19-14 - Calls for Service Involving Warrant Arrests

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
NEWSLETTER
Field Operations Support Services

CALLS FOR SERVICE INVOLVING

WARRANT ARRESTS

Scenario: You've been dispatched to a call for service where the informant states there is a person at a residence who has an outstanding arrest warrant or parole violation. Prior to responding to the location, what would be the best course of action to handle this type of call while keeping officer safety in mind?

As with any arrest, you should anticipate potential threats, such as a risk of violence, ambush, or possibly being lured into an unknown problem.

Before committing resources to the call or taking action, gather more information about the call to ensure safety. It is recommended to contact the informant and ask pertinent questions, regarding a suspect description, vehicle description, and what may be urgent about making an arrest at the time of the call. Ascertain why this arrest is important to them (possibly a personal motive). Gathering information about the suspect and the location is vital to determining the risk or exigency necessary to effect an arrest.

The following are some steps to determine if an arrest is immediately necessary:

- Contact the informant away from the location. If the informant is not cooperative, the information may be unreliable;
- Check to see if the warrant is valid;
- Run a criminal history and firearms check of the suspect, and the location;
- Check for any information alerts (hits), hazards, or recent history for the location;
- Consult with the field supervisor to assist with determining if there is an exigency in making an arrest;
- Consider other units that may be better equipped with personnel and resources to make this type of arrest via a search operation, such as a parole compliance team, and surveillance teams; and
- Consult additional resources [station detectives, Major Crimes Bureau, Probation Dept., L.A. Regional Criminal Information Clearinghouse (LA CLEAR), etc.].

Information regarding the content of this newsletter may be directed to Field Operations Support Services at [REDACTED TEXT]