiate the duplex patch when a code 9 is advised, obtain the estimated response times of assisting units, coordinate the response of the two nearest units, and request an Aero Unit;
- Once SCC has obtained the response times of the two nearest units, the handling unit may opt to request assisting units respond code 3. Factors to be considered when requesting assisting units code 3 should include the following:
 - The safety of the responding deputies;
 - The possibility of an armed confrontation;
 - Response times of the two nearest units; and
 - Traffic congestion;
- So as to not alert the suspect, code 3 responses should be terminated prior to coming into the view of the requesting unit’s and suspect’s vehicles;
- The requesting unit should try to observe the suspect vehicle from a reasonable distance and consider not pulling directly behind the suspect vehicle until assisting units and Aero (if responding) are in place;
- When preparing to initiate a vehicle stop, and when practical, the initiating unit should be within reasonable proximity to the suspect’s vehicle prior to activating the red lights and siren. In closing the distance, every effort should be made to comply with basic speed laws and other rules of the road. When that is not possible, activation of red lights and siren is required; and
- Once units are in position and the decision is made to attempt to stop the vehicle, the primary unit should direct the assisting units into position and continue to direct their actions throughout the operation.

• 5-09/210.00 - Pursuits

The Sheriff's Department's pursuit policy is a comprehensive plan to ensure that pursuits, when necessary, are managed as safely as possible and adhere to all applicable State laws. Because the policy is comprehensive, sworn personnel must understand it in its entirety. This will ensure proper coordination between Units, Bureaus, supervisors and managers. Pursuant to state law, all sworn members shall certify, in writing, that they have received, read, and understand this policy. In addition, the Department shall provide regular and periodic training regarding this policy. The Training Bureau, Administrative and Training Division, shall ensure that appropriate records of this certification and required training are maintained.

Definition of a Pursuit

A pursuit is an active attempt by the driver of a departmental vehicle to stop a moving vehicle whose driver is attempting to avoid apprehension through evasive driving tactics or, after a reasonably short period of time, fails to stop after red light and siren have been activated. Following a vehicle whose driver is attempting to evade, or has failed to yield, after a reasonably short period of time, whether accomplished with or without red lights activated and siren sounding, and regardless of the terminology used to describe these acts, is also a pursuit.

Policy Governing Pursuits

It is the policy of the Sheriff's Department that pursuits are permitted only when the necessity of immediate apprehension outweighs the degree of danger created by the pursuit, and only when in compliance with this policy and applicable state laws.

The purpose of this policy is to secure a balance between protecting the public against personal injury, death, or property damage and law enforcement's duty to enforce the law and apprehend violators. It is also intended to provide guidance for the management, control, and tactics associated with pursuit operations as required by state law. Since there are numerous situations which arise in law enforcement that are unique, it is impossible for this policy or any standard operating procedure to anticipate all possible circumstances. Therefore, this policy is intended to direct as well as guide a sworn member's discretion in matters of vehicular pursuits.

Initiating Deputies, Supervisors, and Watch Commanders engaged in any pursuit operation will be responsible for providing the Unit Commander objective reasons for initiating, continuing, and terminating a vehicle pursuit. Consideration must be given to the extent of danger the suspect poses to the public beyond the act of evasion itself.

• **5-09/210.02 - Initiation of a Pursuit**

Deputy personnel are authorized to initiate a pursuit only when the driver of a motor vehicle clearly exhibits an intention to avoid apprehension or detention by using the vehicle to flee, or fails to stop, and only after careful consideration of the following:

- The seriousness of the known or suspected offense and its relationship to community safety;
- The need for immediate apprehension of the suspect compared to the risks to the public and/or persons engaged in the pursuit;
- The speeds involved;

- The safety of the uninvolved bystanders and motorists in the area;
- Pedestrian and vehicular traffic volume;
- The time of day;
- Weather and road conditions;
- Familiarity with the area of the pursuit;
- The quality of radio communications;
- The need for and availability of air support;
- The capabilities of the police vehicle involved; and
- Any other factor that would indicate the interests of public safety and effective law enforcement would not justify initiation of a vehicle pursuit.

A pursuit may be initiated under the following conditions:

- Known or suspected serious felony suspect(s);

NOTE: "Serious felony" as used in this section includes: the attempt or act of murder, mayhem, serious or violent sex crimes, robbery, arson, kidnapping, carjacking, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary (including commercial burglary that results in significant loss or is determined to be part of a serial crime), major narcotics violations, and terrorist acts.

NOTE: Possession of narcotics/drugs in amounts associated with common personal use or street-level sales does not warrant the initiation of a vehicular pursuit.

- A confirmed grand theft, vehicle; or
- Misdemeanor suspects only in the following situations:
 - Where the suspect(s) has been observed by a deputy or reliable witness(s) to be displaying a firearm in an assaultive manner reasonably contemporaneous to the initiation of the pursuit; or
 - Where there is reasonable suspicion to believe the suspect is driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or is otherwise impaired, and the suspect's driving prior to the attempted stop is so flagrantly reckless that it presents a clear and present danger to other users of the highway, and failure to apprehend the violator would likely pose an imminent and life threatening danger to the public.

NOTE: Examples of such flagrantly reckless driving include, but are not limited to; collisions with other vehicles or objects, forcing other vehicles to take evasive action to avoid collision, failure to stop at controlled intersections without slowing, or driving on the wrong side of the highway. Following the pursuit, personnel shall provide the watch commander with a full and specific explanation of the hazardous acts that led to the decision to pursue.

A pursuit shall **not** be initiated or continued:

- Once it has been determined that the driver of a vehicle is refusing or failing to yield and the only known reason for the intended stop is:
 - An infraction or misdemeanor crime (including California Vehicle Code (CVC) violations), except as provided above;
 - Any crime not classified as a serious felony, as described in this section; or

- A possible grand theft, vehicle.

There are few law enforcement operations that require a higher degree of common sense and sound judgment than sustained high-speed vehicle pursuits. Deputies must effectively perform in an atmosphere where long-range consequences may hinge upon the soundness of split-second decisions.

The immediate apprehension of the violator is not more important than the safety of uninvolved bystanders, other motorists, or the deputy. When it becomes apparent that the immediacy of apprehension is outweighed by unreasonable danger to the deputy or others, the pursuit must be terminated.

While engaged in a pursuit, deputy personnel are exempt from the rules of the road only if they are operating their vehicle code 3. However, the law does not excuse or exempt from civil liability, an abuse or arbitrary exercise of this privilege, nor does it provide exemptions from criminal and civil liability when the vehicle is being driven without due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway (21056 CVC).

The keys to a successful conclusion of a pursuit are proper self-discipline and sound professional judgment.

• 5-09/210.04 - Pursuits Involving Police Motorcycles, Non Pursuit-Rated Police Vehicles or Vehicles Not Equipped with Overhead Emergency Lights, or Unmarked Police Vehicles

Pursuits involving police motorcycles, non pursuit-rated police vehicles, vehicles not equipped with overhead emergency lights, or unmarked police vehicles expose personnel to an increased possibility of injury and are generally prohibited. Personnel driving these vehicles shall carefully weigh all options before initiating or entering into a pursuit. Supervisors shall exercise prudent judgment in allowing their involvement to continue and be prepared to explain why the risks were outweighed by the benefits of such vehicles' involvement.

Manufacturers of police vehicles designate some models as "pursuit rated." Such a rating indicates the manufacturer certifies the vehicle to be generally suitable for high-speed police pursuits. Authorized emergency vehicles that are not "pursuit rated," including various SUV's, vans, pick up trucks, and service vehicles shall not be used during a pursuit except under the most compelling circumstances and shall not be driven beyond the vehicle's normal performance capabilities. Personnel initiating a pursuit using a vehicle that is not pursuit-rated shall immediately advise the watch commander so that a pursuit-rated vehicle can be dispatched to replace them.

Deputy personnel riding motorcycles or driving vehicles that are not pursuit rated or equipped with overhead emergency lights, or driving unmarked vehicles with lights and siren shall terminate their involvement in a pursuit when a marked black and white unit equipped with overhead emergency lights joins the pursuit unless otherwise directed by a supervisor. They may participate as a secondary unit only after receiving specific approval from a supervisor.

Vehicles without red lights and siren shall not initiate or join in a pursuit under any circumstances.

• 5-09/210.05 - Termination of a Pursuit

The decision to pursue is reversible and it takes a prudent deputy to know when to terminate the pursuit. Deputies must constantly evaluate whether the seriousness of the crime justifies continuing the pursuit. Consideration must also be given to the extent of danger the suspect poses to the public beyond the act of evasion itself.

A pursuit shall be terminated:

- When there is an unreasonable danger to the deputy or other users of the highway. An unreasonable danger exists (but is not limited to) when a deputy's and/or suspect's speed dangerously exceeds the normal flow of traffic;
- When weather conditions, visibility, road conditions, traffic conditions, including the volume of pedestrian and vehicular traffic or other factors, such as the availability of air support and the quality of radio communications, indicate unwarranted risk to uninvolved bystanders, other motorists or personnel engaged in the pursuit;
- When the violator can be identified to the point where apprehension may be more safely made at a later time;
- When the primary unit has lost sight of the pursued vehicle and visual contact is not immediately regained. This does not include the momentary loss of visual contact caused by the pursued vehicle turning a corner;
- When action is taken by another police department traversing our jurisdiction and our assistance is no longer needed;
- After a reasonably short period of time when it has been determined that the only reason for the pursuit is a known reported stolen vehicle. The term "reasonably short period of time" applies only to those pursuits wherein the driver is not driving dangerously. If the suspect is driving recklessly or at excessive speeds the pursuit shall be terminated immediately; or
- When there is insufficient objective information to indicate that the suspect(s) is wanted for any crime inclusive of the approved felonies and misdemeanors described in MPP section 5-09/210.02.

An evaluation of the risks posed to uninvolved bystanders and motorists, suspects, and those deputies engaged in the pursuit shall be ongoing by all participants, particularly supervisors, throughout the duration of the pursuit.

When a pursuit is terminated, all units shall discontinue their code 3 operation and obey all rules of the road. Unless otherwise directed by the watch commander, deputies are to immediately return to normal activities in their assigned area(s) and cease attempts to pursue or follow the vehicle; except as provided in this policy.

All personnel involved in any aspect of a vehicular pursuit will be held accountable for their role in the continuation of the pursuit when circumstances indicate that it should have been terminated.

Any doubt concerning the duration of a pursuit should be resolved in favor of the safety of the public, Department members, and other users of the highway.

Speeds

Due to wide variations in roadways and conditions, speed limits cannot be established that will apply to all pursuits. Consideration should be given to terminating a pursuit or initiating "surveillance mode" as described in MPP section 5-09/210.15, when the deputy's and/or suspect's speed becomes unreasonable. On urban or

suburban surface streets, speeds in excess of 20 miles per hour over the posted or prima facie speed limit would normally be considered unreasonable and shall require termination of the pursuit absent a violent felony or an articulable need to continue the pursuit. An exception to this criteria may include rural, unpopulated areas devoid of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

Additional factors to be considered by pursuing deputies and supervisors to determine reasonable speeds should include:

- Public safety, including uninvolved bystanders, other motorists and persons in the pursued vehicle;
 - Officer safety;
 - Need for immediate apprehension versus risks to the public, officers, and suspect(s);
 - Seriousness of the known offense;
 - Duration of the pursuit;
 - Location of pursuit (i.e., rural, residential, commercial, freeway, open highway, etc.);
 - Familiarity with area of pursuit;
 - Quality of radio communications;
 - Availability of air support;
 - Weather conditions and visibility; and
 - Type of vehicles involved in pursuit.
-

• **5-09/210.08 - Pursuit Re-Engagement**

The watch commander maintains the authority to order units to re-engage in a pursuit that has been terminated or has progressed into surveillance mode if, information develops that the suspect's criminal threat has elevated or their dangerous driving continues, and the public's best interests would be served by re-engaging in the pursuit. This shall be considered on a case-by-case basis, with the decision of whether or not to re-engage focused on reasonable efforts to increase public safety.

• **5-09/210.10 - Control of a Pursuit**

Primary Unit Responsibility

The deputy initiating a pursuit is the primary unit and shall, in all cases, immediately provide the station/unit watch commander with the following information through the Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC):

- Unit identification;
 - Location, speed, and direction of travel;
 - The specific reason for the pursuit, including known laws violated;
 - Vehicle description, including license number, if known;
 - Number of occupants;
 - Traffic conditions, including the description of any hazardous driving by the suspect; and
 - Any information concerning the use of firearms or other officer safety factors when present.
-

Failure to immediately provide the above information shall be cause for the station/unit watch commander to consider termination of the pursuit.

The primary unit shall maintain field command and bears operational responsibility for the pursuit unless relieved by a supervisor.

The authority of the primary unit pertains to the immediate field operation and is, at all times, subordinate to the command of the field supervisor and station/unit watch commander.

Any time a pursuit is initiated due to a "possible" crime, including reckless driving under the influence (DUI), personnel shall be required, subsequent to the pursuit, to articulate to the watch commander the objective criteria which led them to believe the suspect(s) was involved in criminal activity which warranted initiation of a pursuit under this policy. During the pursuit, the watch commander may solicit sufficient information from the initiating unit, via radio, to justify continuation of the pursuit.

Personnel who participate in a pursuit, or are present at the termination of a pursuit, shall immediately report their involvement to the on-scene field supervisor.

Assisting Unit Responsibility

Assistance will be coordinated by the SCC dispatcher who will immediately activate the duplex patch and advise the primary unit of the identity and location of back-up units in the immediate vicinity to assist in the pursuit and any subsequent tactical operation.

The active pursuit shall normally consist of the primary vehicle unit and three back-up units. A field supervisor's vehicle, if involved in the pursuit, is not counted toward the four unit limit. If additional assistance is specifically requested, the level will be determined by:

- Nature of crime;
- Number of suspects;
- Whether participating units are one or two-person cars; and
- Other clear and articulated facts that would warrant the increased number of units.

Only a field supervisor or watch commander may authorize more than four units to engage in a pursuit. All other units will remain aware of the direction and progress of the pursuit, but shall not actively participate and shall not respond code 3 unless specifically authorized. No unit shall parallel the pursuit on adjacent streets, code 3 or otherwise.

NOTE: A field supervisor is expected and authorized to respond code 3 toward the pursuit operation to enable the supervisor to be present for any post-pursuit tactical operation.

Assisting units, upon joining a pursuit, shall notify the SCC dispatcher of their presence and identity. If the primary unit is a one-person unit, the deputy can request the first assisting unit to assume radio broadcast responsibility, allowing the primary unit to devote full attention to driving. The third, and any additional authorized units are back-up units intended to be available to provide tactical assistance at the terminus of the pursuit.

If the primary unit becomes disabled, the first assisting unit will then become the primary unit. The SCC dispatcher will advise field units that a new back-up unit is needed and the next unit to join the pursuit will be designated the back-up unit as authorized by the watch commander or field sergeant.

Personnel who participate in a pursuit, or are present at the termination of a pursuit, shall immediately report their involvement to the on-scene field supervisor.

SCC Responsibility

Pursuit operations shall be conducted on the initiating unit's home frequency. The SCC dispatcher will immediately activate the duplex patch and advise the primary unit of the identity and location of back-up units in position to assist. SCC shall immediately request an Aero Bureau unit. When the pursuit approaches or traverses another station's/unit's area, that station's/unit's frequency will be patched with the frequency upon which the pursuit is being broadcast, unless another emergency or other significant circumstance(s) indicates otherwise. This procedure is intended to enhance officer safety.

NOTE: The broadcast of a pursuit on any frequency shall not, by itself, be considered authorization for other units' participation in the pursuit.

Supervisory Responsibility - Field Sergeant

The field sergeant of the initiating unit, or the unit assisting an outside agency, shall acknowledge and actively monitor the pursuit. If there is no field sergeant, the watch commander shall deploy the watch sergeant, or request the assistance of the field sergeant of the station/unit nearest the pursuit. If necessary, the sergeant shall assert control of the pursuit by directing specific units into or out of the pursuit, re-designating primary and/or back-up responsibilities or by terminating the pursuit. The field sergeant shall also ensure that the watch commander's orders are strictly followed. As with any tactical operation, it is not necessary that the sergeant be physically present to begin coordination.

The sergeant shall respond to the terminus of the pursuit, oversee post-pursuit tactics, and assert control when warranted. The sergeant will ensure compliance with all Department policies, specifically as they relate to the use of force and field tactics. The sergeant shall also identify all Department personnel who participated in, or responded to, the terminus of the pursuit. Personnel who participate in a pursuit, or are present at the termination of a pursuit, shall immediately report their involvement to the on-scene field supervisor. The field sergeant may respond code 3.

Supervisory Responsibility - Watch Commander

The watch commander of the patrol unit initiating the pursuit shall maintain overall command of the operation. This command responsibility shall include all Department units involved in the pursuit.

NOTE: If a deputy from a unit other than a patrol station, in transit from one assignment to another or from their headquarters to an assignment, or assigned to Community Colleges Bureau, initiates a pursuit, the SCC watch sergeant shall notify the watch commander of the nearest station, who shall assume immediate command of the operation.

NOTE: If a deputy assigned to Transit Services Bureau (TSB) initiates a pursuit, the TSB watch commander shall assume immediate command of the operation.

The watch commander shall respond to the desk area and immediately take command. In order to maintain operational command and control, the watch commander, either directly or through subordinate personnel, shall establish "cold line" communications with the SCC watch sergeant, who shall immediately and directly carry out the orders of the watch commander. If necessary to assert operational control, the watch commander may communicate with field units using station/unit transmitting capabilities. This should rarely be necessary.

The watch commander shall make a decision regarding the continuation or termination of the pursuit based upon the information received, including weather and traffic conditions. In the absence of immediate information from the field, the watch commander shall consider termination of the pursuit.

Should the watch commander be in the field during a pursuit, his/her duties and responsibilities shall be accomplished by use of the Sheriff's radio system. If the watch commander is not immediately available, the watch sergeant shall assume operational responsibility for the pursuit.

NOTE: For purposes of clarification, references to the watch commander throughout this policy will apply to the watch sergeant and/or field sergeant in those instances wherein the watch commander is not immediately available to assume command of the pursuit operation.

Watch commanders shall ensure that adjacent jurisdictions or station/unit areas are notified of any public or officer safety concerns following the termination of a pursuit by this Department when the suspect vehicle is known or believed to be traveling into the other agency's or station's/unit's area. If the watch commander authorizes an Aero Bureau unit to continue monitoring a vehicle whose pursuit has been terminated, the watch commander may direct the Aero Bureau unit to make that notification via radio.

• **5-09/210.12 - Aero Bureau Responsibility**

An Aero Bureau unit shall attempt to become involved in every pursuit initiated by this Department or conducted in the Sheriff's Department's patrol jurisdiction. This Aero Bureau unit shall be under the command of the station/unit watch commander, who has overall responsibility for the pursuit. The Aero Bureau unit shall follow the directions of the watch commander, unless these directions jeopardize the safety of the Aero Bureau unit or ground units involved in the pursuit. In the event the Aero Bureau unit receives a directive which they cannot respond to or complete for reasons of safety, they shall immediately advise the station/unit watch commander.

At the time of initial visual contact and before engaging in the vehicle pursuit, the Aero Bureau unit shall broadcast:

- The total number of ground units visibly involved;
- The estimated vehicle speeds and traffic conditions; and
- When conditions permit, the Aero Bureau unit shall broadcast the rooftop numbers of all involved units.

Once the Aero Bureau unit is in a position to maintain visual contact with the pursued vehicle, they shall notify SCC. Radio broadcast responsibility and coordination of law enforcement activity on the ground then shifts to the Aero Bureau unit. All ground units, except the primary pursuit vehicle, and three back-up units, shall terminate all code 3 operations and obey the rules of the road. If it is not immediately clear which units are primary and back-up, the Aero Bureau unit shall designate the primary unit and the back-up units by rooftop numbers. All other units will immediately disengage from the pursuit unless specifically authorized to remain in the pursuit by the field supervisor or watch commander. It is recognized that sufficient personnel should be available to handle any tactical incident if the pursuit suddenly terminates. Although radio broadcast responsibility and tactical coordination have shifted to the Aero Bureau unit, overall command continues to rest with the station/unit watch commander.

In addition to Aero Bureau's responsibility to broadcast rooftop number of vehicles engaged in the pursuit, the watch commander may direct the Aero Bureau unit to broadcast this information when appropriate and feasible throughout the pursuit operation. Any non-designated unit which does not immediately disengage from the pursuit shall be identified by rooftop number and broadcast to the watch commander.

The Aero Bureau unit will broadcast the location of the suspect vehicle and advise ground units of upcoming traffic congestion, road hazards, suspect's actions, or any other information which may increase the margin of safety. This will not alleviate participating ground units from exercising due regard for the safety of themselves and the public.

Since the broadcast of law enforcement personnel's tactical positions could pose an officer safety risk, the Aero Bureau unit shall advise the watch commander and field units via Sheriff's radio when a news media helicopter is in the vicinity of the tactical operation.

The Aero Bureau unit shall remain with the pursuit operation, whether surveillance mode or actual pursuit, to its terminus, and shall adhere to the instructions of the watch commander and field sergeant. If the Aero Bureau unit is required to disengage, ground units shall reassume radio broadcast responsibilities for the pursuit and reassess the need to continue or terminate the operation.

Immediately upon conclusion of the operation, and when conditions permit, the Aero Bureau unit shall provide rooftop numbers for all Sheriff's vehicles in the immediate vicinity of the pursuit terminus. Authorization from either the watch commander or field sergeant shall be sought by the Aero Bureau unit prior to departing the scene.

If a watch commander or field sergeant orders the termination of a pursuit, the involved Aero Bureau unit shall discontinue further broadcasts of the pursued vehicle's location on any Sheriff's frequency. However, the Aero Bureau unit may request permission from the originating station/unit watch commander to continue monitoring the vehicle's location and notify adjoining Sheriff's stations/units and agencies that the previously pursued vehicle is entering their jurisdiction. Under MPP section 5-09/210.10, this notification is required of the watch commander; however, this task may be delegated to the Aero Bureau unit by the watch commander. If specific permission to follow the vehicle is not granted by the watch commander, the Aero Bureau unit shall terminate further attempts to follow or surveil the pursued vehicle. In no event shall the Aero Bureau unit begin rebroadcasting the location and direction of travel of the pursued vehicle without specific authorization from the originating station/unit or originating outside agency watch commander.

• 5-09/210.15 - Pursuit - Vehicle Operation and Tactics

In order to minimize the likelihood of a pursuit, deputies intending to stop vehicles shall, when practical and safe, be within close proximity to the vehicle prior to activating their red light and/or siren. Some individuals, who would not otherwise flee, may attempt to evade law enforcement when given several blocks warning of an intended stop. Deputies shall use red lights and siren as required by law to close their distance to a vehicle they are attempting to stop if necessitated by law, traffic, or road conditions. Unless the intended stop becomes a pursuit as described in MPP section 5-09/210.00, notification to Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC) is not required (refer to MPP section 5-09/200.00).

Wrong-Way Traffic

As a general rule, deputies shall not pursue a vehicle on the wrong-way of a freeway, nor the wrong-way on a one-way street (against opposing traffic). In the event the pursued vehicle travels against opposing traffic, the following should be considered:

- Maintain visual contact with the suspect vehicle by driving on the correct side of the freeway or roadway;
- Request other units observe the exits available to the suspect vehicle;
- Request an Aero Bureau unit to coordinate with the ground units; and
- Notify the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and other police agencies as appropriate.

Offensive Driving Tactics

Vehicle pursuits present a significant danger to the public, Department members, pedestrians, and other users of the highway. If during a pursuit, it is evident the use of an offensive driving tactic is a safer alternative than continuing the vehicle pursuit, the watch commander may authorize the use of an offensive driving tactic by trained and certified personnel.

The following are approved offensive driving tactics:

- Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) - A low-speed maneuver designed to cause the suspect vehicle to spin out and terminate the pursuit (see MPP section 5-09/210.17);
- Pursuit Termination Technology/Devices - A device that extends across the roadway designed to puncture the tires of the pursued vehicle; and
- Boxing-in - A tactic designed to stop a suspect's vehicle by surrounding it with law enforcement vehicles and then slowing all vehicles to a stop.

If, during a prolonged slow-speed pursuit, it is apparent that the pursued vehicle may be safely "boxed in," the watch commander may authorize this maneuver. Personnel involved shall not use this maneuver if there is a likelihood that the suspect may have a firearm. Every "boxed in" tactic creates a cross-fire situation, therefore personnel must recognize this and make adjustments as necessary. Should a suspect evade a "boxing in" maneuver, it should not generally be attempted again.

An offensive driving tactic may be deployed when the deputies and/or watch commander believe the risk of allowing the pursuit to continue poses an imminent danger of death and/or serious injury to the public. The decision to deploy an offensive driving tactic should be considered when the risk of continuing the pursuit outweighs the potential hazard created by the use of an approved offensive driving tactic. This decision shall

be based on careful consideration in light of the circumstances confronting the deputies and/or watch commander at the time of their decision. Considerations shall include:

- The exigency of the circumstances;
- The immediate action was taken to prevent harm to the public or other deputies; and
- The immediate use of an offensive driving tactic was likely to end the pursuit.

There shall be no attempt to stop the suspect vehicle by heading off, ramming, or driving alongside of the pursued vehicle while it is in motion, unless the deputy is performing an approved offensive driving tactic. Pursuits shall be primarily following actions. However, a patrol car may be used to block a suspect vehicle which has stopped or is nearly at rest following an approved offensive driving tactic when injury is unlikely, and property damage would be minimal.

Vehicle Damage

The greatest likelihood of damage to the patrol vehicle, or injury to the deputy, is from loss of control of the patrol vehicle after the approved offensive driving tactic maneuver is executed. When the technique is properly executed, damage to the vehicles should be insignificant or negligible. If the PIT is employed and damage occurs to either the patrol vehicle or the suspect vehicle, it is not considered a traffic collision. However, any damage shall be documented by the supervisor as a vehicle incident by completing the Report of Vehicle Accident or Incident (SH-AD-665) and Supervisor's Report of Incident or Damage to County Vehicle or Permittee's Vehicle (SH-R-257) forms. If an unintended collision occurs between any vehicle and any other object or person, traffic collision reporting procedures shall apply.

Deputies driving patrol vehicles equipped with supplemental restraint system airbags should be aware of the airbag system and its operation.

- Deputies are cautioned that airbags are designed to deploy at an impact angle of 35 degrees or less and at impact speeds over 14 mph into a fixed object and 28 mph into a movable object; and
- When the airbag system deploys, it inflates and deflates in less than one second and should not cause any additional loss of control; however, the deputy's vision may be impaired. After an airbag deployment, the deputy should not continue driving the vehicle other than to proceed to a safe stop. Friction or chemical burns may result from the airbag deployment, and medical treatment should be provided as necessary. The vehicle shall be towed to the unit due to the expended airbag being attached to the steering wheel.

Roadblocks

Unless absolutely necessary, and then only in the absence of another viable alternative, deputy personnel shall not use their vehicles or place anything else in the roadway as roadblocks, since this tactic has generally been found to be ineffective and counter-productive.

Pursuit Termination Technology/Devices

Department members are authorized to deploy pursuit termination technologies (e.g., spike strips) in an attempt to terminate a pursuit; when appropriate and upon notification to the primary unit (prior to the watch commander taking command) or watch commander. Only Department-authorized pursuit termination technologies may be used by qualified Department members. Assisting agencies may deploy pursuit

termination technology approved by the agency in accordance with that agency's policy, if requested by the watch commander. Training Bureau shall maintain records of any training required by this section. A list of approved pursuit termination technologies shall be maintained by Training Bureau.

Passing

There shall be no attempt by deputies to pass other field units involved in the pursuit unless the passing deputy receives specific permission from the unit to be passed.

Surveillance Mode

Surveillance mode is the authorized aerial surveillance of a suspect vehicle by an Aero Bureau unit after ground units have ceased their vehicle pursuit operation. Surveillance mode is a separate tactical operation from the preceding ground pursuit and is not considered a continuation of the pursuit. However, it must be managed with the same diligence and priority as a pursuit. The duration of surveillance mode must be constantly evaluated against the reason for the pursuit and the resources committed to the operation.

In pursuits involving an Aero Bureau unit, wherein the pursuit becomes unreasonably dangerous because of the deputy's speed, the suspect's speed or other factors, the watch commander shall order all ground units to discontinue their pursuit. The primary unit in the pursuit, the Aero Bureau unit, or any supervisor may order surveillance mode. The Aero Bureau unit shall follow the vehicle until it stops and the suspect exits the vehicle or the operation is terminated by the watch commander.

Once surveillance mode has been established, all vehicles involved in the pursuit shall cease their pursuit, discontinue their code 3 operation, reduce their speed, and allow the Aero Bureau unit to monitor the suspect vehicle. Surveillance mode operations should be initiated as a change of tactical strategy for the purpose of increasing public safety. The Aero Bureau unit shall advise the watch commander of the rooftop number of any unit that does not immediately reduce its speed and disengage from the pursuit, when requested. If the suspect vehicle does not slow to normal traffic speeds after a reasonably short time during surveillance mode, the watch commander shall communicate with the Aero Bureau unit to determine whether public safety would be enhanced by reinitiating the pursuit or by terminating the operation. Key facts in the decision-making process include the necessity of immediate apprehension outweighing the degree of danger created by the pursuit, the imminent public danger posed by the suspect and/or their dangerous driving continuing regardless of being pursued, and public safety being enhanced by the presence of emergency vehicles with code 3 to warn bystanders and other users of the highway. If the suspect vehicle stops, ground units will be advised and a tactical containment may be initiated unless prohibited by the watch commander. Refer to MPP section 3-10/150.00, Tactical Incidents. Once the suspect vehicle has stopped, the watch commander may allow a primary and an appropriate number of back-up units to respond code 3 to the suspect vehicle. The determination of appropriate back-up personnel will be based on a reasonable assessment of the totality of the circumstances, based on factors such as the number of suspects, severity of crime, danger to the public or personnel, weapons involved, and/or other officer safety concerns.

The watch commander, Aero Bureau unit, field supervisor, or primary unit is encouraged to employ surveillance mode as an operational tactic to allow termination of a pursuit, whether or not "unreasonably dangerous" conditions exist.

• **5-09/210.16 - Post Pursuit Tactics**

Once the pursued vehicle has stopped, for whatever reason, the previous tactical operation of a vehicle pursuit is immediately replaced by a new tactical operation involving suspect containment and arrest. It is essential that all personnel involved in the pursuit recognize this transition from vehicle pursuit to containment and arrest. The handling deputy remains the incident commander, unless relieved by the field sergeant.

At the termination of a pursuit, safety is critical. At no time will the need for decisive action and strict personal and collective self-control be more essential. If, at the pursuit terminus, any occupant of the pursued vehicle fails to obey commands to exit and remains in the vehicle, the situation shall be treated first as a felony stop and with continued non-compliance, a barricaded suspect incident. If the suspect is believed to be armed, a special weapons team shall be requested in accordance with MPP section 5-06/110.65.

Unless relieved by a supervisor, the primary pursuit unit retains the responsibility, as the incident commander, for maintaining control and directing activities at the terminus of a pursuit, specifically as it relates to the apprehension of the suspect and the use of force. All personnel involved in suspect containment and arrest shall adhere to the fundamental tactical principles outlined in MPP section 3-10/150.00, including the development of a tactical plan, the use of less lethal weapons, assignment of designated shooters, fire discipline and shooting backdrop. Unless specifically requested, once a code 4 has been broadcast, no other deputies will respond to the terminus of a pursuit. Assisting units already present shall immediately vacate the area once their specific mission has been completed.

The field sergeant shall respond (code 3 if necessary), to the terminus of the pursuit and oversee post-pursuit tactics and assert control when warranted. The sergeant shall further ensure compliance with all Department policies, specifically as they relate to the use of force and field tactics.

• **5-09/210.17 - Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)**

Pursuits are inherently dangerous and can place both law enforcement officers and the community at risk. The Pursuit Intervention Technique, also referred to as the PIT maneuver, is a tool available to law enforcement to bring a potentially dangerous vehicle pursuit to an end. It is defined as a forced rotational stop of a non-compliant suspect's vehicle. The PIT maneuver is not intended as a replacement for a high-risk traffic stop, but is an option which can be utilized in specific situations by trained and certified deputy personnel.

The decision to conduct a PIT shall be based on careful consideration of all facts, and only initiated when conditions permit. These factors may include volume of vehicular traffic, pedestrian traffic, school zones, weather, road conditions, the speed of the suspect vehicle, and officer safety factors. Even when an offensive driving tactic has been authorized, it is incumbent upon Department personnel planning to conduct a PIT maneuver to coordinate with the Aero Bureau unit via Sheriff's radio to determine, whenever possible, an area least likely to cause harm to the public, bystanders, and Department members if a vehicle spins out of control.

The decision to utilize a PIT shall only be authorized when the potential risk of intervention is outweighed by the imminent danger caused by the suspect and/or blatant disregard for the safety of bystanders and other users of the highway.

Personnel shall not PIT a motorcycle, or vehicles with less than four wheels, except when deadly force is

justified.

Unless exigent circumstances exist, the PIT shall not be attempted for the following:

- The pursued vehicle is traveling in excess of 35 mph;
- For a vehicle where the suspect(s) is known to be armed with a firearm;
- Vehicles transporting known hazardous materials;
- Significantly heavier vehicles (i.e. buses, motorhomes, semi-trucks); and
- Vehicles with a high center of gravity;

NOTE: The PIT maneuver is an intentional act and shall not be considered a traffic collision, unless a third party is struck in the process.

• 5-09/210.20 - Use of Firearms During Pursuits

The use of firearms against moving motor vehicles is inherently dangerous and almost always ineffective. Personnel engaged in pursuits shall conform to the policy regarding use of firearms against motor vehicles as described in MPP section 3-10/220.00, Assaults by Moving Vehicles - Firearms Policy.

• 5-09/210.25 - Inter-Agency Pursuits

Notification by another law enforcement agency of a pursuit in progress shall not be construed as a request to join the pursuit. The caller from the outside agency shall be specifically asked if they are making a request for assistance or merely making a notification.

Deputies shall not become involved in another agency's pursuit unless specifically authorized by their watch commander through SCC, unless it is clearly demonstrated that a lone unit from an outside agency is unable to request our assistance, or the emergent nature of the situation dictates the need for assistance by this Department. In these instances, all departmental pursuit and code 3 policies, including the requirement to immediately notify SCC, are in effect.

The Department member (SCC or Department unit) receiving notification of a pursuit by an outside agency shall carefully assess the circumstances to determine whether the pursuit is likely to enter Sheriff's jurisdiction. Prior to making any radio broadcast, the person (SCC or unit) will obtain from the notifying department, the same information our primary pursuit unit is required to provide. It is recognized that, especially in smaller agencies, this information may not be immediately available.

NOTE: It is this Department's policy to provide the requested assistance immediately while continuing to seek the remaining information.

When an outside agency or a unit watch commander notifies SCC of its agency's pursuit and our assistance is not required, SCC shall immediately make an "information only" broadcast on the appropriate Sheriff's Department frequency to alert otherwise unsuspecting field personnel of the potential dangers of an

approaching pursuit. The “information only” broadcast shall advise units that our Department’s assistance is not being requested and not to become involved in the pursuit. Any personnel who join in such a pursuit are in violation of this Department’s pursuit policy.

Requests by other agencies for pursuit assistance will likewise be broadcast by SCC and the first Sheriff’s unit to join will be designated as the back-up unit. Any additional assistance by this Department will be specifically authorized by the station/unit watch commander. All Department procedures shall be in effect.

The Sheriff’s Department recognizes that there are differences between the pursuit policies of various agencies. Should a circumstance arise wherein Sheriff’s personnel are requested to assist a lone or outnumbered officer(s) from another agency and the pursuit does not conform to Sheriff’s Department policy, the watch commander shall attempt to contact the agency and advise them that the pursuit is not within this Department’s policy and that Sheriff’s Department personnel will disengage as soon as sufficient initiating agency personnel can arrive. The Sheriff’s Department will, under these circumstances, provide only such assistance as is reasonable and specifically requested and will disengage as soon as possible without sacrificing the safety of another agency’s personnel. All other elements of this policy remain in effect.

The Sheriff’s Department will provide necessary assistance at the terminus of another agency’s pursuit. The other agency remains in command of any ensuing tactical operation, unless they specifically request the Sheriff’s Department to take command. All Sheriff’s Department personnel involved in these operations shall comply with existing Department policies.

When an LASD pursuit enters an outside jurisdiction, the unit watch commander will ensure that the outside agency is immediately notified and will ensure that the operation is appropriately coordinated with that agency. This notification may be done by phone or radio, and by personnel from the concerned station/unit, SCC, or an Aero unit via the watch commander.

• 5-09/210.30 - Pursuit Evaluation and Reporting

Following a pursuit, it shall be the responsibility of the watch commander supervising the pursuit to ensure that the pursuit operation is fully debriefed. This debriefing will be conducted to assess the performance and tactics utilized, strategies which may be improved in future pursuits, and create training materials for other personnel. This debriefing may be conducted by the field sergeant and discussed with the watch commander, who shall document the debriefing in a memorandum to the unit commander. Efforts should be made, whenever possible, to include Aero Bureau participants in the debriefing.

- The watch commander shall also ensure the Department Pursuit Evaluation form (SH-R-454) is completed, and submit the form to the unit commander for review by the end of the next business day;
- The unit commander charged with command responsibility for the Sheriff’s vehicle engaged in the pursuit shall review the Department Pursuit Evaluation form. The purpose of the unit commander’s review is to determine if the pursuit was within Department policy and whether the pursuit was properly managed. If the pursuit involved personnel not assigned to a patrol station, a copy of the completed form shall be sent to the involved personnel’s unit commander for review;
- If the vehicle pursuit is an integral part of a force or shooting incident being handled by the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Force and Shooting Team, then the Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) will be responsible for determining whether or not the vehicle pursuit was within policy. The watch commander

shall complete the Department Pursuit Evaluation form and immediately submit the form and other pertinent documents and audio files to the IAB Force and Shooting Team handling the incident;

- All pursuit data, regardless if the pursuit resulted in a collision or not, shall be submitted the Traffic Services Detail on the Department Pursuit Evaluation form within 15 business days. The form should be submitted via Outlook to the Pursuit Evaluation Reporting email group. The evaluation form may be submitted prior to completing the pursuit package.
- Traffic Services Detail shall complete the California Highway Patrol, CHP-187, form and forward the form to the State within 30 calendar days as required by Section 14602.1 of the California Vehicle Code.

NOTE: When a pursuit was initiated due to a reckless driving under the influence (DUI) observation, then Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFST) shall be conducted and documented in the report. When circumstances dictate SFST cannot be conducted (e.g., suspect transported to hospital, or uncooperative suspect, etc.), documentation describing the circumstances is required.

The Department Pursuit Evaluation form is available on the Sheriff's Data Network.

• 5-09/220.00 - Requests for Assistance

When a deputy in the field is involved in a situation where help is needed, he must be aware that a nonspecific request will result in an uncoordinated response. This may be a greater hazard to life and property than the originating incident. He must minimize this hazard by giving the following information:

- Unit;
- Exact location;
- Reason for the request;
- Specify "assistance" if emergent;
- Use "backup" if routine; and
- Number of units required to handle the situation:
 - One, two or more units may be obtained by stating the number required;
 - 997 - the five units with the shortest estimated time of arrival (ETA) will respond. Aero will automatically be requested by SCC; and
 - 999 - an extreme emergency, more than five units will respond. Aero will automatically be requested by SCC.

The deputy making the request shall remain near the radio long enough to determine that his call has been received by the Sheriff's communications operator. Additionally, he shall establish a radio command post as soon as possible to provide status reports, to coordinate the efforts of arriving units, and to confirm that adequate assistance actually arrives.

When the codes 997, 998, or 999 are used, command and control of the response shall be handled by the station/unit watch commander with the assistance of the SCC sergeant. SCC personnel shall summon the

Aero unit with the shortest ETA, including any contract city patrol helicopters. As the situation becomes better defined, the watch commander will limit the response appropriately.

In dispatching assistance, desk personnel and the Sheriff's communications operator shall coordinate efforts to provide timely assistance from any available resource. Coordination of efforts is greatly facilitated when adequate assistance can be obtained in the following order:

- From station/unit resources;
- From adjacent station/unit; and
- From other agencies.

When a request for code 3 assistance is received from another law enforcement agency, a controlled response shall be initiated and coordinated as outlined in this section.

• **5-09/220.05 - Deputy Has Been Fired Upon**

When a deputy has been involved in a shooting and has been fired upon, he shall broadcast a "998" through SCC if the situation warrants. Often, deputies who are involved in shootings either wound or kill their opponent and terminate the shooting incident in a matter of seconds. To issue a code 998 broadcast when only minimal assistance is required would cause needless hazard to responding deputies rolling rapidly to a non-emergent situation. Code 998 will not be used merely to signify that a deputy has fired his weapon.

The response shall be the same as for a "997" unless the requesting deputy limits or increases the number of field units required.

• **5-09/220.10 - Responding Field Units' Responsibilities**

Upon receipt of a 997, 998, or 999 broadcast, deputies are authorized to respond code 3, governed by the limitations outlined in the previous subsections.

Responding field units shall identify themselves and give the SCC a conservative estimated time of arrival based on distance, traffic, and weather conditions.

The first field units arriving should evaluate the need for additional assistance. If it is deemed that additional emergency help is no longer necessary, a code 4 shall be broadcast through the SCC.

Upon receipt of a code 4, responding field units shall discontinue the code 3 operation and return to their districts unless requested to continue to the location under normal driving conditions.

• **5-09/220.15 - Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC) - Notifications/Responsibilities**

Code 3 Assistance

Upon receipt of any request for code 3 assistance from a field unit, the SCC operator shall immediately acknowledge the request and broadcast it on the necessary frequencies with the following controls:

- Ascertain the identity of the responding field units and their response time to the location; and
- Except in the case of a "999," identify the required number of field units having the shortest response time and advise the other field units to remain in their districts.

Following receipt of a code 3 request, the SCC operator shall notify the SCC watch sergeant as soon as possible of the action in progress.

The SCC watch sergeant shall assume the following responsibilities:

- Coordination of the efforts of the field units responding to determine if adequate assistance will be available in the appropriate time limit;
- Making necessary notifications to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) or the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) as requested or authorized by the station/unit watch commander, acting as liaison with them during the emergency;
- Directing the operation as ordered by the station/unit watch commander; and
- Upon receipt of a code 4, it should be broadcast at least twice for all field units, but not for individual unit acknowledgment.

Pursuits

The SCC watch sergeant will be responsible for communications coordination of all pursuits initiated by deputy personnel of this Department and shall immediately activate the Duplex Patch so as to minimize the unnecessary repeating of information from the field. With the implementation of the Duplex Patch, rebroadcasting of all information may cause unnecessary interference and delay. Consequently, repeating should be kept to an absolute minimum.

In addition, the SCC watch sergeant shall:

- Immediately request Aero Bureau assistance;
- Keep the station/unit watch commander informed and relay all orders to the field with absolute priority; and
- Assist in notifying other law enforcement agencies only as requested or authorized by the station/unit watch commander.

• **5-09/220.20 - Notifications/Reporting**

When death, injury or property damage is caused as the result of a code 3 response, the station/unit watch commander shall immediately notify the unit commander and the appropriate duty commander and shall order photographs of the scene.

Traffic Services Detail shall be notified immediately of all collisions which result from a pursuit. Traffic Services Detail will evaluate and determine the need for response as appropriate.

When a traffic collision occurs as a result of any pursuit or code 3 response, whether or not a county vehicle is involved, which causes death, any injury (including complaint of pain), or major property damage, the station/unit watch commander shall immediately notify the on-call Internal Affairs Bureau lieutenant who will notify the Traffic Services Detail.

When death, serious injuries or major property damage is caused as the result of a code 3 response, the commander shall make an immediate investigation of the incident and shall report his findings to the chief of the concerned division.

Deputy personnel involved in the incident shall complete and submit forms and reports as required by Department policy. Pertinent information not set forth in such reports shall be reported via a SH-AD-32A addressed to the unit commander. If the deputy is physically unable to comply, he should be interviewed by his immediate supervisor as soon as possible.

• 5-09/220.50 - Foot Pursuits

It is the policy of the Sheriff's Department to assertively apprehend fleeing persons in a manner that maximizes both deputy and public safety, while giving due consideration to the Department's use of force and Tactical Incidents (section 3-10/150.00) policies. Depending on the circumstances of an incident in which a suspect flees, deputies are authorized to pursue and/or coordinate a containment.

Foot pursuits are inherently dangerous and require heightened officer safety awareness, keen perception, common sense, and sound tactics. It is the Department's position that, barring extenuating circumstances, surveillance and containment are the safest tactics for apprehending fleeing persons. The safety of Department personnel and the public is paramount and shall be the overriding consideration in determining whether or not a foot pursuit shall be initiated or continued. Any doubt by participating deputies or their supervisors regarding the overall safety of any foot pursuit shall be resolved in favor of communication, coordination, surveillance, and containment rather than pursuing on foot.

Each provision of this policy is subject to emergency exceptions, such as an active shooter incident and/or any other incident where an immediate threat to human life exists. This policy may not cover every situation. Any deviation from this policy shall be rigorously examined on a case-by-case basis. However, the deputy or supervisor who deviates from this policy shall be solely responsible for explaining their actions.

Definitions

Foot Pursuit - A foot pursuit is an effort by a deputy to pursue on foot a fleeing suspect who is attempting to avoid arrest, detention, or observation. Terms such as "chasing to follow," "moving containment," or other terms describing similar dynamic foot pursuits shall be subject to the provisions of this policy.

Partner Splitting - During a foot pursuit, "partner splitting" occurs when more than a brief loss of visual contact, distance, or obstacle separates partners to a degree that they cannot immediately assist each other should a confrontation take place.

For the purposes of this policy, "partner splitting" does not pertain to a lone deputy moving to and/or taking up a static containment position.

PROCEDURE

One Deputy Foot Pursuits

One deputy foot pursuits and the splitting of partners during foot pursuits present additional dangers to the deputies involved. Before engaging in a foot pursuit, the deputy must weigh the dangers of the pursuit against the necessity to apprehend.

Should the decision to initiate a one deputy foot pursuit occur, the deputy shall adhere to the following additional guidelines, unless circumstances require deviation from the guidelines:

- Do not attempt to close the distance and apprehend, but maintain visual contact only;
- Do not continue to pursue if visual confirmation is compromised;
- Do not chase a suspect into a building, structure, confined space, wooded, or otherwise isolated area; and
- Terminate pursuit once a containment is established and the suspect is within the containment.

No deputy or supervisor shall be criticized or disciplined for a decision not to engage in a foot pursuit if the deputy or supervisor assessed that the risk exceeded what is reasonably acceptable under the provisions of this policy.

Multiple Deputy Foot Pursuits

Multiple deputy, foot pursuits can be tactically appropriate and effective. Should partner splitting occur for any reason, deputies shall be subject to the provisions of the "one deputy foot pursuits" section.

Initiating Deputies' Responsibilities

Deputy personnel initiating a foot pursuit shall broadcast the following information over the SCC dispatch frequency within the first few steps or feet, or as soon as practical and tactically safe:

- Unit identifier or name of deputy in pursuit;
- Suspect location and direction;
- Reason for the foot pursuit;
- Suspect description; and
- Whether or not the suspect is armed, if known.

Barring extenuating circumstances, if a deputy is unable to promptly and successfully broadcast this information, the foot pursuit shall be terminated and containment immediately established. The initiating deputy shall be in field command and bears operational responsibility for the foot pursuit unless relieved by a

supervisor.

If the deputy is assigned and/or working at Transit Services Bureau, Metrolink Bureau, Parks Bureau, Court Services Division, Custody Services Divisions, or County Services Bureau, the information shall be broadcast using their home radio frequency. Desk personnel shall coordinate communications between the deputies involved and the nearest field resource (LASD patrol station or police agency). If a unit's home radio frequency is not monitored by SCC, their unit's desk personnel shall relay the information over the SCC Access channel.

Terminating a Foot Pursuit

Unless there are exigent circumstances, such as an immediate threat to the safety of Department personnel or civilians, deputies shall not engage in or continue a foot pursuit under the following conditions:

- If a deputy is unable to properly and successfully broadcast the required information, an acknowledgement is not received, or communication is lost with SCC;
- If the suspect enters a building, structure, confined space, wooded, or otherwise isolated area without sufficient backup and containment of the area;
- If the physical condition of a deputy renders him or her incapable of controlling the suspect if apprehended;
- If visual contact of the suspect is lost; or
- If deputies are unsure of their location or direction of travel.

Field Sergeant or Supervisor Responsibilities

As with any tactical incident, the sergeant or supervisor does not have to be physically present to assert control over the situation and may order the termination of the pursuit based upon information received. In subsequent reviews for policy compliance, supervisory personnel shall be prepared to clearly articulate the circumstances which supported their decision to terminate, or to allow the continuation of a foot pursuit.

The sergeant or supervisor shall immediately respond to the foot pursuit, oversee post-foot pursuit discipline, and assert control as needed. The sergeant or supervisor shall ensure compliance with all Department policies, specifically those relating to the use of force.

Watch Commander or Supervising Lieutenant Responsibilities

The watch commander or supervising lieutenant shall be in overall command of any foot pursuit operation. This command responsibility shall include all Department personnel involved in the foot pursuit. If the supervising lieutenant is not available, command responsibility shall be assigned to the next available individual who is below them in the rank structure.

The watch commander or supervising lieutenant is responsible for ensuring that an available supervisor is assigned to respond to the foot pursuit to oversee post-foot pursuit discipline and assert control as needed.

The assigned supervisor shall ensure compliance with all Department policies, specifically those related to the use of force.

The station/unit watch commander shall immediately take command either by establishing "cold line" communications with the SCC watch sergeant or via station/unit transmitting capabilities. The station/unit watch commander shall make a decision based upon their assessment of the information received regarding the continuation or termination of the foot pursuit. In subsequent reviews for policy compliance, the watch commander shall be prepared to clearly articulate the circumstances which supported their decision.

Should the watch commander be in the field during a foot pursuit, they may authorize the watch sergeant to assume operational control of the incident from the desk or use radio communication directly from the field. This does not alleviate the watch commander's overall responsibility for the foot pursuit.

SCC Responsibility

Upon the initiation of a foot pursuit by a deputy, SCC shall immediately place the broadcasting deputy on the duplex patch and request an Aero Bureau Unit. Coordination of resources to assist the deputy is of paramount importance.

If deputy personnel not assigned to a patrol station initiate a foot pursuit, and the pursuit is within an area patrolled by the Sheriff's Department, the SCC watch sergeant shall notify the watch commander of the nearest station. If the pursuit is not in an area patrolled by the Sheriff's Department, SCC shall coordinate a response and notify the police agency who patrols the area where the pursuit is taking place. The sergeant or lieutenant from the unit of assignment of the pursuing deputy shall identify themselves via radio and continue command of the incident. If no supervisor is on scene, the watch commander of the closest station shall assume immediate command of the operation.

Detective Division Personnel or Sworn Non-Uniformed Personnel

Certain non-uniformed sworn personnel actively engage in surveillance and fugitive apprehension operations. This policy does not apply to counter-surveillance or detection avoidance activities by suspects or persons under surveillance. The policy does apply to situations in which a suspect is actively fleeing from immediate arrest, detention, or continued observation by such personnel. Said personnel shall take into account the fact that they are in plain clothes and often not easily identified as deputies, before engaging in a foot pursuit. If a decision is made to engage in a foot pursuit, personnel shall adhere to this policy and the Tactical Incidents (section 3-10/150.00) policy.

Should non-uniformed sworn personnel become involved in a foot pursuit, the team's designated radio operator shall advise SCC via a SCC-monitored frequency. SCC shall notify the watch commander of the nearest station who shall facilitate the response of assisting units. The team's sergeant or lieutenant on scene shall identify themselves via radio and continue command of the incident. If no team supervisor is on scene, the watch commander of the closest station shall assume command of the operation.

Evaluation and Reporting

All foot pursuits shall be debriefed. It shall be the responsibility of the watch commander or lieutenant supervising the foot pursuit to conduct a debriefing of the incident with all personnel involved. The debriefing may be conducted by the sergeant or supervisor and discussed with the watch commander or supervising

lieutenant who shall document the debriefing in the foot pursuit database. The watch commander or supervising lieutenant shall ensure that sergeant supervisors discuss debriefed foot pursuits at regular unit briefings. The foot pursuit database printout shall be forwarded to the unit commander for their review. A foot pursuit evaluation form shall be completed on all foot pursuits and submitted to the unit commander for review within 60 days. **If the foot pursuit package is part of a force investigation, force package due dates will apply.** A determination shall be made regarding whether the foot pursuit was within policy. The unit commander shall write their "Disposition" at the bottom of the form. The unit commander shall forward the Foot Pursuit Evaluation Form, along with supporting documents and audio files, to their respective division for final review.

If the foot pursuit is an integral part of a force or shooting incident being handled by the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) Force/Shooting Response Team, the Executive Force Review Committee (EFRC) shall be responsible for determining whether or not the foot pursuit was within policy. The watch commander or supervising lieutenant shall complete the Department's foot pursuit evaluation form and immediately submit the form and other pertinent documents and audio files to the IAB Force/Shooting Response Team handling the incident.

• **5-09/230.00 - Deputy's Daily Work Sheet**

The deputy's daily work sheet is utilized as a necessary supplement to the unit's operational log. It enables a unit commander to judge each deputy's proficiency, and to note changing conditions throughout the unit's jurisdiction. Information compiled on the deputy's daily work sheet is also used by the Department to compile statistics for RAPS, and therefore the accuracy of the work sheet is vital.

It is essential that the unit or station log and the deputy's daily work sheet agree in both classification and disposition of an incident. It shall be the unit commander's responsibility to ensure that the deputy's daily work sheet are reviewed in a timely manner, and any corrections made.

Through the Computer Aided Dispatch system, this shall be done by having the watch sergeant of the shift following the one just completed run an "Exceptions Report" to check for errors. He will then notify the deputy whose log has the errors. This can be done via memo. Once the deputy has corrected the errors, he will advise the sergeant that the corrections have been made. The watch sergeant will then "O.K." the work sheet via the CAD.

• **5-09/240.00 - Vehicle Accident and Damage Reports**

Damage to, and accidents involving, county vehicles and permittee vehicles on Department business shall be reported as outlined under the Case Assignment volume and the Miscellaneous Administrative Procedures chapter.

• **5-09/240.05 - Mechanical Defects and/or Damages**

The driver of every county vehicle shall inspect his assigned vehicle for mechanical defects and/or damage prior to accepting the vehicle. If any discrepancies are noted, a Driver's Vehicle Condition Report (form LAFM-OPS500) shall be completed and brought to the attention of the employee's immediate supervisor. All

subsequent mechanical defects shall also be reported.

The concerned supervisory personnel shall coordinate the submission of such driver's vehicle condition report to the proper Sheriff's Department representative, depending upon the location of the reporting unit.

• **5-09/240.10 - Tour of Duty Equipment Report**

The driver of every county vehicle shall inspect and inventory his assigned vehicle prior to the start of his shift, noting any damage or missing items, plus a statement of the vehicle's general condition on the Tour of Duty Equipment Report (form SH-CR-159). The completed form shall be submitted to the unit commander.

• **5-09/250.00 - Ride-Along Program**

It is the policy of this Department to encourage interested citizens to familiarize themselves with the facilities, equipment, and operations of this Department by riding as observers and by touring station/unit facilities.

Assignments for ride-alongs (or station/unit tours) shall be made through prior arrangements with the station/unit involved. Station/unit commanders are urged to approve requests for ride-alongs which originate within their station/unit, provided the participant meets the criteria set forth under this section. When headquarter units receive group requests for ride-alongs, they shall supply the station/unit commander with the names and phone numbers of the persons wishing to participate in ride-alongs and coordinate the date and time with the station/unit involved. Individual requests should be referred to the appropriate station/unit.

High school juniors and seniors, 16-years-old or older, shall be permitted to participate as ride-alongs. Students below the junior year should be limited to well-planned comprehensive tours of station/unit facilities.

The number of ride-alongs allowed during any given shift shall be determined by the station/unit commander.

Vehicle safety belts shall be worn by all ride-along participants while riding in county vehicles.

• **5-09/250.05 - Responsibility of Observers**

Ride-Along observers shall be governed by the following rules and regulations:

- Waiver - Observers shall be required to submit a Ride-Along Waiver (SH-AD-173), signed by the observer if he or she is 18 years of age or older. The minimum age for observers shall be 16 years of age (explorers excluded), and those between 16 and 18 years of age must have the waiver signed by a parent or guardian. The signature must be witnessed by a member of this Department. The original Waiver and Release shall be retained in the unit file. Persons under the age of 18 years, including explorers, will not, under any conditions, be assigned for ride-alongs after 2300 hours.
- Dress and Appearance - Observers should be reasonably clean and neat in appearance and attire. Beards and long hair shall be allowed if other criteria are met and extremes are avoided. If a question arises as to whether an observer's attire meets reasonable standards, the watch commander shall make

the decision as to whether or not an observer will be permitted to ride.

NOTE: Explorers may ride in their explorer uniform, but they will be expected to observe Department uniform and personal appearance standards.

- Identification - Observers shall be issued a pin-on type of plastic badge on which shall be printed in large letters the words "Observer" or "Student Observer." The badge shall be worn in plain view on the outer garment during the time spent on the ride-along.
- Females - Females under 18 years of age shall ride with a sergeant or in a two-person car.

NOTE: Female explorers may ride in a one-person car on day or p.m. shift with the prior approval of their Post Advisor and concurrence of the station/unit commander.

- Arrests / Transportation / Booking - Observers may accompany a deputy during the transportation and booking process of an arrestee only if, in the opinion of the deputy, it would not constitute a hazard to the observer or interfere with the investigation. When the observer is allowed to remain during transporting in a one-person car with a security screen, the observer shall ride in the front seat and the arrestee shall be placed in the rear.

NOTE: If the transporting car does not have a security screen, the arrestee shall be placed in the front seat and the observer in the rear. In two-person cars, the observer shall ride in the front, with one deputy in the rear with the arrestee.

- Observer's Ride-Along Comments – At the conclusion of the ride-along, the observer shall be given an Observer's Ride-Along Comments form (SH-AD-543). The observer shall be asked to complete this form and submit/mail it to the station/unit commander.

• 5-09/250.10 - Personnel Responsibility

The responsibilities of patrol personnel are as follows:

- Watch Commander or Unit Lieutenant - It shall be the responsibility of the on-duty watch commander or unit lieutenant to ensure that a completed Ride-Along Waiver (SH-AD-173) is properly signed, witnessed, and submitted prior to allowing the ride-along to begin;
- Dispatching of Calls - If an observer is riding in a regular patrol car, the dispatcher shall be instructed to use discretion in giving "hot" calls obviously involving danger to the car in question; and
- Dangerous Situations - If, in the judgment of the host deputies, they are entering a dangerous situation, they may, at their discretion, leave the observer in a safe place.

NOTE: Experience has shown that in many areas it is advisable to keep the observer with the deputy at all times, as the observer's safety can be better ensured with the deputies than without them. On occasions, the observer has been able to assist the deputies; however, the observer should be permitted to observe as much activity as possible and should not be restricted to the confines of the Department car unless the deputy feels there will be some danger or the observer may interfere with the investigation. The observer's safety is always of primary concern.

- Host Deputy - The deputy shall instruct the observer on requirements while he or she is participating in a

ride-along. These should include:

- The observer shall not accompany a deputy into a private residence without prior verbal approval from the resident;
- The observer shall not become involved in any investigation by handling evidence, by discussions with the victim or suspects, or by the handling of police equipment;
- The observer shall follow the directions of the deputies; and
- The observer may indicate at any time he or she desires to be returned to the station/unit and to cease further participation in the ride-along-program and the request will be complied with as soon as possible.

NOTE: Deputies participating in this program shall respond to calls/locations in an extremely safe manner and while en route shall attempt to brief the observer as to what information he or she is hearing on the police radio. They shall explain the procedures being applied to the situation and the reason why. They shall also instruct the observer as to where he or she shall sit or stand upon their arrival at the scene and during the deputy's handling of the situation.

- Station/Unit Commander - Nothing in this section shall be construed as relieving the station/unit commander of their responsibility for the safety of deputies and observers or for the efficient operation of their unit.

Department instructors who teach at the high school junior class level or above should inform their class of the existence of the ride-along program. If their students are interested in participating in the program, the instructor shall supply the students with the Patrol Car Observation Information form (SH-AD-542), and should caution the students that if the specific request cannot be filled because of too many requests on the same date for the same station/unit, the station/unit will do its best to provide an alternate station/unit or date.

The instructor shall deliver the completed forms to the concerned stations/units. The stations/units shall then indicate which of the requested dates is approved. The approved forms shall then be returned to the instructor who shall be responsible for notifying the students.

• 5-09/250.15 - Film Crews

At times, film crews, with prior approval from the Sheriff, may accompany Department members during the course of their duties.

When Department members are accompanied onto private property generally open to the public, e.g., a bar or other business establishment, the owner or his agent has the right to request that the film crew leave the premises. If the premises is a private residence or other area not open to the public, e.g., a restricted business office, the film crew must obtain consent and a written waiver from the owner, or his agent, or a resident of the premises before entry. The film crew will provide their own waiver forms.

Film crews shall not accompany Department members during the execution of search warrants into a private residence or other area not open to the public.

Additionally, film crews shall not accompany members during next-of-kin death notifications. Refer to section 5-09/090.30, Notification of Next-of-Kin, for proper notification procedures.

• 5-09/260.00 - Sentry Dogs

Each station/unit shall maintain a file of sentry dog companies located within their policing area. A sentry dog company is any agency or person who agrees to furnish trained sentry, attack, narcotic, or explosive detection dogs for hire.

The information concerning the company shall be typed on a 3x5 card, maintained in alphabetical order and shall contain:

- Name of company;
- Address of company;
- 24 hour telephone number of company; and
- Names of dogs handled by the company.

Sentry dog companies are required to furnish the location and duration of assignment of each dog assigned in the jurisdiction of a Sheriff's station/unit. This information will be furnished not more than 15 days prior to a dog being assigned.

Each station/unit shall also maintain a "location card" for each business at which a sentry dog has been assigned by a sentry dog company to a location within the station's/unit's area. This location card shall contain the following information:

- Name and address of the business having a dog assigned;
- Name and phone number of the owner or manager of the business;
- Name and phone number of the company owning the dog; and
- Duration of assignment of dog.

All dogs assigned by such companies are required to wear an identification tag in addition to any other tag required by law. The identification tag will show the following information:

- Name of the dog; and
- Name, address, and 24-hour phone number of the sentry dog company.

The types of dogs covered under this procedure are as follows:

- Sentry dog - a dog trained to work without supervision in a fenced facility to deter or detain unauthorized persons found within the facility;
- Narcotic detection dog - a dog trained to locate narcotics by scent;
- Explosives detection dog - a dog trained to locate bombs and explosives by scent; and
- Attack or tracker dog - a dog trained to work with a handler in searching facilities for burglary suspects and other intruders.

• 5-09/265.00 - Canine Detection Program and Service Philosophy

The Canine Detection Program within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is designed to provide a variety of practical, credible, and efficient countywide detection capabilities. This will be accomplished through the deployment of highly trained teams of handlers and canines from various bureaus, units, and details throughout the Department.

The services of our Canine Detection Program are available to all local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies as authorized by Department policy and protocols. Responses by canine detection personnel are based on a variety of criteria, availability of canine personnel, type of scent detection required or requested, deployment criteria, funding, and inter-agency agreements.

Canine detection handlers generally will not be assigned case investigations or other station crew duties which may interfere with the handler's role and availability as a canine resource. Protocols for canine deployment requests are mentioned throughout this chapter.

Support for pre-planned search warrants and enforcement operations shall be made through the designated bureau/unit canine team, depending on detection need.

• 5-09/265.05 - Canine Detection Program Requirements

The type of scent/detection canine requested, acquired, and utilized will determine which bureau within the Department shall have operational control over the selection of canines, the issuance of training aids, approval of canine training programs, certification requirements, training records, and maintenance of formal canine documents.

Each bureau, detail, or station with a detection canine team/program shall have written unit orders relating to all areas of their canine operation. The Special Enforcement Bureau - Arson Explosives Detail, Narcotics Bureau, and County Services Bureau will set the standard with each of their unit orders as it relates to their specific type of detection. Bureaus/units utilizing the same types of detection canines will be required to adhere to the unit orders of those units. This does not preclude them from creating orders specific to their daily activities, additional training, deployment, documentation, etc. These additional orders should not contradict the specific orders created by each of the bureaus.

More specifically, each of the three primary entities tasked with operational control over all Department canines have the specific areas of responsibilities listed in their unit orders below:

- Scent detection canines for arson and explosive related materials will be coordinated through the Special Operations Division, the Special Enforcement Bureau - Arson Explosives Detail, Canine Unit (refer to Arson Explosives Detail Unit Orders):
 - Duty Areas and Job Activities
 - Responsibilities
 - Canine Training and Certification
 - Canine Deployments
 - Canine Care and Maintenance
 - Cal Card
 - Canine Retirement

- Other LASD Explosive Detection Canines
- Scent detection canines for narcotics and firearms will be coordinated through Detective Division, Narcotics Bureau, Canine Unit (refer to Narcotics Bureau Unit Orders):
 - Canine Program Coordinator
 - Canine Program Supervisor
 - Canine Training Cadre
 - Canine Handlers
 - Supervision of Detection Canine Teams
 - Canine Program Activity Reporting
 - Canine Program Expenditure Reporting
 - Canine Program Equipment
 - Procedure of Obtaining Narcotics Substances for Training Aids
 - Procedure of Obtaining Firearms for Training Aids
 - Procedure for Maintenance and Security of Narcotic Training Aids
 - Procedure for Maintenance and Security of Firearms Training Aids
 - Canine Program Pre-Service Training Requirements for Narcotics
 - Canine Program Pre-Service Training Requirements for Firearms
 - Canine Program In-Service Training
 - Canine Program Selection Criteria for Dogs
 - Procedures for Accidental Bites
- Scent detection for human scent tracking and trailing will be coordinated through Countywide Services Division, County Services Bureau, Canine Unit (refer to County Services Bureau Unit Orders):
 - Human Scent Tracking Duties and Responsibilities
 - Bloodhound (Purebred) Section Criteria
 - Bloodhound Team Training
 - National Bloodhound Training Requirements
 - Training Records
 - Multi-Agency Training
 - Mutual-Aid Request
 - Bloodhound Team Deployment Authorization
 - Team Deployment Records
 - Bloodhound Team Equipment
 - Health and Maintenance of Bloodhound
 - Cal Card Responsibilities
 - Vehicle Care and Maintenance
 - Supervisors Duties and Responsibilities

The Special Enforcement Bureau - Canine Services Detail may also acquire, maintain, and utilize tracking and trailing canines at their own discretion. Additionally, the Special Enforcement Bureau - Canine Services Detail is the only unit authorized to acquire, train, and deploy detection canines specifically used to apprehend potentially dangerous or violent suspects by means which may include biting them. (Refer to MPP section 5-

09/265.10, Special Enforcement Bureau Tactical Canine Deployment.)

• **5-09/265.10 - Special Enforcement Bureau Tactical Canine Deployment**

The Special Enforcement Bureau's Canine Services Detail is responsible for maintaining police service canines specifically trained to aid in the location and apprehension of outstanding suspects wanted in connection with crimes meeting deployment criteria under this section.

The prompt and proper utilization of a trained tactical canine team has proven to be a valuable resource in law enforcement. When properly used, a tactical canine team greatly increases the degree of safety to all persons (including suspects) within a contained search area, enhances officer safety, significantly increases the likelihood of suspect apprehension, and dramatically reduces the amount of time necessary to conduct a search.

Tactical canine search teams can be requested through the Sheriff's Communications Center (SCC) or the Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) Desk 24 hours a day. The opportunity for a safe and successful search operation will be enhanced with a timely request, response, and deployment of a canine team.

The following situations reflect suitable activities for tactical canine deployments:

- Commercial and residential structure searches where there is the possibility of suspects hidden inside and wanted in connection with activity listed below under authorized deployment;
- Area searches for criminal suspects who are wanted in connection with activity listed below under authorized deployment;
- Capture of suspects who are armed, or believed to be armed, when less lethal forms of apprehension are appropriate;
- Specialized security assignments;
- Specialized saturation patrol; and
- Unique tactical searches not previously described, with approval of the SEB unit commander or above.

Except in extreme emergencies, tactical canine teams are not to be utilized for crowd control situations.

Tactical canine deployments are authorized for and shall be limited to:

- Searches for armed suspects;
- Searches for suspects wanted for serious or violent felonies and/or where the circumstances of the situation would present a clear danger to the law enforcement personnel who would otherwise conduct a search without a canine;
 - Serious or violent felonies will include any offenses classified as Part I Crimes in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, except those categorized under larceny-theft;
- It is not uncommon for suspects driving stolen vehicles to be utilizing the vehicle to facilitate involvement in other serious or violent felonies. However, absent additional information at the time of deployment, searches for suspects wanted only for motor vehicle theft shall be limited to those who are reasonably believed to be adults, and are reasonably believed to be the driver of a confirmed stolen vehicle. Known passengers, absent extenuating circumstances, should not be searched for with the use of a police

service canine;

- Searches for known juvenile offenders shall be limited to those instances where the severity of the crime, the subject's age and propensity for violence, whether or not the subject is believed to be armed, or other critical factors would reasonably justify the use of a tactical canine search team. In these situations, an SEB supervisor of the permanent rank of lieutenant or above must first authorize the use of a canine;
- Searches for articles, including weapons, narcotics or other property, recently discarded by suspects wanted in connection with deployable crimes which may have value as evidence in a criminal case; and
- Special Weapons Team activations and other activities as may be deemed appropriate by the SEB unit commander or his designee.

Station personnel requesting a tactical canine team are responsible for establishing an effective perimeter containment of the area to be searched. They are also responsible for ensuring the area is not contaminated by the scent from civilians or other law enforcement personnel. If a tactical canine team is requested, station personnel should generally refrain from searching prior to their arrival unless an exigency arises.

Most requests for a canine team will justify the use of a code 3 response. Canine personnel shall adhere to existing emergency driving policies when initiating a code 3 response.

In all instances, a supervisor from SEB, and/or a field supervisor from the concerned station, shall respond to the scene of the incident. In those instances where an SEB supervisor is not immediately present, field supervisors shall monitor the operation and ensure Department policy is adhered to. However, unless exigent circumstances requiring an immediate deployment exist, the decision to make a tactical canine deployment must first be approved by an SEB supervisor. Generally, once approved, the canine handler will then dictate the search tactics to be utilized and coordinate the deployment of assisting personnel.

Consideration shall also be given to requesting additional tactical personnel from SEB. These deputies have trained and worked closely with canine teams and are more familiar with the tactics and responsibilities involved. The decision to deploy SEB personnel rather than station personnel on a search shall be at the discretion of the SEB supervisor.

All canine handlers and deputy personnel assisting in canine searches shall abide by the Department's use of force policies at all times. Deputy personnel shall evaluate each situation requiring a force application in light of the seriousness of the facts and circumstances.

Prior to deploying tactical canine teams, announcements shall be made. These announcements are intended to notify persons within the containment area of the intent to utilize a canine, and to afford suspect(s) the opportunity to surrender to law enforcement personnel. The announcements shall be clear and audible to all personnel at the operation and made in both English and Spanish. Radio car and helicopter public address systems, if available and equipped, will increase the likelihood that the canine announcements are heard and shall be utilized. Prior to deployment, the canine handler or incident command post shall ascertain from units on containment positions if the announcements were clear and audible. Any exception to this policy must be fully justified by conditions and circumstances inherent in a specific incident which create officer or public safety concerns exceeding those that may typically be associated with tactical canine deployment operations. Absent exigent circumstances, the decision to forego canine deployment announcements must be approved by an SEB supervisor of the permanent rank of lieutenant or above. The justification and circumstances shall also be documented in all subsequent reports.

Safety is of paramount concern. Canines are trained to protect their handlers and may react to perceived

threats. Personnel should not enter or reach inside canine vehicles when the canine is inside, nor approach canine handlers abruptly. During search operations, personnel should follow the instructions of the canine handler and avoid any action which might jeopardize the safety of those involved in the operation. When a suspect is located, the handler will advise when it is safe to approach and take a suspect into custody.

In situations where a canine finds and bites a suspect, the concerned canine handler will as rapidly as possible determine if the suspect is armed or a continuing threat. Keep in mind that when the resistance has been overcome or the threat abated, the de-escalation of force is the appropriate response.

The handler will remove the canine at the first possible moment the canine can safely be released. When deciding to remove the canine, particular attention must be given to the perceived threat or actual resistance presented by the suspect. Handlers will continue to factor into their decision that the average person will struggle if being seized or confronted by a canine. This struggling, alone, will not be cause for not removing the canine. Without exception, a reference to the estimated duration of the canine's contact with a suspect shall be included in the handler's supplemental report.

In instances where a canine bite occurs, the facts shall be reported by the concerned canine handler and search team members to the SEB supervisor, and an immediate follow-up investigation shall be conducted. In most instances, canine bites will be investigated by the SEB supervisor, with notification to the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) via memorandum. The highly specialized nature of tactical canine deployments, the expertise of the SEB supervisors, and the need for immediate and timely follow up will constitute compelling circumstances under the Department's force review procedures, which allow an SEB supervisor who may have been present and/or directed the deployment to conduct the investigation. However, in instances where canine bites result in hospitalization or any other mandatory notification circumstances occur in conjunction with the apprehension, the SEB supervisor will immediately consult with the on-call IAB lieutenant regarding the circumstances of the deployment and nature of the injuries. The IAB lieutenant will determine if an IAB Force/Shooting Response Team response is appropriate. If an IAB Force/Shooting Response Team responds to assume control of the investigation, the SEB supervisor shall remain and assist them, as needed.

Station personnel shall not describe canine bite incidents in their reports. However, they will make reference to the supplemental report(s) written by the canine handler in their reports. Photographs of any injuries which may have been inflicted by a Department canine shall be the responsibility of the SEB supervisor. Unless specifically directed by an SEB or IAB supervisor, station personnel shall not photograph or capture on video any part of the deployment, injuries, or follow-up investigation.

All canine bites will be reviewed by the Executive Force Review Committee. An additional level of oversight may be conducted by any entity designated with that responsibility by the Department.

• **5-09/265.15 - Scent Detection Canine Deployment**

Arson Explosives Detail Canine Deployment

Arson and explosives canines search for fire and explosive-related materials specific to the areas of their expertise. These types of search requests shall be facilitated through Arson Explosives Detail during normal business hours. After normal business hours, the on-call canine deputy handler may be requested through the Special Enforcement Bureau desk.

Any canine trained in the detection of explosives shall not be used to search any object which, after the initial threat assessment, has been deemed suspicious or shows indications of an improvised explosive type device. If any object is located and is deemed to be suspicious, or if any explosive material is detected, the object shall not be further approached or manipulated. The area shall be immediately evacuated, notification shall be made to Arson Explosives Detail, and the procedures listed under MPP section 5-06/080.15 shall be followed.

Narcotics Bureau Firearm and Narcotics Canine Deployment

Narcotics Bureau canines search for five types of narcotic odors (marijuana, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and opium) and narcotic-related items that contain this residue. These types of narcotic search requests shall be requested through Narcotics Bureau during normal business hours. After normal business hours, the on-call canine deputy handler for Narcotics Bureau shall be requested through the Sheriff's Information Bureau.

Firearms scent detection canines search for firearms during pre-planned search operations or as requested by law enforcement agencies.

- Firearms discarded by suspects fleeing on foot or in a vehicle;
- Search warrants, parole searches, or probation compliance checks; and
- Searches of vehicles for hidden firearms.

The Narcotics Bureau canine handler shall not conduct nor handle the narcotic investigation for the station/unit requesting the canine search. The canine handler's role is to conduct searches for narcotics or narcotic-related items, as well as firearms.

Transit Services Bureau Explosive Detection Canine Deployment

A Transit Services Bureau explosive detection canine's primary role is to conduct protective searches of the rails, trains, and railways, as well as searches of unattended bags or packages. The canines are federally funded and trained by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) with annual federal certifications.

Explosive detection canines search for the odor of smokeless and black powder which enables these canines to also locate explosives and gun powder from firearms. Explosive detection canines may be used for firearms searches based on the need for public safety and the availability of firearms scent detection canines.

An explosive detection canine may be requested through the Arson Explosives Detail or the Transit Services Bureau's desk. An immediate request may be made via the radio by using Transit Services Bureau's main radio frequency (Dispatch 35).

Countywide Services Division Canine Deployment

A Countywide Services Division (CWSD) explosive detection canine's primary role is to conduct protective searches of all county buildings, county hospitals, county parks, contract facilities, as well as searches of unattended bags or packages. Similar to Narcotics Bureau, CWSD narcotics detection canines search for five types of narcotic odors (marijuana, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and opium) and narcotic-related items that contain this residue.

These CWSD canines will certify annually with the Department-approved certifying agency, conducting ongoing training with Narcotics Bureau and Arson Explosives Detail as required.

CWSD human scent detection canines (bloodhounds) can be deployed by CWSD to locate missing persons. They may also be utilized to track suspects in certain situations where there is no established containment and supervisors determine that officer safety concerns would not preclude their use. These CWSD canine teams can assist in a variety of situations. This assistance can include locating or providing direction of travel of suspects/missing persons, identifying vehicles previously occupied by suspects/missing persons, and leading deputies/investigators to areas or residences recently frequented by suspects/missing persons.

Prior to the request for a human scent detection canine, the requesting station and/or unit must have permission from the on-scene supervisor. Human scent detection canines are available for deployment in the following incidents:

- Missing persons where extraordinary circumstances are involved, i.e., mentally disabled persons, specific medications required, etc.;
- Critical age missing juveniles, where unusual circumstances or a crime are suspected; and
- Any crime where scent evidence has been left at the scene by the suspect(s) and the handling deputies or detectives believe the canine can assist them with the location of the suspect(s).

CWSD human scent detection canines are not trained to apprehend suspects. If the crime would normally meet the deployment criteria for an SEB Tactical Canine (MPP section 5-09/265.10) but there is no established containment, the on duty SEB Canine Services Detail supervisor should be contacted and advised of the scent detection canine request. They will advise if an SEB tactical canine team will be sent to monitor the situation. They should also be updated as soon as possible if the CWSD canine handler believes the location of an outstanding suspect has successfully been tracked.

When deploying scent detection canines, officer safety shall always be of the utmost importance, guiding supervisors and handlers in their canine deployment and decision making process.

Human scent detection canines train to follow the drift of scent, distinguishing it from other odors. They have the ability to discern human odors, over great distances, with a tenacious tracking and trailing instinct to locate the source of the scent. CWSD will be responsible for their own training and record keeping, certifying their canines with the National Bloodhound Association.

Requests for the deployment for CWSD canines can be made through County Services Bureau, Sheriff's Communication Center (SCC), or when after hours, through Sheriff's Information Bureau to the on-call handler.

Operation Safe Streets Canine Deployment

The mission of the Operation Safe Streets Bureau (OSS) Scent Detection Canine Program is to provide narcotic (marijuana, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, and opium) and firearm scent canine teams to assist deputies/detectives when searching for weapons, ammunition, and narcotics. These searches will include, but are not limited to, area searches at the termination of foot/vehicle pursuits, search warrant services, traffic stops, and parole/probation searches. The primary task of these teams is to locate narcotic substances or materials, objects, paraphernalia, currency, other items which have been tainted with the odor of narcotic substances, and to locate concealed firearms and ammunition.

The services of the OSS Scent Detection Canine Program are available to all law enforcement and government agencies as authorized by Sheriff's Department policy. Responses by OSS canine teams to requests for service are based primarily on the availability of the canine teams with the approval of the OSS canine sergeant or lieutenant. The OSS canines shall not be utilized to conduct searches of people or for items the canine is not trained in, or any searches for hazardous materials, such as chemical biological or nuclear materials. The OSS canine handler will, in all situations, make the final decision to deploy his/her canine based on its abilities and after considering all safety issues.

OSS canine handlers generally will not be assigned case investigations or other station crew duties which may interfere with the deputy's role as a canine handler.

All personnel assigned to the OSS Scent Detection Canine Program will adhere to the guidelines of the OSS canine unit orders.

Custody Investigative Services Unit (CISU) - Custody Canine Detail

Custody canine deployment is specialized and unique in its function. This type of deployment involves criteria for canine selection, canine training, and canine certification for the purposes of searching people. Due to this specialization and unique criteria, the CISU - Custody Canine Detail will use canine vendors willing to be insured to enter and train within custody facilities for the purposes of searching persons. Custody canines will continue to train on "passive alerts" (sit-and-turn-away) to alleviate the potential for complaints. Custody canines will be required to certify with certifying entities which include standards for people sniffs. The use of canines to search for other odors may be directed by the assistant sheriff of Custody Services Division or his or her designee. All personnel assigned to the Custody Canine Detail will adhere to the guidelines of the CISU - Custody Canine Detail unit orders.

Reserve Forces Bureau Scent Canine Deployment

Trained search canines provided by the Los Angeles Search Dog Association are available by contacting the Special Enforcement Bureau. The handlers consist of civilian volunteers and shall not be requested to aid in searching for dangerous suspects. Use of these canines shall be restricted to circumstances where there is a minimal probability of injury to the canine or handler. Typical circumstances for which these canines might be used include:

- Search operations;
- Mutual aid requests;
- Missing persons where extraordinary circumstances are involved, i.e., mentally disabled persons, specific medications required, etc.; and
- Critical age missing juveniles where unusual circumstances or a crime are suspected.

These canines are only trained to track people and cannot be used to search for narcotics, firearms, or explosives. If the situation is tactical in nature, these search canines cannot be used; refer to MPP section 5-09/265.10, Special Enforcement Bureau Canine Tactical Deployment.

Search canines have the ability to follow a single scent, disregarding all others. Heat and wind cause the scent to dissipate rapidly; therefore, time is critical. The more time elapsed, the less likely a scent will be available. If it appears that a search canine will be requested, valuable time will be saved by performing the following:

- Determine the location of personal effects (scent guides) of the subject; clothing that has been worn, bedding, etc. If the subject is a child, toys or other objects may suffice, however, clothing is preferred;
- Do not allow anyone to touch these selected articles or enter the room or area where the scent guide(s) are located; and
- Whenever possible, the selection and handling of the scent guide should be accomplished by the canine handler. If this will result in a significant delay, the following procedures shall be used:
 - Pick up scent guide with a clean metal instrument;
 - Place scent guide in a clean plastic bag, paper sack, or carton; and
 - Transport in a sealed container.

It is imperative the scent guide is not contaminated. The canine, once exposed to a particular scent, cannot be effectively exposed to and work another scent for at least 24 hours.

Obtain information regarding the last known whereabouts of the person sought and have this information available for the handler, as it will determine where the canine will be placed on the scent.

At the scene, the handler will act under the direction of the deputy in charge. Decisions made regarding the use of this resource shall be made by the incident commander.

Reserve Forces Bureau also has cadaver search canines available. They are available by contacting the Special Enforcement Bureau. These canine specialize in human remain detection. They are not only used for crime investigations, but can also be used in disasters, natural and otherwise.

Homicide Bureau Scent Canine Deployment

Homicide Bureau has criminal investigation scent search canines which are contract employees, available 24 hours-per-day, seven days-per-week. Typical circumstances for which these canines might be used include:

- Backtracking from the location of a victim to the scene of a crime; and
- Confirmation of whether or not an individual was present at a location.

The search canines can be requested through Homicide Bureau's desk. The following information will be required:

- Type of incident;
- Type of search needed;
- Command post location;
- Contact information for the incident commander; and
- If it is believed the person being sought is within the containment.

All conditions and requirements of the Reserve Forces Bureau's search canine above apply to the Homicide Bureau's search canine.

• **5-09/265.20 - Outside Agency Requests for Department Tactical Canines**

Independent agency requests for tactical canine assistance from our Department may be handled by the city's pre-designated mutual aid Sheriff's station, or by requesting assistance over any mutual aid frequency, or over Special Unit Dispatch, or through the Special Enforcement Bureau desk. In all situations involving either the deployment of a Sheriff's Department canine in another jurisdiction or in our jurisdiction for another agency, our Department's deployment policies shall apply.

• **5-09/265.25 - Outside Agency Tactical Canine Deployment**

Deployment and use of force policies of other departments can be quite different from our own. As such, the use of tactical canines from other law enforcement agencies, in support of a Sheriff's Department operation, should be avoided, except in extreme emergencies which clearly dictate the need for an immediate canine search. When exceptional circumstances dictate the need to utilize a canine team from another agency, the following procedures shall be adhered to:

- The unit commander, or their designee, from the station making the request or a lieutenant from the Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB), must approve the deployment of other agency canines and must ensure that the outside agency handler has received proper authorization to deploy from his own agency;
- The unit authorizing the deployment shall contact SEB and provide the details to the on-duty SEB canine supervisor;
- When a canine team from another agency is authorized and deployed, they shall be briefed and operate consistent with our Department's tactical canine deployment policy; and
- In situations where outside agency canines are used and a bite occurs, watch commanders shall ensure that a thorough canine bite investigation is completed by the involved agency, in accordance with that agency's procedures. Additionally, the canine handler from the outside agency shall provide a detailed supplemental report explaining the events.

This section is not intended to prohibit the use of outside agency canines during participation in joint operations with Sheriff's Department personnel, such as pre-planned events or task force assignments, where they are authorized by, and remain under the ultimate control and supervision of their own agency.

• **5-09/265.30 - Request for Explosive/Hazmat Canine Sweeps for Dignitary, V.I.P., and Special Events**

A sweep is defined as the use of an explosive, accelerant, and/or hazmat scent detection canine to assist in the search of a given area for explosive, explosive devices, accelerants, or hazardous materials.

Each team conducting the sweep must include at least two personnel, the canine handler and an additional search deputy. The handler's responsibility is to monitor the canine while searching the area. The responsibility of the search deputy is to conduct a visual pre-sweep search of the area to identify any obvious hazards or devices. Upon completion of the pre-sweep search, the search deputy will then assist with the sweep and provide security for the canine handler.

All requests for explosive, accelerant, and/or hazmat canine sweeps for dignitary, V.I.P., and/or special/contracted events made by any outside entity or the Department shall be made through the Special

Enforcement Bureau - Arson Explosives Detail's (AED) Canine Unit. If another LASD unit receives a request for a canine sweep, they shall notify the requestor to contact AED.

Once the AED Canine Unit receives a request for a canine sweep, they will conduct a threat assessment on the request. Based on the outcome of the threat assessment, and on current staffing needs of the Department, members of the AED Canine Unit will make the determination on which canine unit will be the most efficient to conduct the sweep.

If the determination is made to offer the sweep to another LASD canine unit, AED will contact the unit to determine their availability. If they are available, AED will then re-contact the requestor and offer their services. The requestor will have the option to accept or decline the offer.

• **5-09/265.35 - Selection and Acquisition of Department Canines**

There are specific protocols required for selection and acquisition of Department canines, as it relates to the type of detection canine being sought for use by personnel from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Many bureaus/units from within the Sheriff's Department, to include contract cities and/or other entities, have the need and funding to acquire detection canines. The only three bureaus within the Sheriff's Department authorized to help facilitate the selection process of any Department detection canines are Narcotics Bureau, Special Enforcement Bureau - Arson Explosives Detail, and Countywide Services Division - County Services Bureau.

Prior to the approval for any bureau/unit to initiate a new canine detection detail, the concerned unit commander, or his designee, should determine that a legitimate need exists which is not already covered by current Department resources. The justification will be presented in writing to the Department's Canine Committee, who will in turn make a recommendation to the concerned division chief as to whether or not they believe the newly proposed detection detail is warranted. Final approval for any new detection detail will rest with the concerned division chief(s) and assistant sheriff(s) after a review of all appropriate input.

The Department's canine committee will be comprised of at least three supervisors at the rank of sergeant or above, as well as at least two handler deputies, selected from previously established canine units. Oversight for the canine committee will be the shared responsibility of the Narcotics Bureau canine lieutenant and the Arson Explosives Detail lieutenant. The committee will meet on an as-needed basis to discuss policy, best practices, establishment of new details, etc.

Prior to the request for purchase and acquisition of detection canines, the involved bureau/unit shall contact and coordinate their efforts with one of the following bureaus, dependent upon the type of detection canine being sought:

- Scent detection canines for narcotics and firearms will be coordinated through Detective Division, Narcotics Bureau, Canine Unit;
- Scent detection canines for arson and explosive-related materials will be coordinated through the Special Operations Division, Arson Explosives Detail, Canine Unit; and
- Scent detection canines for human scent tracking will be coordinated through the Countywide Services Division - County Services Bureau Canine Unit, or the Special Operations Division, Special Enforcement Bureau - Canine Services Detail.

Each of the above specified bureaus/details within the indicated divisions will be responsible for helping facilitate the purchase, acquisition, and training of canines with prior written approval of the involved division chiefs.

The requesting bureau/unit/entity will be required to meet the necessary selection specifications of detection canines as provided by the indicated division, in order to be eligible for acquisition and inclusion into the Canine Detection Programs.

The specifications include, but are not limited to, health and medical condition, temperament and disposition, and training and medical certification. Additional specifications can be obtained from the involved division canine representatives.

The involved division who assisted with the acquisition and training will be responsible for maintaining the official records and certifications for the entity purchasing the canine (i.e., another division, contract city, or entity).

The Special Enforcement Bureau - Canine Services Detail is the only unit authorized to acquire, train, and deploy detection canines specifically used to apprehend potentially dangerous or violent suspects by means which may include biting them. (Refer to MPP section 5-09/265.10, Special Enforcement Bureau Tactical Canine Deployment.)

EXCEPTION: Canines which are federally purchased and trained by the Transportation Security Administration may be exempt from any additional local selection and training requirements. Additionally, due to working within custody environments, Custody Investigative Services Unit canines may require specialized training when dealing with passive alerts and searches of individuals and alcohol related odors. Whenever there is a potential conflict, exemptions should be presented to, validated, and verified by the Department's canine committee.

• 5-09/265.40 - Training Requirements for Department Canines and Handlers

Each canine handler, regardless of the bureau/unit to which they are assigned (i.e., Operation Safe Streets Bureau, patrol stations, Countywide Services Division, Transit Services Bureau, Custody Services Division, etc.), shall meet the necessary training and certification requirements for the type of detection canine, in accordance with the requirements of County Services Bureau, Narcotics Bureau, and Arson Explosives Detail, which can be found in each of their bureau/unit orders.

Bureaus/units that previously and/or recently acquired canines for use by Department personnel and are not included within one of the three bureaus listed above may have additional training and certification requirements, but this does not negate their obligation to meet the necessary training requirements listed at the beginning of this chapter.

Each Department canine handler will be required to participate in the Detection Canine Program's training and certification, as indicated in the unit orders specific to each type of detection canine.

There are additional training components specific to the individual canine units which may include, but are not

limited to, the following:

- “Pre-Service” training requirements for narcotics, firearms, and arson-explosives searches;
 - “In-Service” training;
 - Individual team training;
 - Unit level training;
 - Other agency or vendor training;
 - Procedures for obtaining training aids (i.e., narcotic substances, firearms, explosive materials, etc.); and
 - Procedures for assignment, maintenance, and security of various training aides.
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• **5-09/265.45 - Storage and Transportation of Explosive Training Aids**

Any unit desiring to obtain and/or purchase any explosive training aids shall make prior notification to the Arson Explosives Detail (AED).

All explosives training aids shall be stored and/or transported in containers that are constructed in accordance with the specifications outlined in the Code of Federal Regulations, 27CFR, Part 555, Subpart K.

AED shall be the only unit authorized to store Homemade Explosives (HME). If any unit requires HME for training purposes, they must contact AED to make arrangements for their delivery and use.

Explosives used as training aids should not be stored in any Department and/or personal vehicle overnight.

Any unit storing explosive training aids will be required to submit a quarterly inspection sheet to AED.

Once a year, units will be required to contact AED to inspect the explosives and explosives containers located at each unit to ensure they are still in compliance with this policy.

EXCEPTION: Explosive wrappers, empty containers, residue bags, and scent pads are not considered explosives and do not fall under the guidelines of this section.

• **5-09/265.50 - Maintenance of Department Canines**

Each canine handler is responsible for the care and maintenance of the canines assigned to them. This will include, but is not limited to, feeding, hygiene, medical attention, exercise, training, and interaction, as necessary on a daily basis. This will also include the responsibility for ensuring that the canine is properly cared for and/or boarded whenever they cannot personally fulfil these duties.

• **5-09/265.55 - Canine Breaks**

This section applies to all canine services detail personnel.

It is necessary to periodically allow the canine to get out of the car during the shift to take a break. This period of time allows the canine to unwind and relieve itself. Whenever possible, the canine should be given a break in a secure area not open to the public. In those instances when that is not possible, the canine shall be kept on a leash to avoid the possibility of an accidental bite.

• **5-09/265.60 - Accidental Bites by Canines**

Units deploying canines are responsible for maintaining internal protocols and procedures for handling accidental bite incidents and follow-up investigations.

In the event of an accidental bite, the following procedures should generally be adhered to:

Handler Deputy

- Immediately render and/or arrange for first aid for the person receiving the bite;
- Immediately notify a supervisor and his/her canine unit supervisor;
- Arrange for all witnesses to be identified; and
- Stay at the scene until relieved by a supervisor.

On-Scene Supervisor

- Ensure the person bitten receives necessary first aid;
- Ensure all necessary notifications have been made; and
- Videotape and/or photograph the scene, the injuries, and all witnesses that may leave prior to the canine unit sergeant's arrival.

Canine Unit Supervisor

- Ensure all necessary first aid has been rendered;
- Ensure all notifications have been made;
- Take over and assume responsibility for the investigation;
- Complete all necessary reports; and
- Interview all witnesses.

Notifications, as appropriate, should generally be made to the on-duty watch commander of the jurisdiction within which the bite occurred, the unit commander with whom the canine is assigned, Risk Management Bureau, Internal Affairs Bureau, and Sheriff's Information Bureau if it is a newsworthy incident.

• **5-09/270.00 - Diplomatic and Consular Officials - Immunity**

Diplomatic immunity, a principle of international law, is broadly defined as the freedom from local jurisdiction accorded to duly accredited diplomatic officers, their families and servants. Diplomatic officers shall not be arrested or detained for any offense, and foreign career, consular officers shall not be arrested or detained pending trial except for the commission of a grave crime (felony offense) pursuant to a warrant. However,

consular officials of certain countries may enjoy higher levels of immunity on the basis of special bilateral agreements. Family members of diplomatic officers, their servants, and employees of a diplomatic mission are entitled to the same immunities under current U.S. law (22 USC 252), if they are not nationals of, or permanent residents in, the receiving state. Diplomatic passports and diplomatic visas do not provide conclusive evidence of immunity.

Associated with this personal diplomatic immunity is the inviolability enjoyed by the premises of the mission of the sending state and the private residence of a diplomatic agent, his property, papers, and correspondence. Consular offices are also inviolable, but the residence of a consular may be entered subject to ordinary procedures.

• **5-09/270.05 - Department Policy**

Diplomatic and consular officers shall be accorded their respective privileges, rights, and immunities as directed by international law and federal statute. These officials shall be treated with the courtesy and respect that befit their distinguished positions. At the same time, it is a well established principle of international law that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect local laws and regulations.

• **5-09/270.10 - Diplomatic Officers**

Ambassadors and ministers are the highest ranking diplomatic representatives of foreign government. Other diplomatic titles are minister counselor, counselor, first secretary, second secretary, third secretary and attache. These officials are located either in Washington D.C. or in New York City. It is unlikely, therefore, that a diplomatic officer would come into contact with personnel of this Department in a situation in which immunity would be an issue; however, it should suffice to point out that diplomatic officers, their families, official staff and servants, not nationals of or permanent residents in the receiving state, are protected by unlimited immunity from arrest, detention, or prosecution with respect to any civil or criminal offense.

Diplomatic officers bear blue-bordered state department credentials; embassy administrative and technical staff who have the same level of immunity bear green-bordered state department credentials.

• **5-09/270.15 - Consular Officers Identification Samples**

Consular officers are consuls general, deputy consuls general, consuls, and vice consuls. They are official representatives of foreign governments. Presently there are 80 career and honorary consular offices functioning in the county.

Consular officers are required to be treated with due respect and all appropriate steps are to be taken to prevent any attack on their persons, freedom, or dignity. Consular officers are entitled to limited immunities. Under prevailing international law and agreement, a foreign career consular officer is not liable to arrest or detention pending trial, except in the case of a grave crime (felony offense) and pursuant to a warrant.

Career consular officers can be identified by credentials issued by the United States (US) Department of State, by the Sheriff (as pictured below), or other official identification papers:

FRONT



REVERSE

This credential EXPIRES midnight of the indicated date and is the property of the SHERIFF, subject to revocation, must be surrendered upon demand or change of employment.

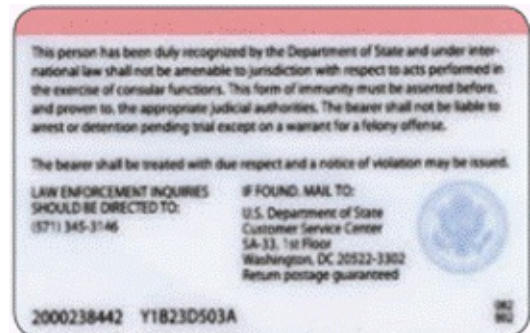
This credential is issued for official use only while conducting official business with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and does NOT entitle or grant bearer entry into private events or restricted areas, immunity from any Federal, State or Local Laws. The bearer will assume all risks and shall abide by the directions of government and law enforcement personnel.

For questions or found credentials:
 International Liason Unit (213) 229-1705,
 ILU@lasd.org
 Website: LASD.org
 Twitter: @LASDHQ, @LASDWorld

ALEX VILLANUEVA, SHERIFF

NOTE: It is not a requirement that any consular officer obtain a Sheriff's Department Consular Identification card.

The pink-bordered US Department of State credential bears its seal, the name of the officer, their title, and the signature of the State Department official. This credential also states the bearer's immunities, as pictured below:



- **5-09/270.20 - Honorary Consuls**

Often, nationals or permanent residents of the receiving state are appointed and received as honorary consular officers to perform the functions generally performed by career consular officers. Honorary consuls receive the same pink-bordered state department credential as career counselor officials. The credential identifies them as honorary consuls and states their limited immunities. Their family members enjoy no personal inviolability and no jurisdictional immunity of any kind. As a courtesy, Sheriff's consular identification cards are also issued to these representatives. These individuals are not immune from arrest or detention; however, appropriate steps should be taken to accord to such officers the courtesy required by virtue of their official position. In addition, the consular archives and documents of a consular post headed by an honorary consul are inviolable at all times and wherever they may be, provided they are kept separate from other papers and documents of a private or commercial nature relating to the other activities of an honorary consul and persons working with him.

- **5-09/270.25 - Consular Premises, Archives, Documents, Etc.**

Consular premises, used exclusively for the work of the consular post, cannot be entered without explicit permission from the head of the consular post or his designee or by the head of the diplomatic mission. This permission may be assumed in the case of fire or other disaster requiring prompt protective action.

The consular archives and documents are inviolable at all times and wherever they may be. The official correspondence of the consular post, which means all correspondence relating to the consular post and its functions, is likewise inviolable.

- **5-09/270.30 - Procedure for Handling Selected Incidents Involving Diplomatic and Consular Officers**

Traffic Violations

Stopping a diplomat or consular officer for a traffic violation and issuing a traffic citation is permissible as it does not constitute an arrest or detention. When a consular officer is stopped for a traffic violation, they will generally advise the deputy of their privileged status. The deputy shall determine the adequacy of the driver's credentials. Generally, it shall be the policy of the Department not to issue a citation; however, in those instances in which the driving of the official is so extreme and so aggravated as to clearly endanger others, a field supervisor shall be summoned to the scene. With the concurrence of the sergeant, a citation may be issued.

If the consular officer chooses not to sign and/or refuses to accept the citation, they shall be permitted to depart from the scene. A memo detailing the incident and a copy of the unsigned citation shall be directed to the International Liaison Unit on the next business day following the incident. The citation will be processed by the station/unit as any other citation, whether it is signed or not.

Driving While Under the Influence

Sobriety tests may be offered in accordance with local procedures but may not be required or compelled. Refusal should be anticipated; however, in any event, all facts of the incident shall be documented in a field report alleging driving under the influence. All objective signs of intoxication shall be carefully included and the notation of the field release, if warranted, shall be noted in the body of the report. Although consular officials can only be arrested for felonies and only with a warrant, they may still be prosecuted for offenses other than official acts. The United States (US) Department of State will often take action against foreign service personnel whose conduct is inappropriate. Under no circumstances shall any intoxicated person be permitted to drive. The consular officer should be offered alternative transportation and shall not be handcuffed unless restraint is necessary for the protection of the official or others. The case shall be presented to the district attorney for evaluation and filing. A copy of the report shall be immediately directed to the International Liaison Unit so they may follow-up with the US Department of State.

Other Offenses Involving Family Members

With certain exceptions, as noted, family members of a consular officer cannot claim immunity; however, consideration should be given to the special nature of this type of case. Family members shall be accorded appropriate courtesy and respect. A violation should be handled, when possible, through the seeking of a complaint. The individual should be released once positive identification is made and the relationship with the consular officer is verified. If the relative is a juvenile, circumstances permitting, the subject is to be released to the parent consular officer.

• **5-09/270.35 - Reporting Procedures**

If a consular officer or member of their family or personal staff is involved in any actions taken by members of this Department, the International Liaison Unit shall be immediately notified through the Sheriff's Information Bureau and apprised of the details.

A SH-AD-32A concerning incidents involving a consular officer shall be directed to the Sheriff, via the chain of command, with a copy forwarded to the International Liaison Unit. It shall contain a complete and detailed statement of the circumstances, the action taken (including any associated forms), and the disposition.

• **5-09/270.40 - LASD Consular Identification Samples - Retired - See section 5-09/270.15**

Retired. See section 5-09/270.15

• **5-09/271.00 - Immigration Inquiries and Notifications**

The Department must partner with some of the most diverse and immigrant-rich communities in the world. Serving the community, investigating illegal activity, and preventing crime is immeasurably more difficult if law enforcement fails to maintain strong relationships with - and the trust of - all members of our community.

The Department is responsible for helping people in their time of need and investigating crimes that have occurred, regardless of the victim's or offender's immigration status. To that end, it has been the longstanding practice of the Department to provide law enforcement to all communities regardless of ethnicity or immigration status. In carrying out that mission, deputies are neither instructed nor trained to ask for a victim's or witness' legal residency status and are instead trained and instructed to treat all individuals with respect and dignity.

This policy is intended to reassure immigrant communities that there is no need to fear contact with the Department when they have been the victim or a witness to a crime.

IMMIGRATION STATUS INQUIRIES

In keeping with the highest traditions of the Department and with respect for the dignity of the people we serve, Department members shall investigate criminal activity without regard to an individual's legal status and shall not initiate police action with the objective of discovering the individual's immigration status. Department members shall neither arrest nor book an individual solely on suspicion of violating a federal immigration law relating to illegal entry, being unlawfully present, or overstaying a visa. When they are in contact with individuals under investigation for other criminal activity, Department members shall not inquire about immigration status unless the information is absolutely necessary to ascertain their true identity.

While interviewing victims and witnesses, Department members shall not inquire about a victim's or a witness' immigration status unless that information is an essential component in their investigation (e.g., human trafficking, involuntary servitude, etc.).

Nothing in this policy is intended to limit the ability of personnel to collect the necessary information and facts to handle an investigation completely and to conclusion, nor shall it preclude a witness or victim from being asked to give alternate contact information outside of the United States for purposes of ensuring that they can be contacted in the future for further investigation or to testify in court should they voluntarily or involuntarily leave the United States.

NOTIFICATIONS

If a victim's or a witness' immigration status is discovered during an investigation, Department personnel shall not forward that information to the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), unless such notification is required by documented mutual agreement and/or in regards to individuals already in LASD custody.

Nothing in this policy is intended to interfere with Department personnel in their responsibility to assist undocumented immigrants who are victims and/or witnesses in certain criminal matters in obtaining U-Visas under the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000.

Moreover, this policy is not intended to interfere with a Department member's responsibility to notify foreign authorities pursuant to law or treaty when foreign nationals are arrested or otherwise detained (See section 4-04/035.00).

- **5-09/280.00 - Weapons Aboard Aircraft, Procedure for Carrying**

In an attempt to forestall the potentially hazardous conditions that may exist when armed deputies travel on public air carriers, the Department has set certain guidelines to be followed by all deputy personnel.

• **5-09/280.05 - Authority and Regulations**

Section 121.585 of the Federal Regulations states, "No person may, while on board an airplane operated by an air carrier in air transportation, carry on or about his person a deadly or dangerous weapon, either concealed or unconcealed." This paragraph does not apply to:

- Officials or employees of a municipality or state, or of the United States, who are authorized to carry arms; and
- Crew members and other persons authorized by the air carrier to carry arms.

The FAA's definition of carrying a weapon is: concealed on a person; unconcealed on a person, which would be a deputy in full uniform; and contained in a person's carry-on baggage.

• **5-09/280.10 - Notification and Clearance Procedure (Flying Armed)**

When a Deputy of this Department travels armed and in an official capacity on an air carrier, they shall adhere to the following procedures:

- Prior to traveling, complete the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) training program (review of the TSA Microsoft Powerpoint presentation "Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed," April 2003);
 - The "Law Enforcement Officers Flying Armed" Powerpoint presentation is available on the Intranet, Field Operations Support Services' website;
 - Ensure an APIS roster is completed and forwarded to Professional Development Bureau, Education and Training Records Unit;
- Every effort should be made to contact the air carrier at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the planned flight to inform them that they will be traveling armed and if applicable, with a prisoner;
 - If the air carrier does not allow armed deputies to fly on their airplanes, it is the responsibility of the deputies to locate another air carrier;
- Identify the security level of any prisoner to the air carrier. TSA policy states:
 - A "High Risk Prisoner" is a prisoner who is an exceptional escape risk and is charged with, or has been convicted of, a violent crime or felony;
 - No more than one "High Risk Prisoner" may be carried on an airplane at one time unless authorized by the TSA;
 - A "Low Risk Prisoner" means any prisoner who has not been designated as "High Risk;"
- Every effort should be made to contact Sheriff Headquarters Bureau (SHB) at (323) 526-5541 with information such as Department personnel traveling, purpose of travel, and specific flight information, prior to arriving at the airport for departure.

Staffing

Transportation of prisoners while flying commercial airlines presents unique security concerns for deputy personnel. Consequently, the following procedures shall be followed:

- There shall be at least two (2) armed deputies for a single prisoner; and
- When TSA has authorized more than one (1) prisoner to be transported on the same airplane, there must be at least one (1) armed deputy for each additional prisoner in addition to the two (2) armed deputies required for the primary prisoner.

Procedures to Fly Armed

- The Department of Homeland Security, Federal Air Marshall Service now requires that an NLETS message be sent to request authorization for law enforcement officers to fly armed. An NLETS message can be sent via JDIC by typing "FLYARMED" from a blank JDIC screen;
 - A minimum of 24 hours before the flight, a properly formatted message must be sent, via NLETS, to ORVAFAM0199;
 - An NLETS receipt, with an 8 character Unique Alphanumeric Identifier will be transmitted from the Transportation Security Operations Center back to the requester;
 - Check in with airline ticket counter and obtain "armed traveler" paperwork, then proceed to Armed Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) Screening Checkpoint;
 - Provide Unique Alphanumeric Identifier from NLETS message, display badge, credentials, boarding pass, a second form of government identification (i.e. CDL), and required airline paperwork (commonly referred to as Person Carrying Firearms (PCFA) forms);
 - Complete LEO logbook, proceed to boarding gate, inform boarding gate employee of presence and status, and present armed traveler paperwork;
 - Meet with Pilot in Command, Federal Air Marshal(s), Federal Flight Deck Officer(s), and/or other LEO's onboard the flight;
- No alcoholic beverages may have been consumed within eight (8) hours of boarding the aircraft;
- If traveling in full uniform, deputies must have their firearm on their person;
- If traveling out of uniform, all firearms must be concealed and out of view, either on their person, or in immediate reach. No weapon may be placed in an overhead storage bin; and
- Every effort should be made by Deputy personnel to ensure that handcuffs/restraints of prisoners be as inconspicuous as possible, Complete any required documentation requested by the airline.

Procedures on the Aircraft

- Deputy personnel shall not drink any alcoholic beverages while aboard the aircraft;
- Request pre-boarding the aircraft before other passengers when escorting prisoners;
- Comply with requests made by airline officials, especially the captain of the aircraft;
- Avoid the inadvertent display of weapons or associated equipment in the terminal and on board the aircraft;
- Every effort should be made by deputies to be seated between any prisoner and any aisle;
- Deputies must accompany the prisoner at all times and keep the prisoner under control while aboard the aircraft; and
- Deputies must ensure that the prisoner is restrained from full use of their hands by an appropriate device that provides for minimum movement of the prisoner's hands. Leg irons shall not be used.

Deputies will strictly limit requests to carry weapons aboard aircraft to those situations which require an officer to be armed in-flight to ensure the safe completion of their mission. Following proper notification procedures could avoid serious compromises of safety, including the possibility of an inadvertent confrontation between legally armed personnel.

Deputies required to be armed on a particular flight shall comply with reasonable regulations requested by the airline officials and/or the captain of that aircraft. Weapons that contain chemical agents or containers that contain chemical agents (e.g., mace, tear gas, etc.) shall not be permitted on board passenger aircraft.

Deputies wishing to only transport their firearms via commercial airlines may check their firearm as checked baggage. The firearm in checked baggage must be declared to the airline, must be in a locked container, and the ammunition must be in a fully enclosed container designed for the shipment of ammunition (a manufacturer's cardboard box with slots or cutouts is the preferred method). All firearms and magazines must be unloaded and secured in a locked container at the time of baggage check-in.

• **5-09/290.00 - Drug Abuse Clinics**

The county health services department currently has several drug abuse clinics in operation. The purpose of these clinics is to handle all types of drug problems including treatment of those persons suffering from mental, emotional, or physical dysfunction from amphetamines, barbiturates, and other drugs. The clinics will also administer a methadone maintenance program for heroin addicts.

The policy of this Department is to do everything reasonable to ensure the success of the clinical programs. In order to ensure the success of county health services operated clinics, people with drug related problems must feel that they have free access to the clinics.

The clinics are not to be considered as sanctuaries for criminal law violators. Deputies will, however, refrain from visiting or maintaining surveillance of these clinics, unless they have a specific purpose for doing so (e.g., warrant for suspect known to be at clinic or need for any valid law enforcement function). Should such specific need arise, the public health investigator at the clinic in question shall be contacted and his assistance requested in accomplishing the task.

• **5-09/300.00 - Alcoholism Council Referral**

Deputies of this Department often come in contact with persons who either have a drinking problem or who are being adversely affected by a person with a drinking problem. While our primary concern is keeping the peace, it is beneficial if we can provide information to such people to help alleviate their problems. This may reduce the incidence of repeated calls to the same location.

By referring persons who desire help with alcohol related problems to the alcoholism council, we provide a valuable service and help to meet the needs of the community. The telephone number for the council is (213) 384-0403. If 24-hour referral is needed they suggest that the deputy contact alcoholics anonymous at (323) 936-4343.

• **5-09/310.00 - Consumer Fraud Questionnaire (Form SH-CR-569 and SH-CR-569A)**

Following preliminary investigation of the complaint, it shall be the decision of the field deputy to initiate a criminal report or to issue a consumer fraud questionnaire. It is imperative that Department personnel guard against referring all fraud complaints via this form. Citizens' complaints that are unquestionably criminal in nature, or appear to be criminal in nature, must still be reported as specific crimes or suspicious circumstances. If the information presented by the complaining citizen has no apparent criminal elements and the citizen believes he has been victimized, the consumer fraud questionnaire will be utilized. SH-CR-569-A is the Spanish version of this form.

If the form is used, the deputy shall sign and date in the appropriate space and advise the citizen of the following:

- Read the introductory information prior to completing the form;
- Upon completion of the form, mail to the address noted or take it to the nearest Sheriff's station;
- Upon receipt of the form, the Forgery/Fraud Detail will examine the contents and determine either to:
 - File a criminal complaint;
 - Mediate the complaint;
 - File a civil injunction through the consumer protection division of the district attorney's office; and
 - Refer the matter to a state or local agency having jurisdiction.
- Assure the citizen that he will be notified.

• **5-09/320.00 - Indemnification for Victims of Crimes**

Local law enforcement agencies are responsible for informing each person, who may qualify to file a claim, of the existence and address of local victim centers. Refer to 13968(c) of the Government Code regarding the Victims of Crime Program.

• **5-09/320.05 - Victims of Violent Crimes Eligibility, Forms, and Responsibility**

The state's victim compensations and government claims board (BC) application for crime victim compensation shall be completed in duplicate and mailed by the claimant to the state board of control within one year after the death of or injury to a victim of a violent crime when the following factors are involved:

- Injuries were sustained during the commission of a crime of violence against the claimant;
- A monetary loss is suffered because of a crime resulting in personal injury or death to a person upon whom the claimant is financially dependent;
- An individual legally assumes the obligation for, or voluntarily pays, the medical or burial expenses incurred as a result of a death caused by a violent crime;
- Injury or death as intentionally inflicted through the use of a motor vehicle, aircraft, or water vehicle;

- Injuries were sustained through auto-related accidents involving a driver in violation of section 20001, 23152, or 23153 of the Vehicle Code; and/or
- Injuries were sustained in an accident involving a suspect in a vehicle fleeing the scene of a violent crime in which he knowingly and willingly participated.

Information on the victims of crime program, and/or BC Form VOC-100, can be obtained from the state's victim compensations and Government claims board, by contacting them at (800) 777-9229, or the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Victim-Witness Assistance Program at (800) 773-7574. Additionally, those units with Internet access may refer to the state's victim compensations and government claims board website at <http://www.vcgcb.ca.gov/>, or the application for crime victim compensation at http://www.vcgcb.ca.gov/docs/forms/victims/apps/victimcompensationapp_eng.pdf, or the district attorney's website at <http://da.co.la.ca.us/vwap/vwap.htm>.

• **5-09/320.10 - Good Samaritans Eligibility Forms and Responsibilities**

The state compensates if the claimant was killed, injured, or his property was damaged under any of the following circumstances:

- Preventing the commission of a crime against the person or property of another;
- Apprehending a criminal; and/or
- Materially assisting a police officer to prevent a crime or apprehend a criminal.

BC Form VOC-100 is to be completed in duplicate and mailed by the claimant to the state's victim compensations and government claims board within one year after the occurrence.

This form requires verification and a recommendation of the law enforcement agency involved. This form may be initiated by a law enforcement agency on behalf of an individual.

Claims verified and recommended by letter under this program shall have the approval of the appropriate division chief before being forwarded to the state's victim compensations and government claims board or before being released to the individual for mailing.

• **5-09/320.15 - Department Responsibilities - Field Personnel**

Field personnel shall advise victims who qualify for victim/witness assistance of the existence and locations of local victim centers. At the end of the report, under "notifications," the date, time, and place of the advisement will be entered. If the person informed regarding the victim/witness program is other than the victim, enter the name, address, and relationship of that person in the first report.

When notification cannot or is not made, the reasons shall be stated in the notifications portion of the report along with any additional information which might aid the investigator in making a notification.

Investigators

Each member assigned to investigate a crime wherein the victim may be eligible to file a claim shall ascertain

if the victim is aware of his eligibility. If the victim or his family has not been advised, the investigator will follow the same procedure as outlined for field personnel including the notifications entered in the supplemental report.

Investigators shall immediately notify the state's victim compensations and government claims board whenever a victim, and possible claimant, refuses to cooperate in an investigation that may lead to the apprehension and conviction of the suspect.

Reports and Information

We shall provide to the designated local victim center, upon request, a complete copy of all reports involving the crime, public offense, or incident giving rise to a claim.

The Department may withhold the names of witnesses or informants from the victim centers if the release of such names would be detrimental to the parties or an investigation.

• **5-09/330.00 - Pawnshops - Stolen Property**

Deputies shall only seize property when it is to be used as evidence, when it is contraband (537e PC, 23900 PC, etc.), or when it becomes the subject of an ownership dispute. The investigator shall issue a Receipt for Seized Property (SH-CR-624), noting the condition of the property and listing any damages, when property is seized.

• **5-09/330.10 - Major Crimes Bureau, Pawns and License Detail**

Upon locating alleged stolen property in a pawnshop, within our jurisdiction, the Pawns and License Detail shall:

- Verbally, in person or telephonically, place a 90-day hold on the items;
 - Notify the investigating employee of this Department or other agency of the located property, verbally, in person or telephonically, followed by written notice;
 - Take appropriate action and render necessary assistance and advice to the above investigators; and
 - Follow-up investigation within 30 days to determine property status on outside agency notifications.
-

• **5-09/330.20 - Investigation**

Upon notification that property from his case has been located, the investigator shall:

- Within three business days of notification, respond to the location to examine and make a determination on the property as follows; and
 - Not stolen: Advise pawnbroker hold has been dropped and advise Pawnshop Unit of release; or
 - Property is taken: Place an evidence label and hold for Sheriff sticker on the item.
-

- When property is stolen, the investigator shall:
 - Record on the evidence label and his own records the precise condition of the item at the time and advise the pawnbroker to store the item in a separate secure location; and
 - Make entry into Automated Property System.
-

• **5-09/330.30 - Disposal of Property**

Property seized and used as evidence in court shall be disposed of by the court pursuant to sections 1408 through 1410 and 1413(c) of the Penal Code, and procedures found in the Property and Evidence chapters.

Property seized and not entered into evidence in court shall be disposed of as follows:

- The investigator shall notify the pawnbroker with a Notice of Claim of Ownership (SH-R-90), and a Declaration of Ownership (SH-R-388) from the victim when the victim wishes to claim the property;
 - The pawnbroker has 10 days to respond asserting his claim of ownership;
 - If the pawnbroker makes no claim within the specified time, the investigator shall photographically record the property, complete the Declaration of Ownership (SH-R-388) and release the property;
 - If both the pawnshop and owner (victim) claim the property, the investigator shall determine ownership based on supporting data, evidence and known facts and make disposal of property accordingly;
 - The investigator shall release the property to the pawnbroker using the above procedure when the victim makes no claim; and
 - The investigator shall notify the Pawnshop Unit regarding final disposition of all property.

Property held in the pawnshop and not used as evidence shall be disposed of as follows:

- The investigator shall notify the pawnbroker with a Ownership Claim (SH-R-387) and a Declaration of Ownership (SH-R-388) from the victim when the victim wishes to claim the property;
 - The pawnbroker has 10 days to respond asserting his claim of ownership; and
 - If the pawnbroker does not respond or show sufficient cause to retain ownership, the investigator shall send a letter (SH-R-386) to the victim with instructions to claim the property.

If the victim/owner's address is unknown or is unable to establish ownership or does not wish to claim the property, the investigator shall notify the pawnbroker, in writing, that the property may be disposed of in accordance with the existing laws.

• **5-09/340.00 - Citizen Commendations**

Any member of this Department may recommend special recognition for a citizen when that person has performed:

- Exceptional service to the Department; or
 - Meritorious acts performed in matters involving this Department.
-

• 5-09/340.05 - Reporting Procedure

Unit commanders will, upon receipt of a member's memorandum of information from any other reliable source which relates either of the above situations, initiate correspondence (SH-AD-32A) to their respective division chief with specific recommendations for appropriate action.

Recommendations from outside source reports should be preceded with an examination for authenticity.

When reporting the circumstances of the incident, the unit commander shall indicate which one of the following types of recognition would be appropriate:

- Letters of commendation signed by:
 - Unit commander;
 - Division chief or division director;
 - Assistant sheriff; or
 - Sheriff;
- Personal presentations of letter and distinguished service certificate by the Sheriff.

When the division chief is in agreement with the unit commander and endorses the stated commendation, he shall forward the correspondence to the Sheriff for approval. Where appropriate, the division chief may elect to return the recommendations to the unit commander for other action.

• 5-09/350.00 - Policy and Procedure for Sex Related Crimes

Per Government Code sections 7923.610, 7923.615, and 7923.620, the names and addresses of victims of Penal Code sections 220, 236.1, 261, 261.5, 264, 264.1, 265, 266, 266a, 266b, 266c, 266e, 266f, 266j, 267, 269, 273a, 273d, 273.5, 285, 286, 287, 288, 288.2, 288.3, 288.4, 288.5, 288.7, 289, 422.6, 422.7, 422.75, 646.9, 647.6, or former sections 262 and 288a shall be confidential and not disclosed to the public.

The watch sergeant shall stamp all such reports as confidential.

Refer to Manual of Policy and Procedures section 4-01/020.60, Confidential Reports for further information regarding the processing of confidential, and the above specified sex offense reports.

In accordance with California Penal Code section 293(a), it is mandatory for all personnel who receive a report from an alleged victim of a sex offense, to advise the victim that his name will become a matter of public record unless he requests otherwise (pursuant to sections 7923.600, 7923.605, 7923.610, 7923.615, 7923.620, and 7923.625 of the Government Code). Any written sex offense report shall indicate the alleged victim has been so informed. The victim's response shall be documented by the appropriate notation on the "Victim of a Sex Crime Request for Confidentiality" box on the Incident Report form (SH-R-49).

Pursuant to Penal Code section 264.2, deputies assigned to handle alleged cases of violations of Penal Code sections 261, 261.5, 273.5, 286, 287, or 289 shall furnish the victim with the Department's Sexual Assault pamphlet for sexual assault victims and/or the Department's Family Abuse Intervention

Resource/Domestic Violence (FAIR) pamphlet for victims of domestic violence. Deputies shall document in the incident report the issuance of the appropriate pamphlet.

Pursuant to Penal Code 264.2(b)(1), deputies shall notify the local rape counseling center whenever the victim of an alleged violation of Penal Code sections 261, 261.5, 286, 287, or 289 is transported to a hospital for examination. Deputies shall document on the incident report, the notification to the rape counseling center. It is the responsibility of the station/unit handling the alleged sexual assault to provide their deputies with a current and up-to-date list, with phone numbers, of their jurisdictions' rape counseling centers.

In all cases when the crime was an attempt, victims shall be provided the same information and notification.

• 5-09/350.05 - Responsibilities of Station/Unit Personnel and Special Victims Bureau Personnel on Rape and Sexual Assault Cases

The crime of forcible rape or any sexual assault is a crime of violence and shall be investigated with high priority and subject to intensive follow-up. Because of the often severe personal trauma experienced by victims of rape or sexual assault, they shall be afforded the utmost courtesy and consideration during the entire investigation.

The initial response to a rape or felony sexual assault case, except those that occur in a custody setting, shall be a station/unit responsibility and the follow-up investigation shall be the responsibility of Special Victims Bureau (SVB). Cases involving the following Penal Code violations shall be assigned to SVB for follow-up investigation:

- 209(b)(1), Kidnapping with Intent to Commit Rape;
- 243.4(a), Sexual Battery (felony and all felony subsections);
- 261(a), Rape (all subsections);
- 262, Spousal Rape;
- 286, Sodomy (all subsections);
- 287 (or 288a), Oral Copulation (all subsections); and/or
- 289, Penetration by a Foreign Object.

Stations/units shall have the responsibility of handling both the initial response and the follow-up investigation of misdemeanor sexual assaults, including but not limited to Penal Code violations of 314, Indecent Exposure, and 243(e) (1), Sexual Battery.

Desk Personnel

Pursuant to a report of an alleged rape or sexual assault, station/unit desk personnel shall immediately dispatch a field unit to the location.

Responding Deputy

The responding deputy shall determine if a sexual assault has occurred, and if a sexual assault has occurred, shall proceed as follows:

- Provide the victim with immediate medical attention, if necessary;
- Inquire of the victim if he or she would like a deputy of the same gender or a different gender to conduct the interview; if so, every reasonable effort shall be made to accommodate their request. The inquiry and request shall be documented in the incident report or supplemental report. If a deputy of the same or opposite gender is requested, the requested deputy shall conduct the interview of the victim, and if a sexual assault is the primary crime, prepare the first report. If a sexual assault is the secondary crime, the requested deputy shall assist the handling unit and document the sexual assault in a supplemental report;
- The initial interview with a victim should determine if a sexual assault has occurred and if a radio crime broadcast should be made. Further information needed for the first report shall be obtained after the sexual assault examination. The in-depth interview of the victim shall be conducted by an investigator from the investigating unit which is assigned the case (the station/unit detective bureau or SVB);
- If the sexual assault incident occurred within 120 hours, transport the victim to the nearest county contracted hospital for treatment and obtain laboratory specimens in the manner prescribed for Department sexual assault evidence kits (sexual assault incidents which are over 120 hours old, do not require an immediate medical examination; if a sexual assault examination is necessary, the examination shall be arranged by SVB);
- Notify the local rape victim counseling center if a sexual assault victim is transported to the hospital for any medical evidentiary or physical examinations (264.2(b) (a) PC). The notification shall be documented in the incident report or a supplemental report;
- A sexual assault victim has the right to have a support person of their choosing present at any medical evidentiary or physical examination and law enforcement interview (this may or may not be a rape counselor). The support person may be excluded from the examination or interview if the deputy and/or the medical provider determines that the presence of the support person would be detrimental to the purpose of the examination or interview (264.2(b)(1-4) PC);
- Victims of a sexual assault shall be provided with the Department's "Sexual Assault" pamphlet by the interviewing deputy. This shall be documented in the incident report or supplemental report;
- Immediate notification shall be made to SVB without undue delay for cases to be assigned to SVB;
- If the sexual assault suspect is detained or arrested and the incident occurred within 120 hours, transport the suspect to the nearest county contracted hospital for a sexual assault evidence examination to obtain laboratory specimens in the manner prescribed for Department sexual assault evidence kits. If sexual assault examinations are conducted on the victim and the suspect, ensure that they are kept separated at all times. **The suspect cannot be forced to submit to the examination without a warrant;** and
- Information and action taken by any other field unit shall be included in the first report or a supplemental report.

Station/Unit Detective

Station/unit detective follow-up investigations for a misdemeanor sexual assault shall be conducted with the utmost priority and shall proceed as follows:

- If a victim requests a deputy of the same gender or a different gender to conduct the interview, every reasonable effort shall be made to accommodate their request;
- A sexual assault victim has the right to have a support person of their choosing present at any law enforcement interview (this may or may not be a rape counselor). The support person may be excluded from the interview if the detective determines that the presence of the support person would be

detrimental to the purpose of the interview;

- Victims of a sexual assault shall be provided with the Department's pamphlet entitled, "What Happens After Sexual Assault"; and
- If during the course of the station/unit detective's follow-up investigation of the misdemeanor sexual assault, it is discovered that the sexual assault rises to the level of a felony, the detective shall contact SVB and follow their instructions.

Station/Unit Responsibility

The initial felony incident report and all station supplemental reports shall be emailed to SVB immediately upon approval of the report, or as soon as practical.

Special Victims Bureau Detective

Detective follow-up investigations shall be conducted with the utmost priority and shall proceed as follows:

- When one or more of the following criteria are met, SVB shall respond to the incident. If after hours, contact the Department Operation Center (DOC) and have the on-call investigator notified;
 - A victim is taken to a hospital with serious injuries from physical and sexual assault;
 - A crime scene is encountered where the possibility exists of collecting evidence;
 - A suspect is in custody;
 - There is significant workable information available to apprehend a dangerous suspect;
 - There is a possible crime of kidnapping for the purpose of sex;
 - MO is that of a known/unknown serial rapist; and
 - At the request of a watch commander;
- If a victim requests a deputy of the same gender or a different gender to conduct the interview, every reasonable effort shall be made to accommodate their request;
- A sexual assault victim has the right to have a support person of their choosing present at any law enforcement interview (this may or may not be a rape counselor). The support person may be excluded from the interview if the detective determines that the presence of the support person would be detrimental to the purpose of the interview; and
- A victim of a sexual assault shall be provided with the Department's pamphlet entitled, "What Happens After Sexual Assault."

Sexual Assaults Occurring in a Custody Setting

The custody unit shall have the responsibility of all initial responses to sexual assaults that occur in a custody setting. Jail Investigation Unit (JIU) shall be responsible for the follow-up investigation for all of these felony sexual assaults. JIU shall determine if JIU or the custody unit shall have the responsibility for the follow-up investigations of misdemeanor sexual assaults.

• **5-09/350.10 - Unit Commander's Responsibility on Sexual Assault Cases**

Unit commanders are responsible for the following:

- Maintaining an adequate supply of Department sexual assault evidence kits at each participating hospital or clinic within the station/unit area. The Department sexual assault evidence kits are to be used by hospital or clinics only when obtaining laboratory specimens in sexual assault cases handled by this Department. These kits are available as needed from the Serology Section, Scientific Services Bureau;
 - Advising personnel of concerned hospitals or clinics that billings for obtaining laboratory specimens must be submitted monthly to this Department's Fiscal Administration, General Accounting; and
 - Forwarding at the end of each month, to Fiscal Administration, General Accounting, a Monthly Report of Blood Samples and Sexual Assault Evidence Collections" (SH-AD-659).
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• **5-09/350.15 - Crime Prevention and Public Appearance**

Upon the development and distribution of information on the "Self Protection for Women," station commanders shall select and train several of their female deputies to make requested public appearances relative to this subject matter.

• **5-09/360.00 - Cannabis (Marijuana) Incidents**

This section outlines the procedure for handling possession of cannabis (marijuana) incidents.

• **5-09/360.05 - Cannabis (Marijuana)**

It is legal to possess 28.5 grams or less of cannabis, and/or 8 grams or less of concentrated cannabis if a person is 21 years of age or older.

When the cannabis violation is an infraction or misdemeanor, the handling deputy shall not book the suspect (except as described below) and shall:

- Issue a citation (form 76T551-CR-66);
- Complete the Statement of Facts (form SH-CR-607); and
- The cannabis shall be seized as evidence and handled per Department evidence procedures.

If a traffic violation is included, one citation shall be issued for the traffic violation and the cannabis violation.

If the suspect refuses to sign the citation or has no identification and cannot be sufficiently identified, the person shall be arrested.

When the cannabis violation is a felony, the handling deputy shall:

- Arrest and book the suspect;
- Complete an Incident Report (form SH-R-49);
- The cannabis shall be seized as evidence and handled per Department evidence procedures; and
- Advise Narcotics Bureau. If after hours, contact Narcotics Bureau through the Sheriff's Information Bureau (SIB).

Deputy personnel who charge a suspect with a primary felony offense and additionally charge the suspect with an infraction or misdemeanor cannabis violation shall document all violations in the Incident Report (SH-R-49). Under these circumstances, deputy personnel shall not issue a separate citation (76T551-CR-66) to the suspect for the cannabis charge, nor shall a Statement of Facts (SH-CR-607) be completed.

See section 4-06/005.00, Cannabis, for detailed charges and procedures regarding cannabis.

• **5-09/360.10 - Notification**

Narcotics Bureau shall be notified by phone for all cannabis felony incidents and/or arrests. If an infraction or misdemeanor cannabis incident and/or arrest, contact Narcotics Bureau if questions or unusual circumstances.

• **5-09/360.15 - Marijuana Incident Reporting Procedure**

• **5-09/360.20 - Responsibility for Filing Marijuana Incident Cases**

• **5-09/370.00 - Forfeiture Laws: Controlled Substance Incidents**

Forfeiture laws are the means by which profits and property derived from illegal drug transactions may be seized. Conveyances used as means of drug transportation are also subject to forfeiture action.

There are two separate applicable forfeiture laws: state and federal. The Narcotics Bureau is responsible for handling all narcotic related forfeiture actions and will make the decision concerning which state or federal agency will handle the forfeiture portion of each individual case.

The following describe the practical applications of the state and federal forfeiture laws for personnel involved in field situations.

• **5-09/370.05 - State Enforcement Policy and Guidelines**

The state forfeiture law makes any boat, airplane, or certain heavy vehicles used to unlawfully transport a controlled substance for sale, subject to forfeiture. Additionally, monies, negotiable instruments, securities, real property, and other things of value can be seized for designated violations.

The state forfeiture law is contained in Health and Safety Code sections 11470 thru 11490. The responsibility for making the final decision to file or not file state forfeiture actions is vested with the district attorney.

• **5-09/370.10 - State Enforcement Policy and Guidelines**

Any deputy making or attempting to make an arrest for violations of the Health and Safety Code sections listed below, insofar as the offense involves sale, transportation for sale or possession for sale of any controlled substance by the owner of any boat, airplane, or forfeitable vehicle, may seize the conveyor used to unlawfully transport the controlled substance. Also, monies, negotiable instruments, securities, real property, and other things of value can be seized for designated violations.

The applicable Health and Safety Code sections are:

- 11351 Possession for Sales of Designated Controlled Substance;
- 11352 Transporting, etc., Controlled Substances;
- 11353 Inducing minors re: Transporting, Sales, etc., Controlled Substances;
- 11355 Offering Controlled Substance;
- 11359 Possessing Marijuana for Sale – Cannabis (felony section);
- 11360 Transporting, etc., Marijuana – Cannabis (felony section);
- 11366 Opening or Maintaining Unlawful Place;
- 11366.5 Allowing a Place to be Fortified for purposes of Selling, Possessing for Sales, Cocaine, Heroin, PCP, Methamphetamine, Amphetamine;
- 11366.6 Using a Place Designed to Suppress Law Enforcement to Sell, Possess for Sale;
- 11378 Possession for Sale of Controlled Substances;
- 11379 Transporting, Sale, Manufacture, etc., of Controlled Substances;
- 11379.5 Transports or Imports;
- 11379.6 Manufacturing; and
- 182 PC Conspiracy Involving Narcotic Activities according to 11470 (p) Health and Safety Code.

• **5-09/370.15 - Federal Forfeiture Laws - Controlled Substance Incidents**

The federal forfeiture law makes any boat, airplane, or certain vehicles used to facilitate the sale of a controlled substance, subject to forfeiture. Additionally, monies, negotiable instruments, securities, real property, and other things of value can be seized when they are used to facilitate the sale of a controlled

substance or when they are the product of illegal controlled substance activity.

The federal forfeiture law allows law enforcement agencies to seize and seek equitable transfer of property, through a federal agency, pursuant to 21 United States Code, section 881, and 19 United States Code, section 1616(c). The responsibility for making the decision to file or not file is vested with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, and U.S. Customs.

• **5-09/370.20 - General Guidelines Concerning Forfeiture Proceedings**

Due to the nature of offenses specified in the state and federal forfeiture laws, field deputies may be confronted with the possibility of initiating forfeiture procedures. Should field deputies on routine patrol become involved in seizure and forfeiture incidents, the following guidelines shall be adhered to:

The arresting deputy shall keep in mind the legislative intent of the law, i.e., to make a financial impact on substantial drug traffickers. Consideration shall be given by the arresting officer to the amount of drugs as defined in Health and Safety Code 11470(e). Consideration as to the value and condition of the conveyance should be given prior to making the seizure.

There must be reasonable cause to believe the property to be seized is directly related to criminal activity, i.e.:

- Large amounts of unexplained cash;
- Controlled substance in a conveyance;
- "Pay and Owe" sheets, bank books, safe deposit box keys, etc.;
- Conflicting information, such as false or altered vehicle registration, denial of property ownership, etc.; and
- Information from citizens, informants, or other police agencies which verified that specific property or evidence was transported in a particular conveyance or that property was obtained with monies gained from criminal activity.

Whenever practicable, the decision to seize or not to seize a vehicle or properties shall be made after consulting with Narcotics Bureau. In those situations where the Narcotics Bureau cannot be notified, the property in question should be seized and held for Narcotics Bureau disposition. In all cases where property is seized for forfeiture action, the Narcotics Bureau shall be notified as soon as possible.

A Receipt for Seized Property (SH-CR-624) shall be completed, particularly noting the condition of the property and listing any damages.

Additionally, when any member of the Department assists any law enforcement agency on the federal, state, or local level in an investigation or arrest, wherein substantial quantities of drugs and/or money are seized, the Asset Forfeiture Unit of the Narcotics Bureau shall be notified as soon as possible.

• **5-09/370.25 - Procedure for Invoking Forfeiture Laws**

Whenever an arrest is made for one of the Health and Safety Code sections listed in section 5-09/360.05 and

assets or the conveyance used to transport the controlled substance is subject to possible forfeiture, the arresting deputy shall:

- Ascertain the ownership of the money, property or conveyance, and the relationship of the driver to the owner;
- Immediately notify Narcotics Bureau, which shall determine whether or not to have the money, property or conveyance seized by considering the amount of drugs and the value and condition of the boat, airplane or vehicle involved; and
- Based on Narcotics Bureau's decision, seize and impound the conveyance, money, or property;
 - If it is not feasible to consult with Narcotics Bureau, seize and impound the conveyance and notify Narcotics Bureau of the action as soon as possible.

Vehicles shall be impounded as outlined in the Motor Vehicles chapter.

Boats, if being towed by a vehicle, shall be impounded with the vehicle. Boats which are docked shall be locked and secured at the docking location. The Sheriff's Harbor Patrol and the agency having jurisdiction shall be notified and requested to make patrol checks of the impounded boat.

If an aircraft is seized, notify Aero Bureau, who shall coordinate the impounding.

Include in the arrest report the seizure of the forfeitable assets or conveyance, as the federal or state agency must be notified of possible forfeiture proceedings as early as possible. The Narcotics Bureau shall be responsible for making notification to the proper forfeiture agency.

Timely notification, by the Narcotics Bureau, to the adopting agency is imperative as there are strict statutory time limitations.

• **5-09/370.30 - State Forfeiture Law Exclusions**

In California, if the vehicle requires Class 3 or 4 license and is driven on the highway, the vehicle is not subject to forfeiture if it is a community property interest by a person other than the defendant or the vehicle is the sole vehicle available to the family.

• **5-09/370.35 - Federal Forfeiture Law Exclusions**

Under the following circumstances, vehicles are not subject to federal forfeiture:

- Common carrier, unless otherwise proven;
 - Offense committed by person other than owner, if conveyance was unlawfully in possession of such person; or
 - Lease vehicles or rental cars.
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• **5-09/370.40 - Disposition of Property and Vehicles**

If a decision is made to file forfeiture proceedings, the Narcotics Bureau shall assume possession of, and responsibility for, the seized monies and/or conveyance.

In those cases where no forfeiture action will be filed, the Narcotics Bureau shall be responsible for releasing assets, monies, and conveyance directly to the owner.

• **5-09/380.20 - Field License Checks**

When deputies have an occasion to inspect a concealed weapon license (possession mandatory), they shall give special attention to the following:

- Description of weapon licensed to be carried;
 - Photograph (optional);
 - Other weapons authorized; and
 - Restrictions itemized on reverse side of license.
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• **5-09/380.30 - Restrictions on Personnel Carrying Personal Concealed Weapons**

Department personnel who carry a personal concealed firearm under a valid Carrying a Concealed Weapon License (CCW) shall, upon arrival to their county work assignment, immediately stow the weapon securely in their assigned locker with a functioning lock mechanism, or their personal vehicle in compliance with state law. Department personnel shall not carry a personal concealed firearm, under the authority of a CCW, on his or her person while on official duty.

NOTE: Active Department reserve deputies in good standing are exempt from this requirement.

• **5-09/390.00 - Self-Defense Tear Gas Weapons**

Self-defense tear gas permits are issued by licensed vendors who determine the purchaser's eligibility to purchase, possess, and use these weapons.

The vendor maintains complete and permanent records of all sales. It is his responsibility to ascertain the local police agency and mail the green copy of the "Self-Defense Tear Gas Permit Application and/or Sales Receipt" (Form DLE 138) to the Sheriff's station or police agency that has jurisdiction over the purchaser's place of residence. This copy, applicable to this Department, shall be forwarded to RIB, Report Processing Unit, for filing.

• **5-09/400.00 - Used Firearms Purchased for Departmental Use - Approval Procedure**

Deputy personnel purchasing used firearms for use in any official Department capacity shall submit them to the Advanced Training Bureau, Weapons Training Section, for inspection and approval prior to using such firearms on or off-duty.

Before inspecting a used firearm, the Weapons Training Section shall check the firearm through the state's Automated Firearms System (AFS) for wants or records. If there are no wants or records, the firearm shall be inspected for safety and proper functioning by Weapons Training; they shall assure that all safety devices are intact and operable. When the firearm has been inspected and approved for Department use, Weapons Training shall submit a used firearm report to Personnel Administration and the concerned deputy shall submit an Employee's Personal Information (SH-AD-91) to Personnel Administration in accordance with section 3-02/020.05. Personnel Administration shall attach and maintain these forms.

If there are wants or records on the firearm, Weapons Training shall obtain a copy of the wants or records (AFS printout), attach it to the used firearm report, notify East Los Angeles Station, and request a deputy respond to take a first report. The responding deputy shall submit the first report, used firearm report, copy of wants or records, the firearm for follow-up investigation, and final disposition in accordance with existing Department procedures.

If the firearm is cleared of all wants or records and legal ownership of the weapon by the concerned deputy is established, the station detective commander should make a notation of this fact on the used firearm report, notify the concerned deputy, and have him respond to the station/unit to sign a receipt and take possession of the firearm along with the used firearm report. The concerned deputy may then resubmit the firearm with the used firearm report to the Weapons Training Section for completion of the inspection and approval process as outlined above.

• **5-09/410.00 - Telephone Subscriber Information**

The following procedure shall be followed whenever, in the course of an official investigation, it becomes necessary for a sworn member of this Department to know:

- The location of a telephone having a known number;
- A telephone number for a known telephone location; and
- The name of a telephone subscriber at a known telephone location or number.

Upon approval from the watch commander, the requester shall call the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau, and provide whatever pertinent information is known, request the information required and advise the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau whether the request is emergent or nonemergent. Upon receiving a request, Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau personnel shall initiate an inquiry with the concerned telephone company in the following manner:

- Nonemergent requests shall be submitted to the telephone company by a letter from the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. The estimated response time is 3 to 10 days; or
- Emergent requests, e.g., hostage, person pulled away from a telephone, barricaded suspect, small child, etc., shall be made via telephone, 24 hours a day, to the concerned telephone company by the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. A follow-up letter shall be sent to the concerned telephone company by the Sheriff's Headquarters Bureau. A 20 to 60-minute response time can be anticipated.

The above procedure shall not apply to members of the Narcotics Bureau or the Major Crimes Bureau, Organized Crime section. These units shall provide the coordination service for their own investigation.

- **5-09/420.00 - Rent Control Laws**

Some cities which contract with the Department for law enforcement services have rent control laws.

Deputies assigned to a station serving contract cities shall be knowledgeable of the various rent control laws, if any, and be familiar with the procedures for reporting any alleged violations.

- **5-09/434.10 - Activation of Traffic Collision Response Team**

See section 5-05/010.00.

- **5-09/434.20 - Executive Risk Review Committee**

Each Traffic Collision Response Team report, as well as any administrative investigations relating to sexual harassment, discrimination, and other select risk/liability incidents/issues, is evaluated by the Executive Risk Review Committee. The committee is comprised of three area commanders, one of whom oversees the equity program and acts as the chairperson. The two other commanders shall, where possible, be from separate divisions that have a case or cases scheduled before the Executive Risk Review Committee.

Traffic Collision Response Team Cases

If the review involves a Traffic Collision Response Team roll-out, the purpose of the committee is to review all roll-outs that involve employee-related traffic collisions resulting in complaint of pain, serious injury, death, substantial property damage, or which are the result of a pursuit and/or code 3 operation. The role of the committee is to review each incident in detail to determine if there are any aspects of the incident that expose the Department to undue risk, constitute violations of the law or policy, involve training issues, or other risk management considerations.

The package submitted to the Executive Risk Review Committee for review shall include the Collision/Incident Analysis from Traffic Services Detail and the Traffic Collision Report (CHP-555). The Incident Report (SHR-49) and any related Departmental reports are required when a crime is involved. Each of the three commanders, as well as the concerned unit commander, will receive a copy of appropriate portions of the Traffic Collision Response Team reports (which become a component of the Executive Risk Review Committee package) and each is responsible for reading the documentation and being prepared to discuss the facts and reach conclusions. The investigator of the incident shall be available to present the case, discuss, and/or clarify issues.

Based on their findings, the Executive Risk Review Committee shall determine disposition (i.e., preventable, non-preventable, work damage, etc.), and has the option of recommending a commendation, or directing that a debriefing, training discussion or counseling session be conducted. The committee might also determine

that no further action is required, or that additional interviews or investigations are required for clarification. The committee may direct that an administrative or even a criminal investigation be conducted. Upon the completion of any additional review or investigation, the package is returned to the committee chairperson and the incident is again brought before the Executive Risk Review Committee for final determination.

The Executive Risk Review Committee package and the committee's findings and recommendations shall be forwarded to the concerned unit commander via division headquarters. The unit commander has thirty (30) business days to complete his evaluation of the material, act on the recommendations, document his/her actions, and forward the reports via his division chief for approval back to the committee chairperson. If the Executive Risk Review Committee has determined that violations of policy have occurred, the unit commander shall determine the appropriate discipline and prepare a disposition sheet for each employee that was deemed to have violated policy.

Following the review, the unit commander and watch commander should complete the Supervisor's Report of Damage to County Vehicle or Permittee's Vehicle, SHR-257, based on all the available information.

In the event that the unit commander disagrees with the findings and recommendations of the Executive Risk Review Committee, the dissent must be justified in a memorandum to his/her division chief. In addition to the memorandum, the unit commander shall submit a copy of the Executive Risk Review Committee package, and copies of any audio or video tapes, pictures and/or materials related to the case (which can be obtained from Traffic Services Detail). With the concurrence of the concerned unit commander's division chief and the appropriate assistant sheriff, the Executive Risk Review Committee's recommendations may be overruled.

The concerned unit commander shall ensure adherence to recommendations of the Executive Risk Review Committee. Actions taken must be documented by the concerned unit commander on the "Unit Commander's Response" form contained within the Executive Risk Review Committee package, which is then forwarded to the committee chairperson.

Sexual Harassment/Discrimination Cases

In the areas of sexual harassment and discrimination, the role of the committee is to review each incident in detail to determine if there are any aspects of the incident that expose the Department to undue risk, constitute violations of the law or policy, or involve training issues or other risk management considerations.

Upon the conclusion of the investigation by Internal Affairs Bureau, as outlined in the Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-04/020.00, the case will be presented at an Executive Risk Review Committee meeting. Prior to that meeting, each of the three commanders, as well as the concerned unit commander, will receive a copy of the Internal Affairs Bureau investigation, and will be responsible for reading the documentation and being prepared to discuss the facts and reach conclusions. The Internal Affairs Bureau investigator who wrote the report shall be available to present the case, discuss and/or clarify issues. Regular attendees shall include representatives from the Office of the Ombudsperson, Training Bureau's Mandated Training Unit, and Employee Relations/Advocacy Services to provide subject matter expertise, and representatives from Bureau of Compliance, who serve as staff for the Executive Risk Review Committee.

Once the case has been presented, the Executive Risk Review panel will render their decision as to whether the case is founded, unfounded or unresolved. If the case is deemed **founded**, the panel, along with the unit commander, Internal Affairs Bureau, and Advocacy Services representatives will meet in "executive session" and further discuss the mitigating and aggravating factors of the case. Thereafter, the Executive Risk Review

panel, in conjunction with the unit commander, will determine the appropriate level of discipline.

At the conclusion of each Executive Risk Review Committee meeting, the committee staff will document the committee's findings and recommendations, and prepare the final disposition sheet, which is then forwarded to the committee chairperson for his review and final approval.

The entire Executive Risk Review Committee/Internal Affairs Bureau package, including all reports and documents describing the Executive Risk Review Committee's findings and recommendations, documentation of all remedial and/or disciplinary actions taken, and appropriate disposition sheets, is maintained by the Internal Affairs Bureau. All appropriate data bases are updated from the information provided within the Executive Risk Review Committee/Internal Affairs Bureau package.

• **5-09/440.00 - Identification Photographs of Street Gang Members**

Photographs shall not be taken by members of this Department, in non-custodial situations, of known or suspected street gang members to be used for photographic show-ups and suspect identifications except in the following cases:

- Personnel shall be assigned to investigative units actively involved in conducting criminal investigations of reported crimes; and
- Personnel shall be assigned to units specifically assigned the responsibility of preventing and suppressing gang violence.

In the above exceptions, personnel shall be prepared to justify, in detail, the purpose and necessity for such non-custodial photographs, e.g., photograph needed to eliminate a person as a possible suspect in a reported crime.

In any investigation involving the taking of non-custodial identification photographs, the person to be photographed must willingly consent to the procedure. In no event shall Department personnel physically force or coerce anyone to be photographed in non-custodial situations.

The above does not affect the current process of photographing an arrestee.

• **5-09/460.00 - Alcoholic Beverages/Illegal Fireworks - Found/Seized - No Prosecution Sought**

The following procedures shall be utilized when alcoholic beverages or illegal fireworks are seized/found, prosecution is not appropriate, and returning the contraband is inappropriate.

Deputies taking possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal fireworks under these circumstances shall:

- Make an appropriate log entry in the Deputy's Daily Work Sheet (SH-CR-73), including the items found/seized and utilizing the designated monthly URN;
 - Place the contraband in the evidence locker in the designated container; and
-

- List the seized/found contraband on the Alcoholic Beverages/Illegal Fireworks - Not for Prosecution Record Form (SH-R-400).

The watch sergeant or other person designated by the unit commander shall ensure that:

- On the first day of each month an URN is designated for these incidents and posted for briefings. This URN shall include:
 - The station's/unit control number (i.e., Lennox - 0300, Carson - 1600); and
 - Statistical code 444 (other, noncriminal).

A different URN shall be designated for the Independence Day fireworks season.

- At the end of every month, an Incident Report (SH-R-49) is processed covering all incidents under the designated URN, and include:
 - The designated URN described;
 - Classification line indicating "Found property-Suspicious Circumstances" and listing possible misdemeanor/infraction violations;
 - A brief narrative explaining that either alcoholic beverages or fireworks were found or legally seized at various locations, prosecution will not be sought and the contraband will be destroyed; and
 - Copies of the Alcoholic Beverages/Illegal Fireworks - Not for Prosecution Record Forms, listing all beverages or all fireworks confiscated under the one URN.

Each month an entry shall be made in the master property control ledger reflecting the aggregate totals of contraband obtained under an assigned URN.

- Thirty days after processing the SH-R-49, a Supplemental Report (SH-R-2) shall be completed, listing:
 - Itemized amounts of contraband;
 - Date, time, and method of destruction;
 - Supervisor witnessing the destruction; and
 - Inactivate the URN.

The unit commander shall designate a lieutenant to witness and ensure that all contraband obtained during a monthly period is disposed of as follows:

- Destruction of alcoholic beverages involves emptying the entire content of each beverage container into an appropriate basin with flushing water and disposing of the empty containers; and
- Contraband fireworks shall be released to the county fire department, fire prevention team, for destruction. A signature from a member of this team on the incident report will suffice as a receipt.

Since fireworks can be disposed of immediately after the Independence holiday season, a supplemental report will not be required. All information can be incorporated into the first report.

• 5-09/465.00 - Search Operations

Search operations are defined as service of search warrants, probation and parole searches, and pre-

planned warrantless searches of fixed locations (structures, yards, vehicles at the location, etc.). This policy does not apply to searches of vehicles on public roads. It does not apply to personnel conducting routine searches in response to calls-for-service or in immediate response to field observations

When planning a search operation, the paramount concern will always be for the safety of the public, our personnel, and, to the greatest extent possible, the protection of property.

Planning is a prerequisite for any successful operation. In emergent circumstances which do not allow for detailed advance planning, risk assessment factors (section 5-09/465.10, Search Operations - Risk Assessment) relating to officer safety should still be considered.

Narcotics Bureau shall be notified in all situations relating to possession for sale or sale of narcotics, dangerous drugs, or felony sale of cannabis where follow-up investigation, a consent search of a location, or the acquisition and service of a search warrant is necessary. Such cases shall generally be the responsibility of the Narcotics Bureau. Station/unit personnel shall request Narcotics Bureau to conduct the appropriate inquiry into the L.A. Clearinghouse, and/or any other related intelligence clearinghouses to establish that there are no conflicting investigations.

Deputy personnel assigned to multi-jurisdictional task forces which are operated and managed by other agencies (e.g., Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, Federal Bureau of Investigation, L.A. IMPACT, etc.) shall follow the standard operating procedures of the agency operating the task force, the instructions of its supervisors and managers, and any memorandum of understanding between the task force and the Sheriff's Department.

The incident commander shall be responsible for coordinating code 20 information. The Sheriff's Information Bureau shall be advised when press or media inquiries are anticipated so that a representative of that bureau can be available.

• **5-09/465.10 - Search Operations - Risk Assessment**

Search operations are classified and handled according to risk assessment. The risk factors used to define each classification are explained as follows:

Highest Risk

Highest risk search operations are defined as having one or more of the following hazards associated with the location of the operation:

- Heavily barricaded location;
- Suspect armed with automatic weapons or explosives is believed to be at the location;

- Suspect wanted for armed assault on a peace officer believed to be at the location; and
- Hostage believed to be at location.

Highest risk search operations (absent exigent circumstances) require the following:

- A signed Ramey or search warrant at the time of service;
- An approved operations plan and pre-operations briefing;
- Service by full Special Weapons Team (SWT) or Special Enforcement Bureau's Tactical Entry Team (TET);
- Notification to concerned division chiefs, area commanders, and unit commander; and
- Incident commander shall hold the permanent rank of lieutenant or above.

High Risk

High risk search operations are defined as having the following hazard associated with the operation:

- Assault weapons, superior armament (high powered rifles, scoped rifles, etc.) or ballistic protection (body armor, building fortification, etc.),

Or three or more of the following hazards associated with the operation:

- Secured barred doors and windows;
- CCTV monitors or alarms;
- Guard dogs believed to be at the location;
- Handguns believed to be at location; and/or
- Suspect believed to be at location that:
 - Is a third strike candidate;
 - Has a violent criminal history; or
 - Has made threats against officers.

High risk search operations (absent exigent circumstances) require the following:

- A signed Ramey or search warrant at the time of service;
- An approved operations plan and pre-operation briefing;
- Consultation with the Special Enforcement Bureau and service by SWT/TET or unit-level personnel depending upon circumstances;
- Notification to concerned area commanders and unit commander; and
- Incident commander shall be of the permanent rank of sergeant or above (A lieutenant shall oversee all entries involving SEB personnel).

Any number of circumstances may indicate that a Special Weapons Team should be used to safely conduct a search operation. Detective and patrol supervisors are encouraged to contact the Special Enforcement Bureau whenever questions arise in evaluating service options and criteria. Special Weapons Teams (S.W.T.'s) and Tactical Entry Teams (T.E.T.'s) are not limited to use only in the above situations. Incident commanders hold the prerogative to request these resources whenever circumstances warrant their use.

T.E.T.'s are comprised of personnel from the Special Enforcement Bureau, and are available to provide tactical assistance to all Department personnel. These teams are assigned to conduct search warrant entry and the expeditious clearing of locations, with the involved investigators providing backup and perimeter containment.

In determining the need for a T.E.T., many factors should be considered; however, the paramount issue is, and will always be, the safety of those involved in the entry. Supervisors requesting the use of a T.E.T. should realize that the use of a T.E.T is not a use of force, but rather a tactical option available to Department personnel. Supervisors shall utilize the search warrant preparation checklist to assist them in making the determination whether or not to request a T.E.T.

The responsibility for requesting a T.E.T. rests upon the concerned incident commander.

The extent of scouting of a location, and the preparations made for entry will be contingent upon the facts at hand and based upon the approval of the incident commander. Except where special circumstances are present, the Special Enforcement Bureau's responsibility shall be limited to location entry and clearance. Thereafter, involved host unit personnel shall be responsible for the actual search for and retrieval of evidence, arrests, and report writing.

Contact S.E.B. for clarification if there is any doubt regarding the appropriate level of support necessary to safely execute an operation.

The responsibility for deciding whether or not unit-level personnel will execute the search operation rests with the concerned incident commander.

Moderate Risk

Moderate risk search operations are defined as having one or two of the hazards associated with high risk operations. Moderate risk search operations require the following:

- A signed ramey or search warrant at the time of service (except probation and parole searches), a signed Entry and Search Waiver, SH-R-410, (in the case of a consent search), or an audio/video taped verbal consent;
- Service by bureau or station-level personnel;
- Notification to concerned unit commander for operations involving two or more locations;
- Incident commander shall be of the permanent rank of sergeant or above; and
- Operations plan requirement may be waived by the incident commander.

Lower Risk

Lower risk operations are defined as follows:

- Having none of the risk factors associated with high risk operations; and;
- Generally restricted to crime scene investigations and business record searches.

Lower risk search operations require the following:

- “Lower risk” classification must be approved by the incident commander in the case of a search warrant;
- Operations plan requirement may be waived by incident commander;
- Pre-search and post-search video taping not required if no physical search is involved, such as the voluntary surrender of business records; and
- May be served by as few as two station or bureau-level deputies except in cases involving third party business records searches (e.g., telephone company records; internet service provider records). In those cases, only one deputy is necessary.

An incident commander is defined as an individual holding the permanent rank of sergeant or above. The incident commander shall be an individual holding the permanent rank of lieutenant or above whenever the following conditions exist:

- Any operation involving the use of SEB personnel;
 - Out-of-county search operations conducted ten (10) miles beyond the county border (except those assessed as lower risk); and
 - Whenever a search operation is expected to result in an evidence seizure valued at \$10,000 or more.
-

• **5-09/465.20 - Search Operations Preparation Check List**

The use of the SH-R-461 checklist is mandatory for all search operations. The purpose of the Search Operations Preparation Checklist (SH-R-461) is to ensure that all search operations have been properly evaluated for known risks per section 5-09/465.10, Search Operations - Risk Assessment.

A field/team sergeant or above shall review the search operations preparation checklist and operations plan (if required) for completeness and accuracy and sign the checklist before any search operation is executed.

Prior to signing the checklist and/or operations plan (if applicable), the supervisor shall ensure that all appropriate investigative leads have been explored and that all relevant information has been briefed to personnel assigned to the operation.

The Search Operations Preparation Checklist, form SH-R-461, is available online at the following address: Microsoft Outlook / Public Folders / All Public Folders / All Forms / Detective. The original check list shall be maintained at the unit as part of the “Search Documentation Package.”

• **5-09/465.30 - Operations Plan Preparation**

The Department's Operations Plan format is designed to accommodate a broad range of anticipated situations, while at the same time maintaining a systems approach to planning and documentation. Use of this format will ensure consistency and uniformity in the planning and documenting of information pertaining to search operations.

An operations plan shall precede any search operation, absent exigent circumstances. For “Moderate” or “Lower” risk operations this requirement may be waived by the incident commander. The operations plan shall be reviewed for completeness and accuracy by the incident commander. The incident commander shall

oversee a pre-operation briefing and personally supervise the execution of the plan. The operations plan shall be approved by a watch commander/team lieutenant or above.

The operations plan shall contain the following points:

- All searches shall be conducted in teams of two (2) deputies per room; and
- A scribe shall be appointed to author a report describing the execution of the plan and any subsequent search. The report shall include the following information:
 - All deputies present during the search of the location; and
 - A listing of each item of evidence seized, specifically describing the location where it was recovered and the name of the deputy who recovered it.

An operations plan template (SH-R-470) is available online at the following address: Microsoft Outlook / Public Folders / All Public Folders / All Forms / Category: Complaint / Force / Investigation. The original operations plan shall be maintained at the unit as part of the "Search Documentation Package."

To the extent possible, all operations plans shall be computer generated to simplify editing, correcting, and storage of materials, including the back-up files/disk(s).

Pre-Briefings

In complex, multi-unit, multi-agency operations, a pre-briefing shall be conducted with each team leader present to discuss tactics, logistics, individual agency's policies, documentation of events, etc. This shall be noted on the check-off sheet. A pre-briefing allows for points of concern to be addressed and changes made to the search operations plan prior to briefing all personnel. All changes made as a result of the pre-briefing shall be reflected in the operations plan.

Briefing

All personnel involved in a search operation shall attend the operation briefing prior to execution of the plan unless excused by the incident commander. Personnel who do not attend a briefing shall not participate in any field related aspects of the operation without the approval of the incident commander.

Primary reasons for having a search operations briefing are to:

- Account for all personnel involved in the operation;
- Identify and introduce all personnel to one another. This is particularly important when:
 - Undercover or non-uniformed personnel are involved; and
 - When different agencies are involved and/or when personnel who are unknown to one another are involved;
- Ensure that the required materials and equipment are distributed to the proper personnel;
- Ensure the dissemination of the same information to all concerned personnel;
- Ensure the same level of understanding, by all personnel, of the information which is briefed and which is contained in the search operations plan;
- Provide an opportunity for any necessary clarifications or questions;

- Provide an opportunity to raise concerns not included in the search operations plan;
 - Ensure that all personnel are properly equipped with required safety equipment, as well as appropriate equipment for communications, during the search operation; and
 - Ensure uniformity in the commencement of the operation.
-

• **5-09/465.40 - Seizure of High Value Property During Search Operations**

High Value Property is defined as:

Any item(s) of money, narcotics, valuables, or other evidence (other than vehicles or real estate) with an estimated worth of \$10,000 or more.

Receipts for seized high value property shall be given to the person from whose presence it was seized or who claims ownership of the property. If it is a secure location, the receipt may be left at the scene.

Upon discovery of any large amount of currency (believed to be over \$10,000), deputy personnel shall immediately request one deputy back-up with the closest ETA. Deputy personnel shall also make notification to the field/team sergeant.

Currency shall always be bagged separately from property and valuables.

Seizures with Estimated Values of \$10,000 or More

If it is anticipated that high value property will be found or seized during the service of a search warrant, the unit commander shall be notified. If the value of the seizure is expected to be \$10,000 or more, the unit commander shall designate a watch commander/team lieutenant to be the incident commander. The watch commander/team lieutenant shall oversee the warrant service and the recovery of the property. During multiple location search warrants, the on scene commander for a particular location may be a sergeant. If cash or property exceeding \$10,000 in value is discovered at a location, a watch commander/team lieutenant shall respond to the location, from the command post, as needed.

The seizure of cash or valuables (excluding vehicles and real estate) estimated in value at \$10,000 or more shall be supervised by a watch commander/team lieutenant. If a watch commander/team lieutenant is not already assigned as the incident commander, one shall be summoned immediately to assume the duties of the incident commander. The property shall be left in place until his or her arrival absent exigent circumstances. Once the watch commander/team lieutenant has assumed control, the following shall apply:

- Uncounted currency, negotiable securities, checks, jewelry, bullion, other negotiable items, or collectibles, etc., estimated at more than \$10,000 in value, shall be sealed in a transparent narcotics evidence bag, under the direct supervision of the lieutenant, who shall maintain personal custody of the bag;
- All seizures of cash or property believed to be valued in excess of \$10,000 shall be documented on video tape showing its condition upon discovery and the recovery process (including the sealing of the evidence bag and the evidence bag serial number); and
- The watch commander/team lieutenant and one other sworn member shall transport the seized money or

valuables to the concerned station or unit. It shall be entered in the safe ledger by the transporting watch commander/team lieutenant and secured in the unit safe by the watch commander or watch sergeant (if the transporting watch commander is the unit watch commander), two signatures required. The evidence bag serial number shall be noted in the safe ledger entry.

It is not necessary for incident commanders (sergeant or lieutenant) to personally transport large amounts of bulky high value property or recovered cargo loads, as long as the property has been properly inventoried at the scene. The incident commander shall maintain a copy of the inventory sheet and ensure that the property is escorted by no less than two deputies to a secure holding facility. The incident commander shall ensure that the inventory sheet is reconciled against Department reports listing recovered evidence or property, and that it has been entered into the master evidence ledger by the handling deputies.

On rare occasions, it may be impractical or impossible to hold the scene for a long period of time. If a lieutenant is not available and circumstances dictate a need for immediate seizure, the senior Department member present shall supervise the seizure. This member shall, as soon as practical, provide the concerned watch commander/team lieutenant with the video recording, written reports, and receipts of the seizure for his/her review. The written report of the incident shall reflect the circumstances which dictated the need for immediate seizure.

Currency Seized for Narcotics Asset Forfeiture Proceedings

Money and valuables which are from trafficking in controlled substances are seizable for asset forfeiture proceedings under 11470 (f) HS. Cash seized for asset forfeiture (estimated to be \$1,000 or more) shall be sealed uncounted into a serialized, tamper proof narcotics evidence bag and booked into the unit safe ledger by the seizing deputy.

Station/unit narcotics detectives shall be routinely notified whenever a seizure for asset forfeiture proceedings occurs. Seizures of more than \$10,000 cash shall be reported without unnecessary delay to the station/unit narcotics crew or to the Narcotics Bureau on call representative. Narcotics Bureau personnel shall give direction or respond and take charge of the investigation and evidence.

A sealed narcotics evidence bag containing an uncounted amount of currency held for asset forfeiture proceedings may be entered into a unit safe by the watch commander pending transfer to the Narcotics Bureau, Asset Forfeiture Unit without being opened or the amount counted by the station/unit watch commander.

Prior to release of the sealed bag to a Narcotics Bureau supervisor for transmittal to the Narcotics Bureau's Asset Forfeiture Unit for machine counting and forfeiture processing, the watch commander shall inspect the serialized sealed bag and ensure that it has not been open or tampered with.

This procedure for initial booking of uncounted currency will allow for a single count of large amounts under controlled conditions by the Narcotics Bureau Asset Forfeiture Unit and prevent discrepancies.

Currency Seized for other than Narcotics Asset Forfeiture Proceedings

If seized currency is to remain in the custody of a station or unit, and the unit has elected to account for the currency using the "sealed bag" method, the unit may utilize the services of the Narcotic Bureau Asset Forfeiture Unit to accomplish an automated count of the currency under controlled conditions.

The Narcotics Bureau Asset Forfeiture Unit shall receive the sealed evidence bag(s), open the bags in the presence of the transporting personnel and count the contents according to established Narcotics Bureau policy and procedure. After the count is complete, the Asset Forfeiture Unit shall advise the submitting Unit of the amount, record their names and the amount on the bag, reseal it, and return it to the custody of the submitting unit for processing.

The unit of case assignment has the responsibility to cause a final disposition of money evidence that has been entered into a unit safe. That disposition shall be made within 30 days of the initial entry.

The Narcotics Bureau Asset Forfeiture Unit is located in Room D115 at STARS Center. The hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 0900 - 1700 hours. Asset Forfeiture Unit personnel may be contacted at (562) 946-7116. Units shall give appropriate notice to the Asset Forfeiture Unit prior to transporting money for counting.

Non-Warrant Seizure of High Value Property

In the event that high value property (excluding vehicles and real estate) is found during a routine investigation, a sergeant shall be notified immediately and shall respond. If the property shall be seized for evidence or safekeeping and is believed to be valued at more than \$10,000, a watch commander/team lieutenant shall be requested to respond to the location. All applicable recovery procedures noted in this section shall apply.

• **5-09/465.50 - Service of Search Warrants and Affidavits**

Any Department member prior to authoring or reviewing a search warrant and affidavit, shall attend the Department mandated search warrant and affidavit training course. For further information, refer to section 3-02/080.01, Training Requirements for Sworn Personnel.

A Department member holding the rank of sergeant or above shall review the warrant and affidavit for completeness and accuracy and he/she shall sign the checklist before the documents are presented to a judge. A watch commander/team lieutenant or Department member of higher rank shall review the search operations preparation checklist prior to the service of the warrant.

Watch commander/team lieutenants who are unavailable to sign the documents may give verbal approval for the service of a search warrant and affidavit. Verbal approval shall be issued only after the lieutenant confers with the field sergeant/team sergeant on the following points:

- The affidavit contains sufficient probable cause to search the location and seize the property described therein;
- The location matches the description on the warrant;
- Risk assessment factors have been properly evaluated;
- An operations plan of sufficient detail has been drafted;
- All assigned personnel will attend a pre-operation briefing, unless excused by the incident commander; and
- All required notifications have or will be made.

Once satisfied, the watch commander/team lieutenant shall authorize the sergeant to sign his or her name in

the designated places followed by the sergeant's initials, time, and date. It shall be the watch commander/team lieutenant's responsibility to review the documents as soon as practical.

The most current version of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office's Search Warrant Manual shall be used as the guiding document when authoring search warrants and affidavits.

Search Warrants and Affidavits Served Outside of Sheriff's Department Jurisdiction

The following shall apply when search warrants and affidavits are served outside of LASD jurisdiction:

- The concerned area commander shall be notified of the intention to serve all out-of-county search warrants and affidavits; and
- Incident commanders serving out-of-jurisdiction search warrants and affidavits shall notify the watch commander of the affected police agency prior to the warrant service.

Audio/Video Taping of Search Warrant and Affidavit Locations

All warrants served by Department personnel shall be audio taped from the "knock and notice" announcement through the point of entry into the location. Any deviation from this policy shall be documented. Each warrant service shall be recorded on a separate tape and appropriately identified. If exigent circumstances dictate that entry be made without a "knock and notice" announcement, the circumstances must be documented.

The incident commander shall direct deputy personnel to videotape the location prior to commencing the search and again at the conclusion of the search. The locations of all search warrant and affidavit services, excluding those deemed lower risk, shall be videotaped.

Upon rendering a location secure (after completing a sweep for persons/items posing a threat to officer safety), the entry team leader shall ensure that the location is videotaped, including a descriptive narrative of the location and any and all damage to the location. The narrative should also include descriptive information such as the color, trim, location of the address, and any unusual features, etc. Pre-existing damage, along with damage resulting from law enforcement activities, as well as the general condition of the location, shall be videotaped and identified in the narrative.

The incident commander shall verify that all the required videotaping is completed. Each search warrant and affidavit service should be videotaped on a separate video cassette and appropriately identified.

All persons found inside the location shall be identified on videotape. Each person shall be asked about presence of money, valuables, and firearms before the search begins.

The incident commander shall also verify that the scribe documents the existence of all audio and videotapes generated as a result of the operation. All original video and/or audiotapes shall be retained at the unit as part of the "Search Documentation Package." For further instructions, refer to section 5-07/075.00, Taking of Photographs During Search Warrants.

Receipt for Seized Property and Notice for Retrieving Property

The Receipt for Seized Property and Notice for Retrieving Property form (SH-R-460) shall be completed by personnel whenever property is seized pursuant to a search warrant and affidavit or seizure order.

The Receipt for Seized Property Continuation form (SH-R-460A) shall be used when items of property seized are too numerous to list in the space provided on the receipt for seized property and notice for retrieving property form.

A copy of the completed receipt(s) shall be left at the location where the seizure occurred and the original receipt(s) shall be attached to the incident report.

• 5-09/465.60 - Post Search Operations Procedures

Document Retention

All documents and tape recordings associated with search operations shall be assembled into a "Search Documentation Package." The "Search Documentation Package" shall be maintained at the unit of assignment for a period of five (5) years.

At a minimum, the "Search Documentation Package" shall include copies of:

- Original operations plan;
- Original search warrant checklist;
- Original video and audio tapes;
- The search warrant (if applicable);
- The search warrant affidavit (if applicable);
- Property receipts;
- Scribe's report;
- All other arrest and supplementary reports connected with the search operation; and
- No payment receipts or confidential reports concerning informants shall be included in the search documentation package.

In order to ensure a complete accounting for all required documents, a "*Search Documentation Checklist*" form SH-AD-689 shall be completed by the handling investigator and included with the package. The field/team sergeant shall review the package for completeness and sign the checklist. The "*Search Documentation Checklist*" shall be entered into the Department's record management system through existing procedures.

Form SH-AD-689 is available online at the following address: Microsoft Outlook / Public Folders / All Public Folders / All Forms / Category: Complaint / Force / Investigation.

The unit commander shall designate a lieutenant to conduct regular audits of search documentation packages. The intervals between audits shall not exceed six months. In addition, lieutenants conducting the audits shall review the audio and video tapes to ensure:

- The recording equipment is operational; and
- Personnel are conforming to Department policy.

Annual audits of search documentation packages shall be coordinated by the headquarters staff of each

division as part of the command inspection process. In addition to general compliance with this policy, arrest and search warrants will be checked for due diligence requirements.

Post Search Warrant Service Procedures

In the event that a 1538.5 PC motion is granted and this results in the suppression of the search warrant and/or evidence, the handling investigator shall prepare a supplemental report indicating the court's decision. A copy of the supplemental report should be retained in the handling unit's files. A copy of this report, along with a copy of the search warrant served, should also be forwarded to the Administrative and Training Division, Risk Management Bureau, for analysis and review.

• **5-09/470.00 - Major Incident Scene Containment**

At the direction of a supervisor, a Major Incident Log (SH-CR-620) shall be maintained at all major incident scene containments. These scene containments may be a result of, but are not limited to, criminal activity, hazardous material spills, bomb threats, etc. The major incident log shall be maintained until all Department personnel have left the scene and the containment is discontinued.

Only persons authorized by the handling deputy, supervisory personnel, or handling investigator shall be permitted to enter a major incident scene containment.

All persons entering a major incident scene containment or persons known to have been at a scene prior to containment, regardless of their rank or reason for entering, shall be identified on the major incident log.

The major incident log shall be attached to the first report and remain a permanent part of that file.

• **5-09/470.05 - Homicide and Deputy Involved Shooting Scene Containment**

At the scene of a homicide, or a deputy involved shooting, the first deputy to arrive shall initiate a Major Incident Log (SH-CR-620).

Only persons authorized by Homicide Bureau shall be permitted to enter a crime/shooting scene containment.

The handling deputy shall be responsible for maintaining scene integrity and keeping unauthorized persons out of a crime/shooting scene containment.

The reasons for entering the crime/shooting scene containment, and the name of the person authorizing entry, shall be written on the major incident log.

All persons entering a crime/shooting scene containment or persons known to have been at a scene prior to containment, regardless of their rank or reason for entering, shall be identified on the major incident log. The major incident log shall be attached to the first report and remain a permanent part of that file.

• 5-09/475.00 - Photographs/Recordings at Scenes Where Human Remains are Present

In the performance of their daily duties, Department members are entrusted to respond to scenes that are not accessible to the general public, often times where human remains are present, such as:

- Mass casualty incidents;
- Natural disasters;
- Homicides;
- Deputy/officer-involved shootings;
- Suicides;
- Traffic collisions;
- Train deaths; and
- Other non-criminal deaths.

The response by Department members is a valued and vital component of public safety in ongoing investigations. Information learned at these scenes, including any photographs/recordings taken, shall only be shared with or disclosed to the lead investigators or the investigator's supervisors, unless otherwise required by law.

In order to preserve the dignity and privacy of the deceased and their families, scenes where human remains are present shall only be photographed/recorded by Scientific Services Bureau or the Department of Medical Examiner (DME) personnel. Only when extenuating circumstances exist may Department members take photographs/recordings at the direction of the lead investigators or the investigator's supervisors. All photographs/recordings shall be taken on a Department-issued device, unless a personal device is used exclusively to photograph or record legitimate Department business (see MPP section 3-01/100.46, Use of Communication Devices).

Fatal traffic collisions investigated by Traffic Services Detail and/or station traffic investigators assigned to investigate fatal traffic collisions are allowed to photograph collisions scenes during the course of the investigation; however, the photographs shall be safeguarded in compliance with this policy, and/or any policies mentioned herein.

Any photograph, recording, or record produced by a Department member, whether captured on a Department issued device or personal device, shall be considered the sole property of the Department. Any unauthorized release or sharing is strictly prohibited.

Any digitally captured photographs/recordings, shall be disclosed to the assigned investigator or the investigator's supervisors. The Department member shall preserve the photographs/recordings pending the transfer of all related images for evidence storage by a trained Department member from the Fraud and Cyber Crimes Bureau, Technical Operations Crew, or Homicide Bureau, Body Worn Camera Unit.

Scene photographs/recordings taken or captured by Department members shall not, under any circumstances, be disclosed to anyone other than the lead investigators or the investigator's supervisors, unless otherwise required by law. If the investigation is being handled by an outside authority such as a federal or state agency, photographs/recordings should be given to that agency only with the concurrence of

the Department's lead investigator. The unauthorized sharing of photographs/recordings and/or scene information not only violates public trust but it also may subject the individual and the Department to civil liability. Scene information, especially photographs/recordings shall be guarded with the utmost respect to protect the integrity of the investigation.

Nothing in this policy precludes a Department member's obligation to activate their Department issued body worn camera pursuant to MPP section 3-06/200.08, Body Worn Cameras – Activation.

• **5-09/480.00 - Notification to Police Agencies Prior to Entering Their Jurisdiction**

Prior notification shall be made to the concerned agency's watch commander when entering the jurisdiction of another police agency to:

- Conduct an investigation that could potentially arouse the interest of the news media;
- Serve a search warrant;
- Make an arrest which may impose an extreme hazard or develop into a prolonged tactical operation; and
- Conduct any type of stakeout.

Occasionally circumstances may dictate that notification would be impractical prior to entering another jurisdiction. These include but are not limited to:

- Time constraints;
- Officer or public safety; and
- Factors influencing the success of the mission.

Additionally, a unit commander may authorize a delay in notification until such time as he deems appropriate if unusual circumstances exist or highly sensitive investigations are being conducted.

Routine investigations, contract services, and civil or administrative processes do not require notification.

When notification has been made to another police agency, a follow-up notification shall be made at the conclusion of the activity. Notifications shall also be documented on any written report.

• 5-09/490.00 - Terrorism Liaison Officers and Coordinators

TERRORISM LIAISON OFFICERS

Definition

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) has established the Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) program to facilitate the flow of information between the members of the department and the homeland security community. The TLO is someone who serves as an information conduit between members of the public safety community, public/private sector, citizenry, and the US Government, in the fight against terrorism. All LASD TLOs shall be certified by the Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC).

Designation

A Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) shall be designated by each unit commander. This individual shall be known as the Primary TLO and shall serve as the point of contact for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homeland Security Division and the JRIC. Backup TLOs shall also be designated to assist the primary TLO, and be available in their absence. The number of Backup TLOs at each unit shall be determined by the unit commander. For units with multiple facilities, a TLO shall be designated for each location. The selection of TLOs shall be based on the following qualities and shall not be determined by rank or assignment:

- Express an interest in assuming the responsibilities of a TLO;
- Demonstrate a desire and interest in Homeland Security;
- Demonstrate leadership ability;
- Possess good communication skills; and
- Possess good training skills.

Responsibilities - TLO

Each TLO shall be responsible for the following:

- Meet the following State of California TLO certification process:
 - The prospective TLO must have written approval from his/her unit commander or designee to participate in the program. (Utilize "TLO Approval Form" located in the Sheriff's Data Network Public Folders/All Forms);
 - Attend the 8 hour TLO Basic Course no later than six months after being assigned as a TLO. This Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) certified course is considered the "minimum training standard" to serve as a TLO. To schedule this course, students should contact the JRIC; and
 - Understand and sign the Joint Regional Intelligence Center's "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (FOUO) Non-Disclosure Agreement" presented during the eight hour TLO Basic Class;
- Act as the unit point of contact for:
 - Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC);
 - Emergency Operations Bureau's Counter Terrorism Unit (EOB/CTU);
 - LASD TLO program manager; and

- Terrorism Liaison Officer-Coordination (TLO-Cs);
- Monitor the Joint Regional Intelligence Center's informational products regarding homeland security issues that may affect their jurisdiction;
- Provide a constant flow of homeland security related information to unit personnel such as bulletins, advisories and requests for information;
- Maintain unit situational awareness of national, state, and local homeland security efforts;
- Be familiar with the mission, function, and operations of the JRIC;
- Provide homeland security related training to unit personnel including the procedures for JRIC notifications, and the proper use of Statistical Codes 154 (Weapons of Mass Destruction), 444 (Suspicious Circumstances) and 709 (Potential Homeland Security Activity - MPP section 5-09/490.10);
- Conduct unit briefings regarding homeland security related information;
- Coordinate with other LASD TLOs and establish a network with outside agency TLOs from the law, fire, and health communities; and
- Inform TLO coordinators of assignment changes.

Responsibilities - Unit Commander

The unit commander shall be responsible for the following:

- Appoint primary and backup TLOs; and
- Ensure all TLO duties are performed properly.

TERRORISM LIAISON OFFICER COORDINATOR

Definition

The Terrorism Liaison Officer Coordinator (TLO-C) is a Department member who manages TLOs within their assigned division(s) with guidance and assistance from the terrorism liaison officer program manager.

Designation

In order to effectively manage the span of control of TLOs within the Sheriff's Department, TLO-Cs shall be designated by the LASD TLO program manager. Terrorism liaison officer coordinators may be selected from any division within the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and their selection shall be directly coordinated with their unit commander.

Terrorism Liaison Officer Coordinators shall:

- Have a demonstrated ability to train Sheriff's Department personnel;
- Have verifiable knowledge of terrorism and expertise in Sheriff's Department homeland security and emergency management programs;
- Meet or exceed the State of California's TLO certification requirements;
- Coordinate directly with the LASD TLO program manager; and
- Terrorism liaison officer coordinators shall be assigned to work within all Sheriff's Department divisions.

Responsibilities

The terrorism liaison officer coordinators shall be responsible for the following:

- Manage TLOs within their assigned divisions within the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department;
- Provide homeland security related training and briefings to LASD TLOs;
- Maintain a TLO email distribution list on the Sheriff's Data Network; and
- Maintain working relationships with members of the LASD Emergency Operation Bureau's Counter Terrorism Unit (EOB/CTU).

TERRORISM LIAISON OFFICER PROGRAM MANAGER

Definition

The terrorism liaison officer program manager is a sergeant within the LASD who manages and is responsible for all aspects of the LASD's terrorism liaison officer program.

Designation

In order to effectively manage the LASD terrorism liaison officer program, the full-time position of terrorism liaison officer program manager shall be staffed by a sergeant assigned to the Homeland Security Division's Emergency Operations Bureau.

Responsibilities - Program Manager

The TLO Program Manager shall be responsible for the following:

- Manage TLO Coordinators;
- Implement the TLO Program as directed by the Captain of EOB;
- Coordinate TLO training courses and meetings;
- Assess needs and resources of the TLO program based on the requirements of the LASD homeland security mission;
- Act as a direct representative for the LASD to the JRIC;
- Work closely with the JRIC's Regional TLO Program;
- Participate in the California Regional Terrorism Threat Assessment Center (RTTAC) TLO Managers group;
- Facilitate the training of LASD personnel regarding JRIC notifications and reporting Potential Homeland Security Activity (MPP section 5-09/490.10); and
- Coordinate the development of current and future TLO training curriculum.

Responsibilities - Emergency Operations Bureau Unit Commander

The captain of EOB shall be responsible for the following:

- Designate a TLO program manager;
- Set the direction of the LASD TLO program; and
- Ensure duties of the program manager are performed properly.

• 5-09/490.10 - Notification Process for Potential Homeland Security Activity

Definition

Suspicious activity is defined as unusual activity that may have a nexus to terrorism, terrorism-related crime or may indicate a threat to public safety. This activity may be observed by Department personnel during the course of their duties or as a result of contact with a member of the public.

NOTE: The official reporting of suspicious activity is also known nationally as Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR).

Following any incident, or upon receipt of any information which may be suspicious activity, the Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CIB) shall be immediately notified to ensure the information is collected and a lead is submitted. Members of the Criminal Intelligence Bureau Sheriff's Intelligence Unit (CIB/SIU) will ensure the lead is analyzed, investigated, validated, and the proper experts/authorities are contacted. It is critical all personnel understand reporting procedures of suspicious activity in order to ensure the effective and efficient flow of information.

Criminal Intelligence Bureau (CIB)

The information submitted to CIB is analyzed to integrate all-hazards threat intelligence. The CIB intelligence officers and analysts will convert the information into operational intelligence to detect, deter, and defend against terrorist attacks, major criminal threats, and public safety issues within the County of Los Angeles.

Reporting Threshold

It is the duty of all personnel to report any unusual or suspicious activity that may have a nexus to terrorism, terrorism-related crime or may indicate a threat to public safety, whether or not they deem such information to be a credible or viable threat.

All personnel shall be responsible for:

- Reporting all suspicious activity to CIB; and
- Notifying the watch commander for situational awareness.

Personnel shall be aware that:

- Suspicious activity may not rise to the level of a crime;
- The activity may not have a clear nexus to terrorism, specific criminal acts, or a clearly articulated threat;
- The activity may or may not require a separate incident report (SH-R 49); and
- Speed and accuracy in reporting is crucial.

Reporting Procedures - CIB

Upon determining that any information or incident may be suspicious activity, Department personnel shall

immediately notify CIB. Any of the methods listed below may be utilized:

- Web and mobile notification: www.P3tips.com/1295
- Email notification: LEADS@lasd.org
- Telephonic notification to the Sheriff's Intelligence Unit: (323) 267-4870. After hours to the Department Operations Center (DOC), at (323) 980-2101.

Personnel who report suspicious activity will likely be contacted by CIB for additional information or clarification purposes. The CIB is responsible for establishing intelligence collection requirements for the Department, and coordinating "Requests for Information" (RFI) to and from the field.

Should Department personnel be contacted by a member of the public wishing to personally report suspicious activity, they shall be directed to:

- www.lacrimestoppers.org (web notification)
- "iWatchLA" – (mobile application available on "Google Play" or "App Store")

Statistical Code 709

Statistical Code 709 is the clearance code used to identify suspicious activity and shall be used in the following circumstances:

- Primary or secondary log entry clearance; and
- As a secondary statistical code if an incident report is written.

Any report or log clearance submitted that utilizes the 709 stat code shall articulate the observations of the reporting party and the reason(s) why the activity or incident is believed to be suspicious activity. Reports utilizing 709 stat codes shall not be deferred.

NOTE: Personnel at the CIB monitor the use of the 709 statistical code. Department personnel utilizing this clearance shall immediately contact the CIB to provide all available information pertaining to the incident.

If it is determined an incident has a nexus to terrorism, the CIB on-duty sergeant or supervisor will immediately make notification to the Joint Regional Intelligence Center.

Joint Regional Intelligence Center (JRIC)

The JRIC is a task force that is staffed by Department personnel from CIB and representatives from partnering federal, state, and local agencies. It functions as the regional fusion center for terrorism intelligence and analysis. The JRIC also serves as part of the State Threat Assessment System (STAS) for the State of California, and coordinates the regional Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) Program.

Information submitted to the JRIC through CIB is analyzed to integrate criminal and terrorism threat intelligence. The JRIC converts the information into operational intelligence to detect, deter, and defend against terrorist attacks and major crime threats within the JRIC's seven county operational area.

The operational area for the JRIC includes the counties of:

- Los Angeles
- Orange
- Riverside
- San Bernardino
- San Luis Obispo
- Santa Barbara
- Ventura

The CIB is responsible for the forwarding of appropriate Departmental information, including Suspicious Activity reports, to the JRIC for further analysis. Individual members of the Department should not report directly to the JRIC.

Terrorist Screening Center Match - NCIC Query

The Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) is located in Washington D.C. and maintains the U.S. government's consolidated terrorist watchlist. This resource is a single database of identifying information about those known or reasonably suspected of being involved in terrorist activity. Access to the TSC database is accomplished via CLETS/NCIC queries.

Upon receiving a possible match to a known or suspected terrorist, pursuant to an NCIC query, deputies shall contact the TSC immediately at (866) 872-9001. Each TSC match will indicate an associated "Handling Code." Deputies shall handle TSC subject query matches in the following manner:

- TSC Handling Code 1: Approach with caution. The individual may be the subject of an arrest warrant. If a warrant is returned, detain the individual pursuant to Departmental procedures for handling an outstanding warrant. Call the TSC immediately at, (866) 872-9001;
- TSC Handling Code 2: Approach with caution. There may be a detainer for this individual. Detain the individual for a reasonable amount of time for questioning. Call the TSC immediately at, (866) 872-9001; and
- TSC Handling Code 3: Approach with caution. Do not alert the individual he/she may be on the terrorist watchlist. Contact the TSC during this encounter at, (866) 872-9001. If this would expand the scope or duration of the encounter, contact the TSC immediately thereafter. Do not detain or arrest this individual unless there is evidence of a violation of federal, state, or local statutes.

NOTE: Terrorist Screening Center handling codes are not related to, or the same as LASD radio codes. A TSC "Handling Code 3" return does NOT require an emergency vehicle response.

All personnel that receive a TSC hit in response to a NCIC query shall contact the TSC and then notify CIB immediately. Field units shall log each encounter and utilize the 709 clearance code.

Responsibilities – Supervisor

- Review reports for terrorism related information and suspicious activity;
- Ensure proper procedures for immediately notifying CIB are followed; and
- Ensure correct use of statistical codes:
 - 154 - Weapons of Mass Destruction;

- 444 - Suspicious Circumstance; and
- 709 - Suspicious Activity.

Responsibilities - Watch Commander

The watch commander shall log all significant incidents of suspicious activity for the purpose of maintaining shift and unit situational awareness.

• **5-09/500.00 - Outside Request to Use a Department Helipad**

Aero Bureau personnel shall have the authority to restrict use or grant permission to land aircraft on any helipad under the control of the Department.

A request by a public safety agency for permission to land shall be coordinated through the Aero Bureau desk. A request by other than a public safety agency for permission to land shall be coordinated through the Aero Bureau unit commander. Aero Bureau personnel can be contacted by calling the 24-hour main telephone at (562) 421-2701.

When any aircraft is in distress, the aircraft shall be permitted to land without prior approval from Aero Bureau. Department personnel shall make immediate notification of the circumstances to the Aero Bureau desk.

Department personnel who become aware of the unauthorized use of a Department helipad shall immediately notify Aero Bureau operations.

• **5-09/510.00 - Handling of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents - Policy**

This policy will assist in identifying and handling crimes or incidents that are motivated by hate or other bias toward individuals and groups with legally defined protected characteristics, to define appropriate steps for assisting victims, and to provide a guide to conducting related investigations. It also outlines the general policy for prevention, response, accessing assistance, victim assistance and follow up, and reporting the Department's role in the handling of hate crimes.

It is the policy of this Department to safeguard the rights of all individuals irrespective of their disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and/or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. Any acts of threats or violence, property damage, harassment, intimidation, or other acts or crimes motivated by hate or bias should be viewed very seriously and given high priority.

The Department will employ necessary resources and vigorous law enforcement action to identify and arrest hate crime perpetrators. Recognizing the fears and distress typically suffered by victims, the potential for reprisal and escalation of violence, and the far-reaching negative consequences of hate crimes and incidents on the community, the Department should attend to the security and related concerns of the immediate victims and families as feasible and appropriate.

All Department personnel are required to be familiar with this policy and carry out the policy at all times unless directed by the Sheriff or other command-level officer to whom the Sheriff formally designates this responsibility.

Once enacted, the Department shall distribute this policy, and any related orders and materials, via electronic transmission to all Department members, and shall re-transmit this policy, and any related orders, via an electronic forum at least twice annually. The policy shall also be available to all sworn personnel via the Department's Policy Archival and Retrieval System (PARS) system.

• 5-09/510.01 - Hate Crime and Hate Incidents - Definitions

Hate Crime

Pursuant to Penal Code Sections 422.55 and 422.56, a hate crime is any criminal act or attempted criminal act committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim:

- Disability - Includes mental or physical disability regardless of whether the disability is temporary, permanent, congenital, or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age, or illness;
- Gender - Means sex and includes a person's gender identity and gender expression (such as a transgender person). "Gender expression" means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior regardless of whether it is stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth;
- Nationality - Means country of origin, immigration status (including citizenship), and national origin;
- Race or Ethnicity - Includes ancestry, color, and ethnic background;
- Religion - Includes all aspects of religious belief, observance, and practice, including agnosticism and atheism;
- Sexual Orientation - Means heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality;
- Association with a person or group with one or more of the above actual or perceived characteristics. This includes advocacy for, identification with, or being on the premises owned or rented by, or adjacent to, a community center, educational facility, family, individual, office, meeting hall, place of worship, private institution, public agency, library, or other entity, group, or person that has, or is identified with people who have, one or more of the characteristics listed above.

A victim of a hate crime may be a person, group, or place. Penal Code Section 422.56(i) states a victim includes, but is not limited to a:

- Community center;
- Educational facility;

- Entity;
- Family;
- Group;
- Individual;
- Office;
- Meeting hall;
- Person;
- Place of worship
- Private institution;
- Public agency;
- Library; or
- Other victim or intended victim of a hate crime.

Bias Motivation

A “bias motivation” is a preexisting negative attitude toward actual or perceived characteristics (disability, gender, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, and/or association with a person or group with one or more of these characteristics). A bias motivation may include, but is not limited to:

- Hatred;
- Animosity;
- Discriminatory selection of victims;
- Resentment;
- Revulsion;
- Contempt;
- Unreasonable fear;
- Paranoia;
- Callousness;

- Thrill seeking;
- Desire for social dominance;
- Desire for social bonding with those of one's "own kind;" or
- A perception of vulnerability of the victim due to the victim being perceived as being weak, worthless, or "fair game" because of a protected characteristic or characteristics, including, but not limited to, disability or gender.

Penal Code section 422.55 uses the phrase "in whole or in part because of" in the definition for a hate crime. As defined in Penal Code section 422.56(d), the bias motivation must be a cause in fact of the crime, whether or not other causes also exist. Where multiple or concurrent factors or motives exist, the prohibited bias must be a substantial factor in bringing about the particular result. There is no requirement that the bias motivation be a main factor, or that the crime would not have been committed but for the actual or perceived characteristic. A "hate crime" need not be motivated by hate but may be motivated by any bias against a protected characteristic.

Department members will classify reports as motivated by hate or bias when evidence of such motivation, whether direct or circumstantial, is present. If a Department member is unclear as to whether a hate crime or incident has occurred, the Department member shall contact their supervisor, or a hate crime coordinator for direction.

A "hate crime" includes, but is not limited to, a violation of California Penal Code section 422.6.

Hate Incident

A hate incident is any non-criminal act, including words, directed at a person(s), and motivated by bias against a person, group, or place because of the actual or perceived characteristics referenced in Penal Code Sections 422.55 and 422.56. A hate incident is an action or behavior motivated by hate or bias against a protected class even if it is legally protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression.

Hate incidents include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Utterance of epithets, such as the use of hate speech;
- Distribution of hate materials in public places;
- Posting of hate materials without causing property damage; and
- The public display of hate materials on one's own property.

A non-criminal hate incident, when committed in conjunction with a crime, follows all the same policies and laws as described in a hate crime.

Hate Speech

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects most speech, even when it is disagreeable, offensive, or hurtful, and directed against a protected characteristic. The following types of speech are generally not protected: fighting words, true threats, perjury, blackmail, incitement to lawless action, criminal conspiracy, and solicitation to commit a crime.

Disability Bias

In compliance with California Penal Code section 422.87, Department members shall specifically consider and evaluate the following when investigating a crime or incident of suspected disability bias:

- Whether there is any indication the suspect was motivated by hostility or other bias, occasioned by factors such as, but not limited to, dislike of persons who arouse fear or guilt, a perception that persons with disabilities are inferior and therefore “deserving victims,” a fear of persons whose visible traits are perceived as being disturbing to others, or resentment of those who need, demand, or receive alternative educational, physical, or social accommodations.
- Whether there is any indication the suspect perceived the victim to be vulnerable and, if so, if this perception is grounded, in whole or in part, in anti-disability bias. This includes, but is not limited to, if a suspect targets a person with a particular perceived disability while avoiding other vulnerable-appearing persons or persons with perceived disabilities different than those of the victim. Any of those circumstances could be evidence that the suspect’s motivation included bias against persons with the perceived disability of the victim and that the crime shall be reported as a suspected hate crime and not a mere crime of opportunity.

Religious Bias

In compliance with California Penal Code section 422.87, when investigating a crime or incident of suspected religious bias, Department members shall specifically consider and evaluate whether there were targeted attacks on, or biased references to, symbols of importance to a particular religion or articles considered of spiritual significance in a particular religion. Symbols that should be considered of religious significance for the purpose of determining religious bias as stated in California Code section 422.87(D) include, but are not limited to:

- In Buddhism, statues, or images of the Buddha;
- In Christianity, crosses;
- In Hinduism, forehead markings, known as bindis and tilaks, Aum/Om symbols, and images of deities known as murtis;
- In Islam, hijabs;
- In Judaism, Stars of David, menorahs, and yarmulke; and
- In Sikhism, turbans, head coverings, and unshorn hair, including beards.

Gang-Related Hate Crimes

All hate crimes and non-criminal hate incidents should be considered gang-related when the suspect or victim, acting individually or collectively, is believed to be a gang member or gang affiliate. When the suspect is unknown, a hate crime or non-criminal hate incident should be considered gang-related when:

- The victim(s) and/or suspect(s) was wearing or using common gang identifying signs, symbols, or colors; or
- The circumstances of the crime or the expert opinion of a gang investigator indicates the incident is gang-related.

Reports of gang-related hate crimes and hate incidents will be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in section 4-10/005.00 "Gangs" and 4-11/012.00 - "Hate Crimes."

NOTE: A gang-related hate crime should not be confused with a gang-motivated crime. Gang motivation is used for investigative and prosecutorial purposes only. "Gang-motivated" is a state of mind that must be proven in a court of law by the totality of circumstances or by statements.

• 5-09/510.02 - Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents – Planning and Prevention

The Department recognizes the prevalence of underreporting of hate crimes in the county and is committed to vigilantly identifying, documenting, investigating and pursuing prosecution of hate crimes. In May 2018, the California State Auditor's Office conducted an audit regarding law enforcement and hate crimes. It was found that victims underreport incidents of hate crimes, especially anti-disability and anti-gender hate crimes.

To facilitate the guidelines contained within this policy and remedy such underreporting, Department members, as designated by the unit commander, such as the Department or unit hate crime coordinators, community relations personnel, or personnel at individual stations/units, will continuously work to build and strengthen relationships with the community, engage in dialogue, and provide education to the community about this policy. Department members are also encouraged to learn about the inherent issues concerning their communities in relation to hate crimes. To accomplish this, Department personnel:

- Should make an affirmative effort to establish contact with persons and groups within the community who are likely targets of hate crimes and form networks that address prevention and response;
- Shall access assistance by, among other things, making the proper notification to the Department hate crimes coordinator, who will in turn activate the California Department of Justice Hate Crime Rapid Response Protocol when necessary;
- Shall provide victim assistance and follow-up as outlined below, including community follow-up (e.g. providing Department-issued victim resource material, participating in community meetings to address hate acts, etc.);
- Should educate community and civic groups about hate crime laws; and

- Should work with civic groups, community organizations, and their leaders to coordinate and participate in public meetings, local group meetings, and school assemblies regarding hate crime laws and recognizing, preparing for, and preventing hate crimes.
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• **5-09/510.03 - Handling of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents** – Hate Crimes Coordinator

The Department Hate Crimes Coordinator will be a designated individual(s) assigned to the Hate Crimes Task Force. The Department Hate Crimes Coordinator shall:

- Review all hate crime and hate incident reports taken by Department personnel to help ensure proper handling of the crime or incident and proper documentation of the Incident Report (SH-R-49);
- Direct the preparation of, at minimum, an annual audit of a statistically valid sample of all crime reports to ensure that hate crimes are consistently identified and tracked as hate crimes;
- Determine which hate crime and hate incident cases will be transferred from station/unit detectives for handling and investigation by the Hate Crimes Task Force;
- Track and analyze all reviewed Department hate crime and hate incident reports, to make appropriate recommendations for response to observed trends and/or increases in hate crimes or hate incidents;
- Review existing Department policies and procedures to ensure they are in compliance with any new legislative updates regarding hate crimes, and the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) model policy framework for hate crimes, including any revisions or additions to that policy framework;
- Make appropriate recommendations to help ensure the Department is in compliance with any new legislative updates regarding hate crimes;
- Provide a minimum of twice-yearly hate crimes training to educate Department personnel on hate crimes and hate incidents, proper handling, and investigation of these types of crimes and incidents, pertinent legislative updates related to hate crimes, and to ensure that sworn personnel are in compliance with the requirement that in-service peace officers complete POST hate crimes training every six years as set forth in California Penal Code section 13519.6. Penal Code section 13519.6 further requires that the training include instruction in the following topics: indicators of hate crimes; impact of these crimes on victims, their families and the community; the legal rights, remedies, assistance, and compensation available to victims; the laws dealing with hate crimes; techniques and methods for handling incidents in a non-combative manner, multisession criminal extremism as defined by statute; special problems inherent in some categories of hate crimes; preparation and response to current and future hate crimes waves; identification of incidents for which a gun violence restraining order may be an appropriate; and the procedures for seeking a gun violence restraining order.
- Attend annual external hate crimes training, to afford the Coordinator with broad exposure to developing trends and new information on hate crimes investigations.

- Provide training to community members on hate crimes and hate incidents;
- Act as a liaison to community-based organizations and groups to further the Department's efforts to combat hate crimes and hate incidents amongst affected groups by fostering positive relationships with these groups and enabling added cultural sensitivity and strengthening awareness as a result of these interactions and through training and information from or about specific communities within the Department's jurisdiction.
- Act as a liaison with each station/unit Hate Crimes Coordinator to provide updated and pertinent information related to hate crimes and hate incidents which may impact their respective stations/units; and

Maintain and annually review and update as necessary the Department's hate crimes brochure to ensure the information contained within is current, accurate, and relevant, and ensure that all Department personnel are trained to distribute the brochure to all suspected hate crimes victims and all other interested persons.

• **5-09/510.04 - Handling of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents – Initial Response**

Responding deputies should be familiar with the role of all Department personnel with respect to the Department's investigation of hate crimes and/or incidents. Responding deputies should evaluate the need for additional assistance and, working with supervisors and/or investigators, access needed assistance as necessary and/or appropriate.

Deputies who require assistance in handling calls for service or conducting investigations related to hate crimes and hate incidents are to contact their station/unit hate crime coordinator or the Department hate crime coordinator for further guidance.

Deputies who require assistance in handling calls for service or conducting investigations related to hate crimes and hate incidents are to contact their station/unit hate crimes coordinator or the Department hate crimes coordinator for further guidance.

Deputies receiving non-emergency possible hate crime or hate incident-related calls shall give them higher priority than other non-emergency calls. Pending calls for service (i.e., awaiting calls in the Mobile Digital Computer [MDC]) should be reviewed for appropriate response, with hate crimes and hate incidents being prioritized over other non-emergency calls. For example, a hate-related vandalism report would take priority over a burglary report; however, a hate-related vandalism report would not take priority over crimes in progress, burglary or robbery alarms, or medical emergencies.

Deputies handling a hate crime or hate incident shall prepare an Incident Report (SH-R-49). In addition to the incident report, the crime analysis supplemental form shall be completed indicating the bias motivation. Hate crimes reports must be completed by the end of the handling employee's shift and shall not be deferred. Hate incident reports may be deferred with the approval of the watch sergeant.

All gang-related hate crimes or hate incidents shall be reported and documented with the statistical code 860.

At the scene of a suspected hate crime, or a hate incident that is reported with separate criminal conduct, deputies should take preliminary actions reasonably deemed necessary, including but not limited to the following:

- Use agency checklist (per Penal Code section 422.87) to assist in the investigation of any hate crimes (see Appendix);
- Stabilize the victim(s) and request medical attention when necessary;
- Properly protect the safety of victims, witnesses, and perpetrators;
- Identify criminal evidence in the possession of victims, witnesses, and/or perpetrators;
- Properly protect, preserve, process the crime scene, and remove all physical evidence of the incident as soon as possible after the offense is documented. If evidence of an inflammatory nature cannot be physically removed, the property owner should be contacted to facilitate removal or covering as soon as reasonably possible. Department personnel should follow up with the property owner to determine if this was accomplished in a timely manner;
- Request the assistance of translators or interpreters when needed to establish effective communication with witnesses, victims, perpetrators, or others as necessary;
- Utilize proper techniques for interviewing people with disabilities and be aware of and provide appropriate accommodations (e.g., ADA standards, Braille, visuals, translators for the deaf or hard of hearing. Requests for a sign-language interpreter can be made through the Sheriff's Information Bureau (SIB) pursuant to MPP 5-09/005.30 "Communicating Through a Sign Language Interpreter");
- Collect and photograph physical evidence or indicators of hate crimes such as;
 - Hate literature;
 - Spray paint cans (e.g., where used for hate or bias-motivated graffiti);
 - Threatening letters;
 - Symbols used by hate groups; and
 - Desecration of religious symbols, objects, or buildings.
- Conduct a preliminary investigation and record pertinent information including but not limited to:
 - Identity of suspected perpetrator(s);
 - Identity of witness(es), including those no longer at the scene;
 - The offer of victim confidentiality per Government Code section 6254;

- Prior occurrences in the area or with respect to the victim(s);
 - Statements made by suspect(s) (exact wording is critical);
 - The victim's protected characteristics and determination if bias was a motivation "in whole or in part" for the commission of the crime or incident;
 - Provide victim assistance and follow-up; and
 - Canvass the area for additional witnesses.
- Assist victims in seeking a Temporary Restraining Order (if applicable);
 - Adhere to Penal Code section 422.93, which protects hate crimes victims and witnesses from being detained or reported to federal immigration authorities exclusively for any actual or suspected immigration violation if they have not been charged with or convicted of any crime under state law;
 - Provide information regarding potential immigration-related relief available to victims of crime (e.g. U-Visa, T-Visa, S-Visa);
 - Document any suspected crimes which may also be motivated by terrorist or extremist ideologies/beliefs and notify the unit Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO); and
 - Notify the watch commander and other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature of the hate crimes or hate incident and its potential inflammatory and/or other impact on the community.

In conducting the initial investigation of a hate crimes or hate incident, the handling deputy shall:

- Give the victim time to voice their immediate concerns and express their feelings;
- Express empathy for the victim;
- Express the Department's official position on the importance of these cases, the measures that will be taken to apprehend the perpetrator(s), and the deputy's and Department's interest in the victim's well-being;
- Assist the victim in identifying and contacting community-based individuals, organizations, or agencies that may provide support and assistance;
- Give the victim the brochure entitled, "A Brief Guide to Hate Crimes" and document that the victim received the brochure in the incident report (per Penal Code section 422.92);
- Advise the victim they have the right to have their name and address remain confidential pursuant to Government Code section 6254(f)(2) and document their response in the incident report;
- Notify the field supervisor of the hate crimes or hate incident and, if appropriate, request they respond to

the scene;

- Ensure the “Bias-Motivated Incident” section of the Crime Analysis Information form - M.O. Factors is completed;
 - Ensure that the proper hate crimes statistical code (520-529) is used; and
 - If the suspect is in custody, or if the hate crimes or hate incident is noteworthy, immediately notify a member of the Hate Crimes Task Force. If after business hours, a member of the Hate Crimes Task Force may be contacted through the Sheriff’s Information Bureau (SIB).
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• **5-09/510.05 - Handling of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents - Supervision**

Field Supervisor Responsibilities

The field supervisor shall confer with the initial responding deputy or deputies and take reasonable steps to ensure that necessary preliminary actions have been taken, including responding to the scene in all instances where possible to ensure that such actions are taken. The field supervisor shall request any additional appropriate personnel necessary to accomplish the following:

- Provide immediate assistance to the crime victim by:
 - Expressing the Department’s official position of the importance of these cases and the measures that will be taken to apprehend the perpetrator(s);
 - Expressing the Department's interest in protecting victims’ anonymity (confidentiality forms, Government Code section 6254) to the extent reasonably possible. Allow the victims to convey their immediate concerns and feelings; and
 - Identifying individuals, organizations, or agencies that may provide victim assistance and support. Local victim assistance resources may include family members or close acquaintances, clergy, or a Department chaplain, as well as community service agencies that provide shelter, food, clothing, childcare, or other related services;
- Take reasonable steps to ensure that all relevant facts are documented on an incident and/or arrest report and make an initial determination as to whether the incident should be classified as a hate crime for federal and/or state-reporting purposes;
- Notify other appropriate personnel in the chain of command, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense and its potential inflammatory and/or other negative impact on the community;
- In cases of large-scale hate crimes waves, or in circumstances where the potential exists for subsequent hate crimes or incidents, consider directing resources to protect vulnerable sites (such as assigning a deputy or deputies to specific locations that could become targets);
- Verify that hate crimes and hate incidents are being properly reported;

- Verify adherence to Penal Code section 422.93, which protects hate crimes victims and witnesses from being detained or reported to federal immigration authorities exclusively for any actual or suspected immigration violation if they have not been charged with or convicted of any crime under state law. Supervisors should also be aware of potential immigration-related relief available to victims of crime (e.g., U-Visa, T-Visa, S-Visa);
- Respond to and properly initiate an investigation of any reports of hate crimes or hate incidents committed under the color of authority;
- Verify reporting of any suspected extremist crimes (i.e., crimes motivated by terrorist or extremist ideologies/beliefs), which are also bias motivated, to the unit Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) and the hate crimes coordinator; and
- Make a final determination as to whether the incident should be classified as a hate crime or hate incident.

Watch Sergeant Responsibilities

The watch sergeant shall:

- Review all hate crimes and hate incident reports for appropriate classification;
- Ensure the deputy documented in the incident report that the victim was provided the brochure entitled “A Brief Guide to Hate Crimes”;
- Ensure the deputy documented in the incident report whether the victim wanted their name and address to remain confidential;
- Assign all hate crimes to station/unit detectives unless incidents would ordinarily be assigned to Operations Safe Streets Bureau (OSS), Homicide Bureau, Major Crimes Bureau, Arson Explosives Detail, or Special Victims Bureau. These shall be assigned after consultation with the-respective on-call investigator;
- Assign all hate incidents to patrol;
- Ensure that all hate crimes or hate incidents reports shall be considered active;
- Special Request Distribution (SRD) all hate crimes and hate incident reports to the Hate Crimes Task Force; and
- Ensure all required notifications, including date and time of each notification, are documented in the incident report.

Watch Commander Responsibilities

The watch commander shall:

- Ensure an operational log entry has been completed for hate crimes or hate incidents. All hate crimes or hate incidents shall be recorded in the Watch Commander's Summary Log and documented with a memorandum to the station/unit concerned division chief; and
- Notify the station's/unit's hate crimes coordinator of the hate crimes or hate incident.

Unit Commander Responsibilities

The unit commander's involvement in this process provides command emphasis that builds community confidence and maintains the integrity of the community partnership. This is a vital component in the Department's effort to reduce hate crimes and hate incidents, education and enforcement will reduce the spread of misinformation. Therefore, unit commanders shall:

- Ensure key station/unit personnel meet periodically with neighborhood groups and/or residents in targeted communities to provide information and share concerns regarding hate crimes and hate incidents;
- Express to the community the Department's concern regarding, and response to, hate crimes and hate incidents;
- Establish liaisons with community-based organizations, leaders, commissions, and task forces that deal with the issue of hate crimes and hate incidents. When a hate crime or hate incident occurs, ensure that these organizations are briefed on actions taken and/or intended to be taken by the Department;
- Identify impacted groups to alleviate fears and relay the Department's concern regarding and response to these hate crimes or hate incidents;
- Develop procedures that reduce the potential for violence and provide safety, security, and crime prevention information regarding hate crimes and hate incidents;
- Ensure a process is in place to provide direct and referral assistance to victims and/or their families; and
- Participate in public meetings on hate-related threats and violence.

Station/Unit Hate Crimes Coordinator Responsibilities

Every station and/or unit shall have a designated hate crimes coordinator.

The station/unit hate crimes coordinator shall:

- Review reports to ensure all appropriate reports have been completed and all required information has been included;
- Ensure that all hate crimes and hate incident reports have been SRD to the Hate Crimes Task Force;
- Serve as liaison to the handling investigator, the Department hate crimes coordinator, the community,

and any relevant community-based organizations;

- Act as an information resource for deputies at their station/unit regarding hate crimes and hate incidents; and
- Expand, where appropriate, existing preventive programs.

Station/Unit Desk and Clerical Staff Responsibilities

Complaint Desk

Information regarding hate crimes or hate incidents received at the complaint desk shall be entered into the Department's computer-aided dispatch system (CAD), the call assigned to the attention of the appropriate field supervisor and dispatched immediately. "Hate crime" or "hate incident" shall be referenced in the remarks section of the call prior to dispatching.

Clerical Staff

A copy of all approved hate crimes and hate incident reports shall be immediately emailed to the "Hate Crimes Task Force" email distribution group in Outlook, a copy SRD to the Hate Crimes Task Force, and provided to the station/unit hate crimes coordinator.

• 5-09/510.06 - Handling of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents – Investigator and Station Detectives

Station Detective Responsibilities

Cases involving hate crimes, hate incidents, and any associated criminal charges shall be investigated by a handling station/unit detective, unless the Department hate crime coordinator determines the case will be assumed by the Hate Crimes Task Force.

The station/unit detective shall:

- Review the initial report(s) within ten business days of the hate crime or hate incident to ensure the proper classification (or declassification) of the report as a hate crime or hate incident. Any changes shall be brought to the attention of the station/unit hate crimes coordinator and the Hate Crimes Task Force; and
- If a case is assumed by the Hate Crimes Task Force, the station detective shall close their case by completing a case clearance supplemental report using clearance code: 110 Detective Division. The case clearance supplemental report shall indicate that the case will be handled by the Hate Crimes Task Force.

A detective conducting an investigation at the scene of, or performing follow-up investigation on, a suspected hate crime or hate incident should take all actions deemed reasonably necessary, including but not limited to the following:

- Consider ideologies or motivating factors of perpetrators of hate crimes and/or incidents, including but not limited to thrill, reactive/defensive, and/or mission (i.e. acts that can also be associated with terrorist or extremist ideologies/beliefs);
- Utilize investigative techniques and methods to handle hate crimes or hate incidents in a professional manner;
- Utilize proper techniques for interviewing people with disabilities and be aware of and provide appropriate accommodations (e.g., ADA standards, Braille, visuals, translators for the deaf or hard of hearing);
- Properly investigate any report of a hate crime committed under the color of authority per Penal Code section 422.6 and Penal Code section 13519.6;
- Document physical evidence or indicators of hate crimes, in accordance with the provisions of the Property and Evidence Policy, such as;
 - Hate literature;
 - Spray paint cans (e.g., where used for hate or bias-motivated graffiti);
 - Threatening letters;
 - Symbols used by hate groups; and
 - Desecration of religious symbols, objects, or buildings.
- Request the assistance of translators or interpreters when needed to establish effective communication with witnesses, victims, perpetrators, or others as necessary;
- Conduct a preliminary investigation and record information (or if such preliminary investigation has been conducted and information recorded by a responding deputy, confirm information) regarding the following:
 - Identity of suspected perpetrator(s);
 - Identify of witness(es), including those no longer at the scene;
 - Offer of victim confidentiality per Government Code section 6254;
 - Prior occurrences in the area or with respect to the victim(s);
 - Statements made by suspect(s) (exact wording is critical);
 - The victim's protected characteristics;
 - Provide victim assistance and follow-up;

- Canvass the area for additional witnesses; and
- Suspect's social media activity for potential evidence of bias motivation.
- Coordinate the investigation with Department, state, and regional intelligence operations and/or other law enforcement agencies in the area. These sources can provide the investigator with an analysis of any patterns, organized hate groups, and suspects potentially involved in the offense;
- Coordinate the investigation with the crime scene investigation unit (if applicable) or other appropriate units of the Department;
- Determine if the incident should be classified as a hate crime or hate incident (whether bias was a motivation "in whole or in part" for the commission of the crime or incident); and
- Take reasonable steps to provide appropriate assistance to hate crime victims, including the following measures;
 - Contact victims periodically to determine whether they are receiving adequate and appropriate assistance;
 - Provide ongoing information to victims about the status of the criminal investigation;
 - Provide victims and any other interested persons the brochure on hate crimes per Penal Code section 422.92 and information on any local advocacy groups (if asked); and
- Document any suspected multi-mission extremist crimes.

• 5-09/510.07 - Handling of Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents – Reporting Requirements

Section 13023 of the Penal Code requires all law enforcement agencies to forward to the Department of Justice (DOJ) all hate crimes and hate incidents statistics. Therefore, it shall be the responsibility of the Hate Crimes Task Force to provide the Sheriff's Analysis Unit (SAU) and the Fraud and Cyber Crimes Bureau (FCCB) Statistical Unit with the hate crime and hate incident data, to allow the FCCB Statistical Unit to compile Department statistics. At the end of each month, the FCCB Statistical Unit shall continue to process and report hate crime and hate incident information in compliance with county, state, and/or federal requirements.

The Hate Crimes Task Force will conduct routine audits of hate crime and hate incident data provided to the FCCB Statistical Unit to ensure the data accurately corresponds to the information entered and maintained in the Department's record management system (the Los Angeles Regional Crime Information System (LARCIS)). At the direction of the Department hate crimes coordinator, the Hate Crimes Task Force shall conduct an, at minimum, annual audit of a statistically valid sample of all crime reports to ensure that hate crimes are consistently identified and tracked as hate crimes.

Hate Crimes Task Force Reporting

The Hate Crimes Task Force shall seek the most effective investigation and prosecution with consideration given to both state and federal laws.

The Hate Crimes Task Force shall be responsible for activating the California DOJ Hate Crime Rapid Response Protocol when notified of a qualifying event (once the service is operational).

See section 4-11/012.00, Hate Crimes, for additional information on hate crime or hate incident reporting, clarifying distribution, and handling procedures.

• **5-09/520.00 - Constitutional Policing and Stops**

As a public law enforcement agency, the Department is committed to ensuring that members of the public receive equal protection of the law without bias based on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation and in accordance with the rights secured or protected by the Constitution or laws of the United States. These ideals are engrained into our efforts and reflect our Department's continued commitment to Constitutional Policing.

• **5-09/520.05 - Stops, Seizures, and Searches**

Department members shall only conduct investigatory stops or detentions when they have reasonable suspicion that a person has been, is, or is about to be engaged in the commission of a crime.

Department members shall not use race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation as a factor, to any extent or degree, in establishing reasonable suspicion or probable cause except as part of actual and credible description(s) of a specific suspect or suspects in any criminal investigation.

Department members shall not use race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, disability, or sexual orientation in exercising discretion to conduct a search except as part of an actual and credible description of a specific suspect or suspects in any criminal investigation.

Department members shall not initiate stops or other field contacts because of an individual's actual or perceived immigration status.

Department members shall not conduct arbitrary searches. The request to conduct a consent search must be reasonable, and a deputy must be able to articulate a valid reason under law and policy for initially having stopped the individual.

Department members shall only conduct searches of individuals based on probation or parole status when knowledge of a probation or parole search condition has been established.

Department members shall immediately notify a supervisor when routine field activity or observations lead to consideration of a home search based on consent, and the supervisor shall either approve the search before it is conducted or, if appropriate, a search warrant should be sought.

• **5-09/520.10 - Backseat Detentions**

A backseat detention occurs when an individual's freedom is restrained by placing that individual in the backseat of a patrol car for investigative purposes for any period of time. Backseat detentions shall not be used except when the deputy has individualized reasonable suspicion that justifies a detention and an articulable reasonable belief that the detained person may pose a threat of physical harm or is an escape risk unless detained in the backseat. Backseat detentions are not permitted when based on unreasonable or factually unsupported assertions of deputy safety. Deputies shall not conduct backseat detentions as a matter of course during routine traffic stops or domestic violence situations.

In instances where an individual is provided the option of sitting in the backseat due to weather conditions or the individual's desire for privacy, the deputy will make clear this placement is a courtesy, and that the individual is free to exit the patrol car at any time.

Deputies shall explain to the individual, in a professional and courteous manner, why they are being detained in the backseat of a patrol car. If an individual complains about being detained in the backseat of a patrol car, the deputy shall call for a field sergeant to respond to the scene to address the individual's complaint. If the individual does not want to wait for the field sergeant to respond to the scene, the deputy shall provide the individual with a business card or equivalent identifying information.

Deputies shall not attempt to dissuade any individual from making a complaint with a supervisor about a backseat detention, whether through their words, actions, or by delaying the notification to, or the response from, the supervisor.

The backseat detention contact type codes shall be used as the primary code in the contact type field to document all backseat detentions on the deputy's daily work sheet. The length of time, in approximate minutes of the backseat detention, shall be documented in the "BSDLEN" field of the Mobile Digital Computer (MDC). The factual justification for the backseat detention "seizure" shall be articulated in the narrative portion of the deputy's log.

• **5-09/520.15 - Consensual Encounters**

Persons that are contacted during consensual encounters shall be free to leave at all times and the contact shall be voluntary. A consensual encounter can transform into a detention if a reasonable person believes that they are not free to leave.

• **5-09/520.20 - Logging Public Contacts**

Field units performing regular field law enforcement duties shall create an electronic deputy's daily work sheet (DDWS) through the Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) or Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system.

Units included in this classification include, but are not limited to:

- General patrol

- Traffic patrol
- Motorcycle patrol
- COPS teams
- Special Assignment Officers
- Gang Enforcement Team patrol units
- Special Enforcement Bureau directed patrol units
- Bicycle patrol
- Foot patrol
- Beach patrol units
- Associated field supervisors for the above units

Regular field law enforcement duties include, but are not limited to:

- Responding to calls for service
- Conducting vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian stops for enforcement/investigatory purposes
- Assisting members of the public

The requirement to create a DDWS extends to units not equipped with an MDC. When a unit is not equipped with an MDC, the DDWS shall be created at the beginning of the shift by utilizing a station CAD terminal. Completion of the DDWS shall occur either during the course of the shift or prior to its conclusion.

• **5-09/520.25 - Logging Field Activities**

All significant public contacts and activity shall be appropriately logged on the Mobile Digital Computer's deputy's daily work sheet (DDWS). The Mobile Digital Computer's DDWS logs shall contain only accurate information including, but not limited to, the race of each individual detained or searched, the result of the stop, and the date, time, and location of the stop.

For the purposes of this policy, "significant public contacts and activity" are defined as:

- Calls for service;
- Self-initiated activity that results in arrest or citation;
- Self-initiated activity that is enforcement/investigative in nature but does not result in arrest or citation; and/or
- Self-initiated activity which is not enforcement/investigative in nature but results in Department personnel taking some form of constructive action, e.g., requesting a tow truck for a stranded motorist.

Each field incident shall be logged separately with its own unique "Tag" number. Deputies shall not log multiple unconnected incidents or traffic stops under a single "Tag" number. Multiple citations or activities resulting from the same traffic stop or incident shall be logged under the same "Tag" number. These concepts are equally applicable to vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle stop contacts.

• **5-09/520.30 - Statistical Codes for Traffic, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Stops**

The statistical codes 840 (Traffic Stop), 841 (Pedestrian Stop), and 842 (Bicycle Stop) shall be used when field personnel conduct vehicle, pedestrian, or bicycle stops based on probable cause, reasonable suspicion, or for other investigative purposes or to follow up on leads from prior incidents. The codes shall be used when logging vehicle, pedestrian, or bicycle stops which are associated with:

- Calls for service;
- Self-initiated activity that results in arrest or citation; and/or
- Self-initiated activity which is enforcement or investigative in nature but does not result in arrest or citation.

These codes shall be used in addition to any other statistical code(s) used to classify the incident. The narrative portion of the logged incident shall also include the reason for the contact and a brief description of the action taken by deputies.

The Mobile Digital Computer “Reasonable Suspicion” and “Pat Down” contact information codes require justification for the stop or search and shall be noted in the narrative portion of the deputy’s log.

• **5-09/530.00 - Suspect Identification Procedures**

Fair and reliable suspect identification procedures are crucial to solving crimes, convicting criminals, and ensuring the innocent are not prosecuted. The Department recognizes there are various methods to conduct fair and reliable suspect identification procedures/photo arrays. The following guidelines are intended to ensure the reliability, fairness, and consistency of suspect identification procedures throughout the Department.

Absent extraordinary circumstances, photo arrays should be displayed to witnesses by deputy personnel (e.g., detectives, detective supervisors, etc.) who have received Department’s approved training in proper procedures and law.

Deputies should use techniques that do not influence a witness in their identification of a suspect. Regardless of the method used, the deputy is required to uphold the integrity of the suspect identification procedures, and shall document the steps taken in each case in notes or reports.

• **5-09/530.10 - Recording Admonishment to Witness and Arrays**

Witness admonishments regarding the photo array process, as well as the actual witness viewing and making comments about the array, shall be audio and video recorded unless it is not practical to do so. Whenever an admonishment or procedure is only audio recorded, the deputy shall document the reason(s) why video recording was not used. Whenever an admonishment or procedure is not recorded at all, the deputy shall advise their supervisor of the reason(s) for not doing so and document in writing the reason(s) and the name of the supervisor who was advised. All photo arrays, witness admonishments, and photo array procedure recordings shall be retained as a permanent part of the investigation and disclosed as required by law. The audio and/or video recording requirement does not apply to field show-up or field identification procedures, although it is encouraged.

• 5-09/530.20 - Photo Arrays

The following applies to photo array procedures in compliance with Penal Code section 859.7:

- Prior to conducting the identification procedure, and as close in time to the incident as possible, the eyewitness shall provide the description of the suspect of the offense. Detectives shall confirm this step prior to any of the following procedures;
- The deputy conducting the identification procedure shall use blind administration or blinded administration. In the event blind administration is not used, the deputy shall document the reason;
 - “Blind administration” is when the deputy administering the identification procedure does not know who the suspect is; and
 - “Blinded administration” is when the deputy administering the identification procedure knows who the suspect is; but, does not know what position the suspect will be placed in;
- A photo array shall contain only one suspect and be arranged so the “filler” subjects generally fit the suspect description provided by the eyewitness. Deputies shall make every attempt to use suspect and “filler” photos in the photo array which depict the suspect at the time the crime occurred (if practicable) and not unduly cause the suspect photo to stand out;
- Deputies showing photo arrays shall not make any comments or gestures that could influence the witness or prejudice the investigation. Suggesting one suspect over any other (before or after viewing the photo array) in any manner, shape or form, either by body language, verbal articulation, or other communication to the witness are unacceptable and will likely render the identification inadmissible in court;
- Deputies shall document a witness’ response, verbatim, anytime a witness is shown a photo array in any format. Any effort at identification must be fully documented, whether an identification is made or not;
- The deputy conducting a photo array where someone has been identified, shall immediately inquire as to the eyewitness’ confidence level in the identification and the deputy shall record, verbatim, the eyewitness’ response. No information regarding the identified person in the photo array shall be given to the eyewitness prior to their response;
 - Documenting an eyewitness’ response shall be in writing in case notes or records; but should include an audio or video recording as well;
- The showing of photo arrays in the presence of more than one witness is not appropriate, unless the witness is so distraught that the witness requests the presence of another person for emotional support. If the witness and the accompanying person are both witnesses to the same crime, then measures must be taken to separate each individual while the actual showing of the photo is conducted. A lack of separation of the witnesses may result in the inadmissibility of either person’s identification;
- Prior to being shown a photo array, witnesses shall be admonished regarding the procedures (form SH-R-628 Witness Admonition – Photo Array);
- All witnesses shall be admonished that the suspect may or may not be among the photo presented and the witness is not required to make any identification;
- All witnesses shall be admonished that an identification or failure to make an identification will not end the investigation;
- Records, writings, or information concerning any previous arrests of the suspect in the photo array shall not be visible to the eyewitness;
- When photo arrays are shown to multiple witnesses who may communicate with each other (e.g., family

members, friends, associates, co-workers, etc.), deputies shall present the suspect's photo in different, random positions within the photo arrays. This procedure reduces the possibility of one witness telling another witness the position or number of a suspect in a photo array;

- Deputies who show photo arrays to witnesses are prohibited from confirming or denying, in any manner, including verbally, hand signs, body language, facial expressions, or otherwise, whether or not they have identified the correct individual;
 - All persons present during a photo array shown to a witness, including other sworn personnel, interpreters, or those present to support the witness, shall be identified and documented in writing; and
 - Witnesses shall be admonished not to discuss the case with others, nor indicate that they have or have not made an identification, unless directed to do so by law enforcement personnel or during the judicial process.
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• 5-09/540.00 - Tarasoff Notifications Received From Licensed Psychotherapists

The California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) section 8100 (b) states: any person who communicates to a licensed psychotherapist a serious threat of physical violence against a reasonably identifiable victim is prohibited from possessing or purchasing any firearm or other deadly weapon for a period of five years.

WIC section 8105 (c) requires a licensed psychotherapist to report (known as a tarasoff notification) the identity of these prohibited persons to the local law enforcement agency who, in turn, must immediately notify the Department of Justice (DOJ).

The firearms prohibition begins on the date the licensed psychotherapist reports the identity of the prohibited person to the local law enforcement agency. The Department of Justice is required to notify the individual by certified mail of their prohibition and inform them that they may petition the court to have their firearms rights restored during the five year period.

Tarasoff notifications to a law enforcement agency can either be in person, telephonic, or in writing. These notifications do not require law enforcement to notify the identified victim or victims. This is the responsibility of the licensed psychotherapist.

Upon notification by a licensed psychotherapist, of a serious threat of physical harm against a reasonably identifiable victim or victims, Sheriff's personnel **shall** complete a Sheriff's Department "Law Enforcement Report of Firearms Prohibition" form. The form must include the subject's complete mailing address and other personal identification information (i.e., name, date of birth, and physical description). The completed form shall be immediately faxed or e-mailed to Special Operations Division Mental Evaluation Team (MET) for notification to DOJ. The MET will be responsible for completing a California State Form BC II 8074, Law Enforcement Report of Firearms Prohibition. The MET shall maintain a copy and send the original state form to DOJ.

The completion of the law enforcement report of firearms prohibition form does not preclude Department personnel from taking additional police action should the circumstance warrant (e.g., a complaint report relative to other crimes such as stalking, terrorist threats, suspicious circumstances, etc.).

• **5-09/550.00 - Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR)**

This policy will establish procedural guidelines and responsibilities of personnel and units utilizing the Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) System. As with any technical system, adherence to standards and procedures is a key element to the success of the system. For additional information regarding how the Department shares and receives information, quality assurance, collation and analysis of data, merging records, sharing and disclosure, security safeguards, information retention and destruction, accountability, and enforcement and training, please refer to the Department's ALPR Privacy Policy.

• **5-09/550.05 - Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) Privacy Policy**

The purpose of this privacy policy is to ensure that all activities of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) and its personnel involving the capture, use, retention, and disclosure of information obtained through the Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) System comply with all applicable Federal, State, and County laws.

ALPR technology is a valuable law enforcement tool that when used appropriately, greatly enhances public safety. As with any law enforcement capability, its use must remain consistent with the United States Constitution, including the Fourth Amendment, and other applicable statutory authorities.

The Department affirms its obligation to fully comply with the statutes, regulations, and policies that govern the collection, retention, and disclosure of ALPR data, as well as with requirements for notification in the event of a data breach.

I. Authorized Purposes for Use of ALPR Technology

Pursuant to California Civil Code section 1798.90.51(b)(2)(A), the Department shall ensure that the use of ALPR technology and the collection of ALPR data are limited exclusively to the following authorized public safety purposes:

- Investigation for prosecution or exoneration of suspected criminal (including terrorist) incidents.
- Identification and/or location of wanted persons.
- Enforcement of sanctions, orders, or sentences.
- Crime prevention and legitimate law enforcement purposes.
- Crime analysis.
- Investigatory leads in subsequent investigations.
- Lifesaving efforts and critical missing persons.

II. Persons Authorized to Use or Access ALPR Technology/Data

Designated personnel who have been appropriately trained in the use of ALPR technology may access and query ALPR data as part of their official duties. Sworn personnel and designated civilian personnel whose duties require such access (e.g., crime analysts) shall have general user-level access to the Department's ALPR database for the purpose of querying information.

Information collected via ALPR technology may be analyzed only by qualified personnel who have successfully completed a background check, possess the appropriate security clearance, and have been approved and trained for that level of access.

Sworn personnel and designated civilian personnel assigned to the Advanced Surveillance and Protection (ASAP) Unit and the Sheriff's Data Network Unit, whose duties require such access, shall have administrator-level access to the Department's ALPR database. Administrator-level access authorizes these personnel to manage and control:

- The information available to each user group or classification of users.
- Specific data and system sites accessible to a user class, including data utilized in particular investigations.
- Sharing and interoperability functions with other authorized public agencies.
- Administrative and functional permissions necessary to maintain, control, administer, audit, or otherwise manage ALPR data and equipment.

III. Guidelines Regarding Appropriate Use

ALPR data must be collected in a fair and lawful manner during the routine duties of law enforcement in compliance with California Civil Code sections 1798.90.5 through 1798.90.55.

The Department shall not seek or retain information about individuals or organizations solely on the basis of religious, political, or social views or activities; participation in a noncriminal organization or lawful event; or race, ethnicity, citizenship, national origin, age, disability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Department members shall use information-gathering and investigative techniques that are objectively reasonable under the totality of circumstances, consistent with applicable law and Department policy, and proportionate to the authorized law enforcement or administrative purpose.

ALPR data shall only be used for authorized law enforcement or job-related purposes. Data shall not be used for any non-work related purpose, and all access and use shall respect and safeguard the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of individuals.

All access controls, authentication requirements, purpose limitations, and retention practices shall fully comply with all applicable State laws governing the use of ALPR systems, including but not limited to California Civil Code sections 1798.90.5-1798.90.55 added pursuant to Senate Bill 34 and Government Code sections 7282-7284.12 revised pursuant to Senate Bill 54.

IV. Quality Assurance

The Department will investigate in a timely manner alleged errors and deficiencies (or will refer them to the originating agency) to correct, or refrain from using protected information found to be erroneous or deficient. Original data will not be altered, changed, or modified.

The Department will make every reasonable effort to ensure that information retained is derived from credible and reliable sources which convey accurate, current, and complete information, including the relevant context in which the information was sought or received.

The labeling of retained information (commonly referred to as hotlist information) will be evaluated by the Department or the originating agency when new information is gathered that may impact the reliability (content validity/software misread) of previously retained information.

The Department will conduct periodic data quality reviews of information it originates and will make every reasonable effort to ensure the information from the ALPR System is updated and correct.

V. Sharing and Disclosure

All references in this policy to the term *public agency* are in accordance with the definition of public agency in California Civil Code section 1798.90.5(f). Specifically, a public agency “means the state, any city, county, or city and county, or any agency or political subdivision of the state or a city, county, or city and county, including, but not limited to, a law enforcement agency.”

Pursuant to California Civil Code section 1798.90.55(b), the Department shall not sell, share, or transfer ALPR information, except to another public agency, and only as otherwise permitted by law. The statute further states the provision of data hosting or towing services shall not be considered the sale, sharing, or transfer of ALPR information. Data sharing with other public agencies is subject to limitations and regular review to ensure compliance with the law and the protection of individual privacy rights.

Information gathered or collected, and records retained by the Department may be accessed or disclosed for legitimate law enforcement, criminal justice, or public safety purposes only to persons or entities authorized by law to have such access and only for those uses and purposes specified by law. The Department shall not confirm the existence or nonexistence of ALPR information to any person or agency that is not eligible to receive the information unless otherwise required by law.

An audit trail sufficient to identify who accessed or received ALPR information, the nature of the information requested or accessed, and the specific purpose of access will be retained by the Department for a minimum of two (2) years.

Any disclosure of ALPR data must undergo documented review and receive written authorization by the Department’s designated Custodian of Records.

ALPR information gathered or collected, and records retained by the Department will not be:

- Sold, published, exchanged, or disclosed for commercial purposes.

- Disclosed or published without authorization.
- Disseminated to persons not authorized to access or use the information.
- Disclosed, transferred, or otherwise made available for civil immigration enforcement purposes, except when disclosure is expressly required by State or County law or pursuant to a judicial warrant.

The Department shares ALPR data with other public agencies as defined in California Civil Code section 1798.90.5(f), and only upon the execution of an inter-agency agreement by which each agency agrees that all ALPR data will be gathered, accessed, used, and disclosed in accordance with applicable law, and further agrees:

- ALPR data shall be available only to authorized users for legitimate law enforcement purposes.
- Reasonable efforts will be made to ensure the accuracy of ALPR data.
- Shared hotlist data will not be stored for more than 24 hours without refresh.

All inter-agency agreements shall include a sunset clause requiring review and renewal of the agreement terms at least annually, and more frequently if circumstances require. Prior to renewal, the Department will review each agency's application for renewal of continued data sharing to confirm compliance with current laws and policies, and will verify that the partnering agency has not been identified by the California Attorney General's Office for non-compliance with SB 34 (automated license plate recognition systems).

VI. Information Retention and Destruction

These data retention and destruction requirements apply to ALPR systems managed and operated by the Department.

In general, ALPR data recorded or retained by the Department shall be retained for a period of two (2) years. After two years, ALPR data will be logically archived. Logical archiving means the record is flagged in the database as archived and can no longer be viewed or accessed by ALPR users but may be queried by an ALPR System Administrator.

If ALPR data is determined to have evidentiary value in a criminal or administrative investigation, the investigator shall submit a written request through their chain of command to the ALPR System Administrator requesting that the information be retained beyond the two-year period. The request shall include the case number, the specific reason for the retention, and the investigator's contact information. Once approved by the investigator's supervisor, the ALPR System Administrator shall ensure the requested information is retained until authorized for deletion.

ALPR data may be accessed beyond the two-year period under the following circumstances:

- When ALPR records related to a prosecution will be maintained until final disposition has been reached in the case.
- When ALPR records are included in a criminal case file, they shall be retained for the maximum period

associated with that record type.

- When ALPR records are associated with an ongoing criminal investigation, they shall be retained in accordance with the applicable record retention schedule for that investigation.
- Whenever otherwise directed by a Department executive for a particular case or internal investigation, with the written concurrence of the concerned Division Chief or Division Director.

The Department retains the right to remove ALPR data earlier, based on limitations of data storage requirements and other technological or logistical considerations.

VII. Training

Field Operations Directive 09-004 establishes procedural guidelines and defines the responsibilities of personnel and units utilizing the ALPR system. Training staff at all stations shall be provided with and briefed on these procedures regarding ALPR equipment operation and system access requirements. All personnel authorized to use or access ALPR technology shall receive all relevant policies, directives, and procedures and are accountable for knowledge and compliance with them.

Formal training classes are provided on the authorized search engines used to access and query ALPR data. Training is also conducted by station training personnel and the ASAP Unit. The basic ALPR software interface is designed to be intuitive, and specific queries may only be conducted after the required information is entered, including the search purpose and the identifying information of the individual conducting the search. Detailed help tutorials are also available within the ALPR software to assist users.

All Department personnel with ALPR system access shall complete training that covers the privacy requirements of SB 34, the restrictions on immigration cooperation under SB 54, and the provisions of the Department's ALPR policy. Training on newly enacted ALPR related laws shall be provided as necessary. Annual refresher training shall also be required.

VIII. Accountability

All personnel authorized to use or access ALPR technology or data will be accountable for knowledge of this policy.

Department members shall report errors and suspected or confirmed violations of Department policies relating to protected information to their supervisor with the rank of sergeant or higher, or manager.

All access to the system will be logged, and the Department will maintain an audit trail of each instance of access or query, including the date and time the information is accessed, the license plate number or other data elements used to conduct the query, the username of the person accessing the information and, as applicable, their affiliation with the Department, and the purpose for accessing the information, in accordance with California Civil Code section 1798.90.52. Periodic random audits will be conducted to ensure and evaluate compliance with system requirements and with the provisions of this policy and applicable law.

IX. Audits

Audits shall be conducted at least annually, and more frequently if circumstances require. Audits shall include a review of a representative sample of individual user queries to assess whether each query was necessary for the investigation or case cited by the employee.

Audit trails will be maintained by the Department for a minimum of two (2) years.

The Department will annually conduct an inspection of the audit information contained in its database system, which will be performed by the ASAP Unit. The ASAP Unit has the option of conducting random inspections, without announcement, at any time and without prior notice. The inspection will be conducted in such a manner as to protect the confidentiality, sensitivity, and privacy of the Department's information system(s).

X. Oversight Reporting

In addition to the annual audit, the Department shall provide the Office of Inspector General, the Civilian Oversight Commission, and the Board of Supervisors with a semi-annual written report summarizing ALPR data or system access logs. The Department will submit these reports within 90 days after the end of the second quarter and within 90 days after the end of the fourth quarter of each calendar year.

Reports submitted to the Office of Inspector General will be unredacted. Reports submitted to the Civilian Oversight Commission shall be redacted only as legally necessary. A summary of each semi-annual report shall also be published on the Department's public transparency website.

In addition to the semi-annual reports, the Department shall prepare and transmit to the Office of Inspector General and the Civilian Oversight Commission an annual report summarizing ALPR training completions for the preceding year. The report shall confirm the number of personnel trained, the number of personnel who have completed refresher training, and any compliance issues identified. The Department will send the report to the Office of Inspector General and the Civilian Oversight Commission within 90 days after the end of the calendar year.

XI. Custodian of ALPR System and Records

The ASAP Unit shall have primary responsibility for maintaining and operating the ALPR database. This includes coordinating with personnel and public agencies that receive, request, or evaluate ALPR information, as well as overseeing the quality, analysis, destruction, sharing, and disclosure of ALPR data. The ASAP Unit will serve as the Department's Custodian of Records for the ALPR System and all associated data.

The Custodian of Records shall review and provide written authorization for any permissible disclosure of ALPR data, consistent with Section V of this policy. The Custodian of Records shall also maintain a record of each data request, including the requesting entity, and the basis for the request. These records shall be preserved in a manner sufficient to support audits, oversight reporting, and compliance reviews.

In addition, the Custodian of Records shall ensure compliance with data retention requirements described in Section VI, including logical archiving, permanent deletion, and verification of extended retention requests. The Custodian of Records shall ensure that all disclosures of ALPR data are made only to authorized entities and for authorized purposes as required by State or County law, or pursuant to a judicial warrant.

• 5-09/550.10 - General Administration

The Advanced Surveillance and Protection Unit (ASAP) is responsible for the following:

- Receiving reports of Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) defects, damage, and/or other matters requiring maintenance of the Department's ALPR systems.
- Maintenance of data, including safeguarding and backing up of ALPR data, specific requests for searches, and for maintenance of internal hot lists.
- Inventory of ALPRs within the Department and for ensuring that the Department has included all ALPR equipment in fixed assets and tagged as county assets.
- Conducting an annual review of the policy and procedures contained herein, and for making recommendations to the Sheriff for any necessary amendments thereto.

Unit commanders are responsible for identifying unit staff authorized to capture, access, or use ALPR data. Unit commanders are further responsible for ensuring that authorized staff are appropriately trained and that all policies relative to ALPRs are followed.

• 5-09/550.20 - Rules Applicable to All Capture, Access, and Use of ALPRs Data

Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) data shall only be used for legitimate authorized purposes related to law enforcement, criminal justice, and public safety functions of the Department.

ALPRs shall only be used by members who have been trained in the use of the ALPR.

ALPR data shall only be accessed for appropriate, job-related functions. Data shall not be used for any non-work-related purpose and all users shall take into consideration the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of individuals.

ALPR data shall only be accessed by Department personnel who have been authorized to access the data by their unit commander.

ALPR data, whether fixed, mobile, or portable, will be uploaded to the Department's physical and/or hosted ALPR servers and will be managed by the Advanced Surveillance and Protection Unit (ASAP).

If there is enforcement action, an investigation and/or prosecution that results from ALPR data, the ASAP unit shall be notified so that the original information can be preserved and a copy can be kept and held by the investigator.

• 5-09/550.30 - Field Protocols - Patrol

Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) is useful in general patrol assignments when the patrol vehicle is in a position to monitor vehicular traffic.

ALPR-equipped vehicles should be deployed regularly. When not in use, ALPR-equipped vehicles shall be secured.

Personnel shall perform an upload of hotlist data prior to the deployment of an ALPR system to prevent potential traffic stops using outdated hotlist information.

When the ALPR system indicates a hit, prior to making the traffic stop and when safe to do so, personnel shall:

- Verify that the license plate information matches the license plate image of the vehicle;
- Confirm that the hit is still “active” by either running the license plate through the vehicle’s Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) or via their radio to dispatch (if confirming via SCC, advise the request is for an ALPR hit on a vehicle); and
- If a decision is made to initiate a “Code-9” due to an ALPR hit on a stolen vehicle and prior to receiving a secondary confirmation, the deputy shall advise SCC they are following a vehicle due to an ALPR stolen vehicle hit.

Proactive/manual entry of ALPR hotlist in the field is permitted for:

- Dispatched reports of crimes, “Be on the Look Outs” (BOLOs), Amber, Blue, Silver, or Yellow Alerts, or other law enforcement alerts in which a license plate number is part of the broadcast;
- When directed or authorized by the unit commander for a legitimate law enforcement purpose; and
- Department members should query their ALPR system to ascertain if there is a prior read of the license plate which is the subject of the particular alert, bulletin, or alarm.

Proactive/manual entry of ALPR hotlist in the field is required for Amber Alerts, missing child, or critical missing persons. Additionally, Department members must query their ALPR system to ascertain if there is a prior scan or read of the license plate which is the subject of the alert.

ALPR may be used in special operations or details such as:

- High crime area patrols;
- Gang investigation/suppression;
- Driving under the influence initiatives;
- Enforcement details;
- Directed criminal investigations; and
- Other investigations subject to authorization from the investigating unit’s unit commander.

When a violent crime occurs, the Department may solicit assistance from other law enforcement agencies with ALPR-equipped vehicles to assist in identifying potential vehicle license plates and/or to gather license plate data in a particular area. Similarly, other law enforcement agencies may request assistance from this Department in the event of the same. Any mutual aid request shall be directed through the station’s operations staff. Consideration should be given to deploying ALPR strategically, such as at a perimeter, choke points, major highway, or other avenues of approach or escape.

Personnel shall log that they are using a mobile ALPR system in their Mobile Digital Computer (MDC) worksheet when logging on.

- Deputies shall ensure that logs and arrests associated with the ALPR system are complete and utilize the appropriate ALPR statistical code;
- If the deputy's log has an arrest associated with an ALPR hit, this information will be provided to the Advanced Surveillance and Protection Unit (ASAP) to retain the information for the case file; and
- The deputy's log will be retained until all ALPR-related arrests have reached a final disposition.

When desk personnel receive a hit from a fixed ALPR system, which is the result of license plate data taken from a fixed camera, they shall confirm the current status of the vehicle via their CAD terminal or SCC. While waiting for confirmation, desk personnel shall advise field patrol units of the ALPR hit, the location, direction of travel, the vehicle description, request Aero Bureau, and coordinate responding field units.

• **5-09/550.40 - Audit Protocols**

An audit trail sufficient to allow the identification of each individual who accessed information shall be retained by the Department, including the information requested and the reason for the access.

Requests to review stored ALPR data shall be recorded and maintained with a sufficient audit trail.

All inquiries of ALPR data will be automatically recorded in the audit trails and maintained by the Department.

ALPR audit trails shall be retained for a minimum of two years or until any associated case is adjudicated.

• **5-09/550.50 - Data**

Department personnel may request (with the concurrence of their unit commander) that the Advanced Surveillance and Protection Unit (ASAP) enter a specific vehicle license plate into the Department's hotlist. Examples of entries include:

- Gang members/associates;
- Sex offenders;
- Crime suspects;
- Fugitives; and
- Search warrant targets.

Members making inquiries into the Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) database must enter all information requested fully and completely in order to accurately track and manage each query into the system.

If the ALPR data query log contains a hit and an arrest is associated with the hit, the deputy or investigator shall retain a copy of this hit as part of the case file and notify ASAP.

ALPR data query logs shall be maintained and secured for future audits for a minimum of two years or until any associated case is adjudicated.

Personnel conducting a query on behalf of an authorized requestor shall log each query as such.

ALPR data shall be uploaded on specified incremental time frames as designated by ASAP to keep each hotlist up to date in the ALPR server. ALPR data transferred from all mobile, portable, and fixed ALPR cameras will be managed by ASAP.

All ALPR data shall be reviewed for record retention (validation or purge) at five years, and when information has no further value or meets the criteria for removal by applicable law, it shall be purged or permanently deleted except in cases such as:

- ALPR records related to a prosecution will be maintained until a final disposition has been reached in the case;
- ALPR records associated with a criminal investigation can be maintained in the criminal case file and retained for the maximum period of time associated with such records; and
- Whenever otherwise directed by an executive of the Department for a particular case or internal investigation.

Stored data shall only be shared pursuant to an executed inter-agency agreement.

The Department does not maintain copies of shared data from outside agencies. Such data is maintained by those agencies subject to their own retention policies.

• 5-09/560.00 - Interactions with Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Persons

PURPOSE

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department does not tolerate discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, ancestry, religion, national origin, age (40 and over), disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, medical condition, or any other characteristics protected by federal or state law.

The purpose of this policy is to answer questions and establish procedures for handling interactions with transgender and gender non-conforming members of the public. For questions regarding Department procedures which affect transgender employees, please refer to the LASD Guide to Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Employees (available through the Bureau of Labor Relations and Compliance and on the BOLRAC intranet homepage).

DEFINITIONS

The definitions provided here are not intended to label individuals, but rather to assist in understanding this policy and LASD's legal obligations.

- **LGBT:** A common abbreviation that stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender. It should be noted that lesbian, gay, and bisexual are all identifications defined by a person's sexual orientation, while transgender identification has to do with a person's gender identity. Sexual orientation and gender identity are two independent and separate characteristics.

- **Sexual Orientation:** A person's physical and emotional attraction to people of the same and/or other gender. Straight, gay, lesbian, and bisexual are some ways to describe sexual orientation. It is important to note that sexual orientation is distinct from gender identity and expression. Transgender people may identify as straight, gay, lesbian, or bisexual, just like non-transgender people.
- **Gender Identity:** An internal sense of one's own gender, which may not necessarily match traditional definitions of male or female. One's gender identity is not outwardly visible to others. It is generally determined in the early years of an individual's life and, if different from the individual's physical gender, may result in increasing psychological and emotional discomfort and pain.
- **Gender Expression:** An individual's external social characteristics and behaviors related to gender (such as name, preferred pronouns, appearance, dress, mannerisms, speech, and social interactions), which may be perceived as masculine, feminine or androgynous.
- **Transgender:** Individuals with a gender identity that is different from the sex assigned to them at birth. Someone who was assigned the male sex at birth, but who identifies as female, is a transgender woman. Likewise, a person assigned the female sex at birth, but who identifies as male, is a transgender man. Some individuals who would fit this definition of transgender do not identify themselves as such, and identify simply as men and women, consistent with their gender identity. The guidance discussed in this policy applies whether or not a particular individual self-identifies as transgender.
- **Gender Non-Conforming:** Individuals who display gender traits which are not generally associated with the sex assigned to them at birth. Gender non-conforming individuals may or may not identify as male, female, or transgender. Also known as gender-variant, gender fluid, or androgynous.
- **Transition:** The process of changing one's body from the sex that was assigned at birth to match one's gender identity. Individuals undergoing a transition often seek some form of medical treatment such as counseling, hormone therapy, electrolysis, cosmetic surgery, and/or sex reassignment surgery. Some individuals, however, will not pursue some (or any) forms of medical treatment. Transitioning may also include the emotional task of telling one's family, friends, and co-workers, and the process of changing one's name and gender on legal documents and identification. The exact steps involved in transitioning vary from person to person. Avoid the phrases "sex change," "pre-op," and "post-op" when referring to a transition.
- **Intersex:** The general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male.

The terms homosexual, transsexual, transvestite, and sexual preference are outdated or defamatory terms which are seen as offensive by many people. These terms should not be used when speaking to or about the LGBT community.

NAME AND PRONOUN USAGE

Los Angeles County Sheriff's employees are to interact with transgender and gender non-conforming people in a manner that is professional, respectful, and courteous.

Employees shall follow these policies when either of these two conditions are met:

- A person informs a deputy or employee that he/she is transgender; and
- A deputy or employee has good reason to believe the individual is a transgender person. Good reason may be based on gender expression and presentation, reasonable observations, prior interactions, and/or background checks.

Every individual has the right, upon request, to be addressed by the name and pronoun that correspond to their gender identity. Proof of a court-ordered name or gender change is not required. If an individual's appearance and gender expression do not clearly indicate their gender identity, a deputy or employee shall politely and respectfully ask how the person wishes to be addressed, for instance, "What name and pronouns would you prefer I use when I address you?"

Whether or not the name on a person's driver license or identification card coincides with the person's gender identity, employees shall address and refer to the person by the name and gender that person has used to identify him or herself.

Additionally, if the name on a person's driver's license or identification card does not correspond with the individual's gender expression, the person shall be asked his or her legal name in a one-on-one situation, absent extenuating circumstances. If the contact is made in a group environment, the person shall be asked to step outside the group in order to obtain the legal name and avoid "outing" or embarrassing the individual. Deputies who need to obtain the legal name of a detained individual or suspect shall ask, "What is your legal name or birth name?" rather than asking, "What is your 'real' name?" as the latter question may be viewed as offensive.

The intentional or persistent refusal to respect an individual's gender identity (for example, intentionally referring to the person by a name or pronoun that does not correspond to their gender identity) constitutes harassment and violates this policy as well as MPP section 3-01/030.15, Conduct Toward Others.

Deputies are cautioned not to treat a person's transgender status or appearance as a basis for suspicion or as evidence of prostitution or any other crime. Transgender individuals are not more likely to be involved in illegal activities than non-transgender individuals.

REPORT WRITING

When writing a report involving a transgender person whose legal name and/or gender do not correspond with the name and gender they identify with, use the person's legal name and gender on the face page of the complaint report. However, in the first paragraph of the narrative, include a statement such as: "Victim Terrance Smith is a transgender woman who identifies as 'Tamera Smith' and she will be referred to as such throughout the remainder of this report." Throughout the report, use the pronoun that matches the person's gender identity (i.e., "she" for Tamera Smith).

Note: The explanation of a person's transgender identity in the first paragraph of the narrative preserves respect for the individual. Maintaining their legal name on the face page of the incident report avoids confusion with service of subpoenas and court appearances.

When arresting a transgender suspect whose legal name does not match the name they are currently using, include the name they are using in the "AKA" box on the face page of the report (in addition to the narrative section as described above).

PRIVACY

Personnel shall not ask victims, witnesses, informants, community members, and fellow employees about the

current medical status of their gender transition process. This is an extremely private issue and shall be respected as such. Also, under no circumstances shall an employee disclose that a person is transgender to non-law enforcement personnel, with the exception of medical personnel when appropriate, or to other non-relevant Department personnel.

Department personnel shall not ask questions or make statements about a transgender person's genitalia or surgical status. With suspects who have been arrested and are being booked, Department personnel shall refer to Custody Division Manual 5-02/050.00, Classification and Housing of Gay, Gender Non-Conforming, Intersex, and Transgender Inmates, for procedures about processing arrested transgender suspects.

When booking a transgender inmate, directions to remove appearance-related items, such as prosthetics and wigs, shall be consistent with requirements for the removal of similar items from non-transgender inmates. Articles of clothing, such as bras and undergarments that match the inmate's current gender identity, shall not be removed unless like articles are removed from all inmates of that gender.

SEARCHES

All searches of transgender persons shall be conducted in a manner that respects their identity and affords them their dignity. Searches shall not be conducted for the purpose of demeaning the individual who is being searched.

- In all cases, a transgender or intersex person shall have their identity respected and be accorded their dignity. Under no circumstances shall deputies or officers search any person for the purpose of determining genital status or presence/absence of breasts or for the purpose of demeaning transgender or intersex individuals;
- Under no circumstances shall transgender or intersex individuals be subject to more invasive search procedures than non-transgender or intersex individuals;
- Immediate cursory searches of transgender or intersex individuals may be conducted by a deputy or officer of either gender; and
- More invasive searches, including strip searches, visual body cavity searches, and physical body searches shall be, in all circumstances, conducted by deputies or officers of the gender requested by the transgender or intersex person. No personnel may be present who are not directly relevant to the search, and the search shall be conducted in private. All strip, visual body cavity and physical body cavity searches shall have prior approval of the watch commander, who shall closely evaluate the need for the particular search.

If contraband is identified in a body cavity of an inmate during a strip search or visual body cavity search, personnel shall immediately notify a supervisor (sergeant or higher). Personnel shall verbally encourage the inmate to remove the secreted contraband, but shall not force the inmate to remove the secreted contraband. Sound officer safety tactics should always be employed due to the possibility of the secreted item being a weapon. If the inmate does not comply or agree to remove the contraband, then the watch commander must be notified to determine if Contraband Watch Procedures should be initiated. If any deviation from the procedures for transgender searches occurs, including during an emergency, a supervisor shall be notified of the deviation, and the reasons for the deviation shall be documented in the watch commander's log, or within a custody environment, in the Electronic Uniform Daily Activity Log (e-UDAL). (Custody Division Manual section 5-08/010.00, Searches, Station Jail Manual).

RESTROOM ACCESSIBILITY

Under California State law, transgender persons have the right to use restrooms corresponding to their gender identity. This applies to public restrooms, public schools, and places open to the public such as shopping malls, stores, and restaurants (California Civil Code 51(b) - Unruh Civil Rights Act).

Deputies responding to calls for service which involve a complaint about restroom accessibility shall sensitively explain the law to all the parties involved. Claims of lewd conduct and/or sexual activity or assaults shall be thoroughly investigated and enforced regardless of the gender identity of either party.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- LASD Guide to Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Employees - Available on Bureau of Labor Relations & Compliance Intranet page
 - Policy of Equality Intake Specialist Unit (323) 890-5371 - For questions regarding discrimination or harassment
 - Transgender Law Center <http://transgenderlawcenter.org/>
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• 5-09/570.00 - Unmanned Aircraft System [POLICY APPLIES DEPARTMENT-WIDE, EXCEPT WEST HOLLYWOOD STATION]

NOTE: Until further notice, this policy applies to all personnel Department-wide, with the exception of personnel assigned to West Hollywood Station. Updates to the Department's Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) operating procedures and the transition to new policy will be forthcoming.

For purposes of this section, unmanned aircraft system (UAS) is defined as a small unmanned aircraft that weighs less than 55 pounds, including any attachments. UAS authorized to be operated by the Department are not armed with any munitions.

Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) responds to high-risk tactical/rescue/hazmat emergencies. In these situations of extreme threat, the deployment of an UAS may be authorized. SEB is the only unit that can authorize the deployment of an UAS and is the lead point of contact between the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and LASD for UAS operations. No other member of the Department shall deploy their own personal UAS during the course of their duties or utilize a UAS from any other source, including a UAS from an outside law enforcement agency.

Authorized UAS operations are limited to emergency and life-threatening situations, such as search and rescue missions, explosive ordnance detection missions, disaster response, barricaded suspects, hostage situations, active shooters, hazardous materials incidents, fire-related incidents, and other high-risk tactical operations. A UAS **shall not** be used for non-emergent surveillance missions or missions that would violate the privacy rights of the public.

SEB shall maintain a cadre of individuals certified by the FAA to operate an UAS. Only those individuals authorized by the SEB unit commander to operate an UAS shall operate an UAS. An UAS operation requires

a two-person team of SEB personnel consisting of a qualified operator and an observer.

An UAS is not a substitute for Aero Bureau. It may compliment Aero Bureau but has different missions and capabilities.

• **5-09/570.01 - Unmanned Aircraft System - Pilot Program Procedures**

RESCINDED

RESCINDED

RESCINDED

• **5-09/570.10 - Unmanned Aircraft System Procedures [POLICY APPLIES DEPARTMENT-WIDE, EXCEPT WEST HOLLYWOOD STATION]**
[POLICY APPLIES DEPARTMENT-WIDE, EXCEPT WEST HOLLYWOOD STATION]

NOTE: Until further notice, this policy applies to all personnel Department-wide, with the exception of personnel assigned to West Hollywood Station. Updates to the Department's Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) operating procedures and the transition to new policy will be forthcoming

All requests for the use of the unmanned aircraft system (UAS) shall be evaluated and authorized or denied by the Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) team commander.

The Department is committed to ensuring all deployments of a UAS are conducted in accordance with federal and state law.

The UAS operator shall be responsible for, and is the final authority over, the actual operation of a UAS. UAS operators have an absolute authority to reject or ground flights based on personal safety, public safety, or violation of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. UAS operators shall be responsible for compliance with SEB unit orders, Department policy, and FAA regulations.

UAS operators shall be cognizant of, and committed to, maintaining the privacy and constitutional rights of individuals when operating a UAS. The default mode of a UAS camera shall be non-recording. If circumstances require use of the recording functions of the camera, the operator shall obtain authorization from the SEB team commander to turn on the record function of the camera. The use of the record function shall be noted on the initial incident report by the handling deputy. Any recorded video footage shall only be retained for a period of two years unless there is a pending criminal case, civil action, or statute requiring retention of the video footage for a longer period of time. Video footage may also be retained longer than two years for training purposes if no one outside of Department personnel is identifiable in the video.

UAS operators are responsible for making a Public Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) and all required FAA notifications prior to operating an UAS.

An SEB team commander shall be responsible for notifying and coordinating with the Aero Bureau watch commander, rank of sergeant or above, prior to any UAS operations.

The SEB unit commander shall notify the executive director of the Civilian Oversight Commission (COC), within 48 hours, of any authorized or unauthorized use of a UAS. The SEB unit commander should also provide the COC with a report regarding all operational uses of a UAS, the type of mission for which such use was approved, the results of such uses, and whether or not the uses were authorized.

• **5-09/570.15 - Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations**
[POLICY APPLIES ONLY TO UNITS AUTHORIZED BY THE UAS OPERATIONS UNIT]

Note: Authorization to operate a UAS under this policy shall be granted and maintained solely by the UAS Operations Unit. Units will receive formal written authorization prior to initiating any UAS-related activity.

Purpose

To establish guidelines for the safe, authorized, and effective use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) that are regulated under the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Part 107 or require a Certificate of Authorization. UAS can serve as a valuable resource to increase community and officer safety, act as a valuable de-escalation tool, reduce response times, provide enhanced situational awareness, and support personnel in the course of their duties, including the accurate reconstruction of complex traffic crashes and crime scenes.

The Sheriff will establish a Department-wide UAS Operations Unit, which will oversee overall management of UAS Operations, including:

- Compliance with laws and policies;
- Reporting usage to oversight bodies and the public website;
- Establishing training standards;
- Acting as the liaison with the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB);
- Developing and maintaining equipment standards;
 - All Department UAS shall meet technical specifications established by the UAS Operations Unit and may only be purchased, donated, or leased by organizations or contract cities in accordance with Department protocols. Donated or leased UAS equipment must be reviewed and approved by the UAS Operations Unit before acceptance or use.
 - All software, support systems, or ancillary equipment used in conjunction with Department UAS shall be reviewed and approved by the UAS Operations Unit before acceptance or use.

- Overseeing the Safety Management System (SMS) and the UAS Management Software;
- Coordinating with individual Unit Commanders and their UAS Program Coordinators to ensure compliance with Department policies and placing restrictions on unit usage because of safety or risk management concerns;
- Recommending program enhancements, particularly regarding safety, information security, and privacy protection;
- Tracking data for mandated reporting requirements, measuring the effectiveness of the use of UAS to successfully resolve incidents and mitigate the risk of harm to officers, suspects, or the public, as well as an analysis of any complaints received about UAS deployments;
- Ensuring established protocols are followed;
- Providing periodic reports on the program to the Undersheriff and Sheriff.
- Conduct a yearly command inspection of all units authorized to conduct UAS operations

Any Station, Unit, or Bureau wishing to establish a UAS program shall contact the UAS Operations Unit and follow its procedures for establishing a UAS program.

Definitions

Pursuant to Department guidelines and FAA regulations, the following definitions will be used in Unmanned Aerial System operations.

Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) - Operation of a UAS beyond the distance at which the remote pilot in command (RPIC) or visual observer (VO) can maintain unaided visual contact with the aircraft to ensure safe and effective control of the flight.

Controlled Airspace - An airspace of defined dimensions within which air traffic control (ATC) services are provided to Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) flights and to Visual Flight Rules (VFR) flights in accordance with the airspace classification (FAA Class B, C, D, or E).

Drone as First Responder (DFR) - The use of a UAS, deployed as an initial responding unit to active calls for service, providing aerial support as an initial responding resource, real-time video, and tactical overwatch to responding field personnel.

Field Deployments - Situations in which a UAS is deployed by a UAS Operator while in the field.

Flight Supervisor - The on-duty Watch Commander, Incident Commander, or Unit Commander designated supervisor responsible for approving deployments consistent with this policy and reviewing mission outcomes.

Photogrammetry - The science of making measurements from photographs, typically producing maps, drawings, measurements, or 3D models.

Remote Pilot-in-Command (RPIC) - The certified personnel responsible for the safe and lawful operation of the UAS during deployment.

Safety Management System (SMS) - A structured framework designed to promote and ensure the safe operation of the Department's UAS Program. SMS encompasses proactive and reactive strategies to analyze, identify, and mitigate hazards.

Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) - A UAS is an unmanned aerial system, including the equipment necessary for that aircraft's safe and efficient operation. It is defined by statute as an aircraft that is operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.

UAS Department Program Commander – Personnel holding the rank of Lieutenant or above who is designated to oversee UAS Operations Department-wide.

UAS Program Coordinator - Personnel holding the rank of Sergeant or above who is designated to oversee the unit's UAS operations.

UAS Operator - A trained, certified member of a patrol station or unit authorized to deploy and operate UAS for missions consistent with this policy.

UAS Management Software - Software used for managing, tracking, and maintaining the Department's UAS fleet.

Visual Observer (VO) - A person who assists the RPIC in the duties associated with collision avoidance. These duties include, but are not limited to, avoidance of other traffic, clouds, obstructions, and terrain.

Deployments

The UAS may be utilized to enhance the Department's mission of protecting lives, preserving property, and supporting the collection of evidence. All Department UAS deployments shall be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the requirements and protections of the United States Constitution and the California State Constitution, and pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations.

The policy authorizes the deployment of UAS as an initial responding resource for any Department unit that has an established UAS Program. All UAS programs must be approved by the UAS Operations Unit. The UAS may be launched for real-time crime scene awareness, crime scene or traffic collision documentation, and tactical assessment prior to the arrival of ground units. The authority to deploy remains with the Flight Supervisor, who shall ensure compliance with this policy, including required reporting to the UAS Operations Unit. All UAS deployments shall be documented and reported to the UAS Operations Unit within 48 hours of deployment.

Specialized units, such as the Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB), Detective Division units, Emergency Operations Bureau (EOB), Scientific Services Bureau, and other non-patrol-based bureaus, may deploy UAS to support tactical, investigative, or emergency response operations. All deployments must comply with FAA regulations, Department UAS Program guidelines, and this policy. Use of a UAS by specialized units shall be incident-driven and must be approved by the designated Incident Commander overseeing the scene. UAS missions conducted for crime scene documentation, search and rescue, surveillance during exigent operations, or support of warrant service shall be documented and reported to the UAS Operations Unit within

48 hours of deployment.

The UAS flight crew (i.e., UAS Operator, RPIC, and VO) shall take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertently recording or transmitting images of area(s) where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Reasonable precautions can include, for example, deactivating or turning imaging devices away from such areas or persons during UAS operations and when recording flights pursuant to this policy. However, when exigent circumstances exist, flight crews may adjust the imaging scope and its positioning as operationally necessary to address the emergency, while continuing to minimize unnecessary intrusion into private areas.

UAS deployments shall only be conducted by trained and certified personnel with the oversight of a Flight Supervisor or the UAS Operations Unit. All operations shall meet the following standards:

- All UAS operators must be FAA-certified and complete Department-approved UAS training;
- All flights must adhere to regulations established by the FAA; and
- Deployments to monitor a pre-planned public event must be done with the approval of the unit's Division Chief.

The Remote Pilot in Command (RPIC) of a UAS is directly responsible for, and is the final authority as to, the operation of that UAS.

NOTE: A UAS deployment alone does not constitute a response to a call for service (see MPP section 2-06/030.05, Patrol Responsibility).

Prohibited Uses

Department UAS shall not:

- Be used to unlawfully harass, intimidate, or discriminate against any individual or group;
- Be used to randomly surveil any member of the Department, of the public, or an area without a nexus to Public Safety;
- Be used to record or photograph any First Amendment assemblies for the purpose of identifying participants who are not engaged in unlawful conduct;
- Be conducted when conditions present an unreasonable risk observed by the RPIC at the time of the mission;
- Be used for any personal business;
- Be equipped with weapons or any form of less-lethal munitions, or any facial recognition software; and
- Be used in a manner or used with any software or added equipment that is contrary to any additional restrictions imposed by the Department-wide UAS Program Commander.

No Department member shall deploy a personally owned UAS while on duty.

Training and Certification

All UAS operators shall maintain a current FAA certification and complete the Department's designated training course. UAS Operations Unit shall maintain records of certification, training, and flight hours for all operators. Training beyond the minimum required standards will be supported and encouraged.

Flights for the purposes of training or maintaining proficiency are allowed under this policy. All training flights must be logged.

Data Retention and Evidence

Absent exigent or unexpected circumstances, the UAS Program Coordinator shall ensure any UAS deployment and associated digital data (photos and video) are captured and retained in accordance with Department policy in the Department's specified digital evidence management system (DEMS).

Recording

For deployments regarding real-time crime scene awareness and tactical assessment prior to the arrival of ground units, recording each incident shall begin at or near the scene of the incident and continue to record until the UAS leaves the location or the investigative or enforcement activity has ended. Unless necessary for safe operation, while in transit, UAS camera systems must be directed toward the horizon and may only be activated for recording at or near the incident scene. Safeguarding the privacy of the community is paramount. As such, RPICs are reminded that they shall take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertently recording or transmitting images of areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy.

For missions where the primary purpose is photography or photogrammetry, prior to or at the completion of an incident, video recording is not required.

Field Deployments

When deploying a UAS in the field, the UAS operator should consider the use of a VO when practical. Deconfliction with manned aircraft is of paramount importance. The RPIC and VO are responsible for ensuring safe interactions.

UAS Program Coordinator Responsibilities

The UAS Program Coordinator shall:

- Ensure their unit's UAS fleet is properly maintained, and the equipment is inspected regularly, including applicable firmware and software updates to ensure privacy, security, and integrity of evidence;
- Ensure all maintenance is properly documented;
- Ensure any personnel operating a UAS within their unit have successfully completed and maintained the proper certification and training;

- Ensure a thorough weekly report of all required UAS usage data is maintained at the unit and submitted to the UAS Operations Unit; and
- Ensure all reporting requirements pursuant to Department policy and Government Code 7070 et seq. are adhered to.

Accident Reporting

In the event the UAS is involved in a collision or accident, the UAS Operator shall immediately notify the Flight Supervisor and the FAA if applicable. It shall be the responsibility of the Flight Supervisor to make notifications to Aero Bureau, and UAS Operations Unit. The UAS Operations Unit shall be responsible for coordinating with the Aero Bureau for notifications to the FAA and NTSB as applicable.

A supervisor shall respond to the scene to ensure the procedures of an aircraft collision are followed. The supervisor shall also be responsible for documenting the collision in a detailed memorandum.

The detailed memorandum shall include photographs of the UAS, the surrounding environment, and any involved property. Supervisory personnel shall ensure the collection of statements from involved members of the public and witnesses, obtain identification of any civilians affected, and ensure preservation of relevant digital flight logs and data from the UAS. The supervisor will also obtain from the RPIC a summary of the mission type, conditions at the time of the incident, contributing factors, and any operational anomalies that occurred. The UAS Program Coordinator for the unit shall conduct a review of the incident, and a memo shall be submitted to the UAS Operations Unit detailing the collision.

Personnel involved in the operation of the UAS at the time of the collision shall provide a safety statement. Including: location of collision, any potential immediate hazards (i.e., power lines or similar hazards), any potentially injured persons, and any damaged property.

**Incidents involving injury to non-employees, however minor, while on County property (owned or leased) must be reported on the Non-Employee Injury Form (SH-AD-668) and distributed as indicated on the form.

All UAS collisions that meet FAA-reportable thresholds—such as incidents involving serious injury, loss of consciousness, or property damage in excess of \$500 (excluding the drone itself)—shall be reported by the RPIC to the FAA and the NTSB within ten calendar days, as required under 14 CFR Part 107. The UAS Operations Unit, in conjunction with Aero Bureau, will ensure this notification is completed by the RPIC as required. “Damage to County Property” report shall also be completed and submitted to the Risk Management Bureau, consistent with Department policy for deputy-involved vehicle crashes. All documentation, including photos, witness statements, and internal reports, shall be retained by the UAS Operations Unit.

Use of UAS Owned or Operated by an Outside Agency

Personnel may request and utilize the UAS of an outside public safety agency when the Department’s operational needs warrant support and all the following conditions are met:

- The deployment must comply with the standards, restrictions, and operational expectations outlined in the MPP, including the reporting of each deployment;

- The use of an outside agency's UAS must be authorized by the on-duty Watch Commander or Incident Commander and reported to the UAS Operations Unit within 48 hours of deployment; and
- A complete copy of any digital data collected by the outside agency's UAS must be requested by LASD personnel. Any digital media must be retained in accordance with Department policy.

If the outside agency does not provide the material requested, it should be documented accordingly.

Reporting of Each Deployment

The operator of each UAS must report each deployment and use of the UAS. The reporting shall take place in the Military Equipment Management System (MEMS), the electronic UAS system log. The electronic log will provide pertinent information, including the incident number, the time, location, UAS operator's identifying information, the type of incident, and the results of the deployment.

Military Equipment Reporting

UAS devices are considered military equipment under California Government Code Section 7070 et seq., and require annual reporting on their use and involved costs. The UAS Operations Unit is responsible for collecting all inventory, procurement, recording costs, managing training requirements, and ensuring accurate reporting in the Department's annual military equipment report.

Public Notification and Transparency

Before a station begins use of UAS pursuant to this policy, a community outreach plan shall be developed and implemented in collaboration with local stakeholders (e.g., a station's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) or other community groups). Metrics evaluating flight time, response time reduction, evidentiary value, community satisfaction, and complaint trends shall be collected, consistent with the Department-wide UAS data collection efforts. Stations shall report their data in a timely manner in order to ensure that the monthly Department-wide data reports can be completed in a timely manner. Each station shall evaluate its individual metrics for program effectiveness at the station or unit level.

The UAS Operations Unit shall maintain a UAS dashboard on the Department's Transparency Page, which will be updated regularly, but not less than monthly. This dashboard shall include information, including the number of flights, locations, and types of calls on all UAS deployments except for those related to ongoing investigations.

In addition, the Department will provide the Civilian Oversight Commission with an annual report summarizing UAS usage (including the number and type of situations in which UAS devices were used), the results and effectiveness of any deployments to mitigate the risk of harm to officers, suspects, or the public, the nature and number of any complaints received, and any policy exceptions. This report will also be posted on the Department's website.

• 5-09/580.00 - In-Service Standardized Symbols *RESCINDED*

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