

# Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department

Stanislaus CO SD CA Policy Manual

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## **SHERIFF'S PREFACE**

To the Citizens We Protect and Serve:

This policy manual is a compilation of directives to provide guidance to the members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. With very few exceptions, these are not hard, fast rules but policies and procedures for delivering professional public safety services in the most efficient manner to the community we serve. They are based upon a Statewide standard that assists law enforcement agencies in reducing risk while communicating clear and concise policy guidance to our employees. Working in law enforcement requires the ability to respond to many unpredictable and often times, unique situations. It is precisely for this reason that we've trained our deputies and staff to exercise professional judgment and discretion. Protecting the public's trust and confidence in us is one of our highest priorities. Our guiding principles of honesty, integrity, professionalism and respect are the very foundation of our service to the community. We are committed to performing our work to the highest degree while always abiding by these principles, continually improving ourselves while recognizing the efforts of all.

Sheriff Jeff Dirkse

# Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department

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## **LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS**

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession . . . law enforcement.

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## **STANISLAUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department are dedicated to serve and protect the community through the highest standards of professionalism and ethical conduct by ENFORCEMENT, PREVENTION and EDUCATION in partnership with the community.

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## **Chapter 1 - Law Enforcement Role and Authority**



## Law Enforcement Authority

### 100.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to affirm the authority of the members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to perform their functions based on established legal authority.

### 100.2 PEACE OFFICER POWERS

Sworn members of this [department/office] are authorized to exercise peace officer powers pursuant to applicable state law (Penal Code § 830.1 et seq.).

#### 100.2.1 CUSTODIAL PEACE OFFICER POWERS

Custodial members of this department shall be considered peace officers pursuant to Penal Code § 830.1(c). The authority of any such peace officer is as follows:

Any deputy sheriff of the County of Stanislaus who is employed to perform duties exclusively or initially relating to custodial assignments with responsibilities for maintaining the operations of county custodial facilities, including the custody, care, supervision, security, movement, and transportation of inmates, is a peace officer whose authority extends to any place in the state only while engaged in the performance of the duties of his or her respective employment and for the purpose of carrying out the primary function of employment relating to his or her custodial assignments, or when performing other law enforcement duties directed by his or her employing agency during a local state of emergency.

#### 100.2.2 ARREST AUTHORITY OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE STANISLAUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The arrest authority outside the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department includes (Penal Code § 830.1; Penal Code § 836):

- (a) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person committed a felony.
- (b) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor in the presence of the deputy and the deputy reasonably believes there is immediate danger to person or property or of escape.
- (c) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor for which an arrest is authorized even if not committed in the presence of the deputy such as certain domestic violence offenses and there is immediate danger to person or property or of escape or the arrest is mandated by statute.
- (d) When authorized by a cross jurisdictional agreement with the jurisdiction in which the arrest is made.
- (e) In compliance with an arrest warrant.

On-duty arrests will not generally be made outside the jurisdiction of this [department/office] except in cases of hot or fresh pursuit, while following up on crimes committed with the County or while assisting another agency.

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On-duty deputies who discover criminal activity outside the jurisdiction of the County should when circumstances permit, consider contacting the agency having primary jurisdiction before attempting an arrest.

### 100.2.3 ARREST AUTHORITY INSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE STANISLAUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The arrest authority within the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department includes (Penal Code § 830.1; Penal Code § 836):

- (a) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person has committed a felony, whether or not committed in the presence of the deputy.
- (b) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor in this jurisdiction and in the presence of the deputy.
- (c) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person has committed a public offense outside this jurisdiction, in the presence of the deputy and the deputy reasonably believes there is an immediate danger to person or property, or of escape.
- (d) When the deputy has probable cause to believe the person has committed a misdemeanor for which an arrest is authorized or required by statute even though the offense has not been committed in the in the presence of the deputy such as certain domestic violence offenses.
- (e) In compliance with an arrest warrant.

### 100.2.4 TIME OF MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS

Deputies shall not arrest a person for a misdemeanor between the hours of 10:00 p.m. of any day and 6:00 a.m. of the next day unless (Penal Code § 840):

- (a) The arrest is made without a warrant pursuant to Penal Code § 836 which includes:
  1. A misdemeanor committed in the presence of the deputy.
  2. Misdemeanor domestic violence offenses (See the Domestic Violence Policy).
- (b) The arrest is made in a public place.
- (c) The arrest is made with the person in custody pursuant to another lawful arrest.
- (d) The arrest is made pursuant to a warrant which, for good cause shown, directs that it may be served at any time of the day or night.

### 100.2.5 OREGON AUTHORITY

Sworn members of this [department/office] who enter the state of Oregon in order to provide or attempt to provide law enforcement assistance have Oregon peace officer authority within 50 miles from the California-Oregon border (ORS 133.405). Such authority shall only apply when deputies are acting:

- (a) In response to a request for law enforcement assistance initiated by an Oregon sheriff, constable, marshal, municipal police officer or member of the Oregon State Police.

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- (b) In response to a reasonable belief that emergency law enforcement assistance is necessary to preserve life, and circumstances make it impractical for Oregon law enforcement officials to formally request assistance.
- (c) For the purpose of assisting Oregon law enforcement officials with emergency assistance in response to criminal activity, traffic accidents, emergency incidents or other similar public safety situations, regardless of whether an Oregon law enforcement official is present at the scene of the incident.

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department deputies have no authority to enforce Oregon traffic or motor vehicle laws.

Whenever practicable, deputies should seek permission from a [department/office] supervisor before entering Oregon to provide law enforcement services. As soon as practicable, deputies exercising law enforcement authority in Oregon shall submit any appropriate written reports concerning the incident to the Oregon agency having primary jurisdiction over the area in which the incident occurred.

### **100.3 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to limit its members to only exercise the authority granted to them by law.

While this [department/office] recognizes the power of peace officers to make arrests and take other enforcement action, deputies are encouraged to use sound discretion in the enforcement of the law. This [department/office] does not tolerate the abuse of law enforcement authority.

### **100.4 INTERSTATE PEACE OFFICER POWERS**

Peace officer powers may be extended to other states:

- (a) As applicable under interstate compacts, memorandums of understanding or mutual aid agreements in compliance with the laws of each state.
- (b) When a deputy enters an adjoining state in close or fresh pursuit of a person believed to have committed a felony (ARS § 13-3832; NRS 171.158; ORS 133.430).

The person arrested out of state must be taken without unnecessary delay before a magistrate of the county in which the arrest was made (ARS § 13-3833; NRS 171.158; ORS 133.440).

### **100.5 CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

All members shall observe and comply with every person's clearly established rights under the United States and California Constitutions.

## Chief Executive Officer

### 102.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) has mandated that all sworn officers and dispatchers employed within the State of California shall receive certification by POST within prescribed time periods.

#### 102.1.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REQUIREMENTS

Any chief executive officer of this department appointed after January 1, 1999, shall, as a condition of continued employment, complete the course of training prescribed by POST and obtain the Basic Certificate by POST within two years of appointment (Penal Code § 832.4).

#### 102.1.2 SHERIFF CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS

Prior to filing for the office of Sheriff, any candidate shall at minimum meet the requirements of Government Code § 24004.3.

## Oath of Office

### 104.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that oaths, when appropriate, are administered to department members.

#### 104.1.1 OATH OF OFFICE

Upon employment, all sworn employees shall be required to affirm the oath of office expressing commitment and intent to respect constitutional rights in discharging the duties of a law enforcement officer (Cal. Const. Art. 20, § 3; Government Code § 3102). The oath shall be as follows:

I, [employee name], do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

### 104.2 MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS

The oath of office shall be filed as prescribed by law (Government Code § 3105).

### 104.3 OATH OF OFFICE

All department members, when appropriate, shall take and subscribe to the oaths or affirmations applicable to their positions. All sworn members shall be required to affirm the oath of office expressing commitment and intent to respect constitutional rights in discharging the duties of a law enforcement officer (Cal. Const. Art. 20, § 3; Government Code § 3102). The oath shall be as follows:

"I, (employee name), do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter."

### 104.4 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that, when appropriate, department members affirm the oath of their office as an expression of commitment to the constitutional rights of those served by the Department and the dedication of its members to their duties.

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# Policy Manual

## 106.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The manual of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is hereby established and shall be referred to as "The Policy Manual." The Policy Manual is a statement of the current policies, procedures, rules, and guidelines of this department. All employees are to conform to the provisions of this manual. All prior and existing manuals, orders, and regulations which are in conflict with this manual are revoked, except to the extent that portions of existing manuals, orders, and other regulations which have not been included herein shall remain in effect where they do not conflict with the provisions of this manual. All employees are also expected to comply with the general Stanislaus County Personnel Manual, accessible from the Stanislaus County Web Site at [www.co.stanislaus.ca.us](http://www.co.stanislaus.ca.us) (departments/human resources).

## 106.2 POLICY

Except where otherwise expressly stated, the provisions of this manual shall be considered as guidelines. It is recognized that the work of law enforcement is not always predictable and circumstances may arise which warrant departure from these guidelines. It is the intent of this manual to be viewed from an objective standard, taking into consideration the sound discretion entrusted to members of this department under the circumstances reasonably available at the time of any incident.

### 106.2.1 DISCLAIMER

The provisions contained in the Policy Manual are not intended to create an employment contract nor any employment rights or entitlements. The policies contained within this manual are for the internal use of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and shall not be construed to create a higher standard or duty of care for civil or criminal liability against the County, its officials or members. Violations of any provision of any policy contained within this manual shall only form the basis for department administrative action, training or discipline. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department reserves the right to revise any policy content, in whole or in part.

### 106.2.2 OTHER PERSONNEL

All Department employees suggesting revision of the contents of the Policy Manual shall forward their suggestion, in writing, to their Division Training Lieutenant who will consider the recommendation and forward to the Policy/Legislative Manager.

## 106.3 AUTHORITY

The Sheriff shall be considered the ultimate authority for the content and adoption of the provisions of this manual and shall ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws. The Sheriff or the authorized designee is authorized to issue Departmental Directives, which shall modify those provisions of the manual to which they pertain. Departmental Directives shall remain in effect until such time as they may be permanently incorporated into the manual.

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### **106.4 DEFINITIONS**

The following words and terms shall have these assigned meanings throughout the Policy Manual, unless it is apparent from the content that they have a different meaning:

**Adult** - Any person 18 years of age or older.

**CCR** - California Code of Regulations (Example: 15 CCR 1151).

**CHP**- The California Highway Patrol.

**CFR** - Code of Federal Regulations.

**County** - The County of Stanislaus.

**Non-sworn** - Employees and volunteers who are not sworn peace officers.

**Department/SCSD** - The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

**DMV** - The Department of Motor Vehicles.

**Employee** - Any person employed by the Department.

**Juvenile**- Any person under the age of 18 years.

**Manual** - The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Policy Manual.

**May** - Indicates a permissive, discretionary or conditional action.

**Member** - Any person employed or appointed by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, including:

- Full- and part-time employees
- Sworn peace officers
- Reserve, auxiliary deputies
- Non-sworn employees
- Volunteers.

**Deputy** - Those employees, regardless of rank, who are sworn peace officers of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

**On-duty** - A member's status during the period when he/she is actually engaged in the performance of his/her assigned duties.

**Order** - A written or verbal instruction issued by a superior.

**POST** - The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

**Rank** - The title of the classification held by a deputy.

**Shall or will** - Indicates a mandatory action.

**Should** - Indicates a generally required or expected action, absent a rational basis for failing to conform.

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**Supervisor** - A person in a position of authority that may include responsibility for hiring, transfer, suspension, promotion, discharge, assignment, reward or discipline of other department members, directing the work of other members or having the authority to adjust grievances. The supervisory exercise of authority may not be merely routine or clerical in nature but requires the use of independent judgment.

The term "supervisor" may also include any person (e.g., deputy-in-charge, lead or senior worker) given responsibility for the direction of the work of others without regard to a formal job title, rank or compensation.

When there is only one department member on-duty, that person may also be the supervisor, except when circumstances reasonably require the notification or involvement of the member's off-duty supervisor or an on-call supervisor.

**USC** - United States Code.

### **106.5 ISSUING THE POLICY MANUAL**

An electronic version of the Policy Manual will be made available to all members on the department network for viewing and printing. No changes shall be made to the manual without authorization from the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

Each member shall acknowledge that he/she has been provided access to, and has had the opportunity to review the Policy Manual and Departmental Directives. Members shall seek clarification as needed from an appropriate supervisor for any provisions that they do not fully understand.

### **106.6 PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE POLICY MANUAL**

The Sheriff or the Sheriff's designee will ensure that the Policy Manual is periodically reviewed and updated as necessary.

### **106.7 REVISIONS TO POLICIES**

All revisions to the Policy Manual will be provided to each member on or before the date the policy becomes effective. Each member will be required to acknowledge that he/she has reviewed the revisions and shall seek clarification from an appropriate supervisor as needed.

Members are responsible for keeping abreast of all Policy Manual revisions.

Each Division Commander will ensure that members under his/her command are aware of any Policy Manual revision.

All department members suggesting revision of the contents of the Policy Manual shall forward their written suggestions to their Division Commanders, who will consider the recommendations and forward them to the command staff as appropriate.



## **Chapter 2 - Organization and Administration**

## Organizational Structure and Responsibility

### 200.1 DIVISIONS

The Sheriff is responsible for administering and managing the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department. There are three divisions in the Sheriff's Department as follows:

- Administration Division
- Adult Detention Division
- Operations Division

#### 200.1.1 OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Operations Division is commanded by a Captain whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for that Division. The Operations Division consists of Patrol and Specialty Teams, Detectives, Records, Property and Evidence, Community Service Officers, and Contract Cities.

#### 200.1.2 ADULT DETENTION DIVISION

The Adult Detention Division is commanded by a Captain whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Adult Detention Division. The Adult Detention Division is responsible for the custody of inmates, alternative work programs, central kitchen and laundry, Court Security and Civil.

#### 200.1.3 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Administrative Division is commanded by a Captain whose primary responsibility is to provide general management direction and control for the Administrative Division. The Administrative Division consists of Records, Human Resources, Internal Affairs, Backgrounds and Recruitment, Payroll, Court Services, Civil and Information Technology.

### 200.2 COMMAND PROTOCOL

#### 200.2.1 SUCCESSION OF COMMAND

The Sheriff exercises command over all personnel in the Department. During planned absences the Sheriff will designate a Division Commander to serve as the acting Sheriff.

Except when designated as above, the order of command authority in the absence or unavailability of the Sheriff is as follows:

- (a) Undersheriff
- (b) Operations or Administration Division Commander
- (c) Adult Detention Division Commander
- (d) Watch Commander

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## *Organizational Structure and Responsibility*

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### 200.2.2 UNITY OF COMMAND

The principles of unity of command ensure efficient supervision and control within the Department. Generally, each employee shall be accountable to one supervisor at any time for a given assignment or responsibility. Except where specifically delegated authority may exist by policy or special assignment (e.g., K-9, SWAT), any supervisor may temporarily direct any subordinate if an operational necessity exists.

### 200.2.3 ORDERS

Members shall respond to and make a good faith and reasonable effort to comply with the lawful order of superior officers and other proper authority.

## General Order

### **204.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

To establish an interdepartmental communication that may be used by Administration to make immediate changes to policy and procedure consistent with the current Memorandum of Understanding and as permitted by Government Code § 3500 et seq.

#### **204.1.1 GENERAL ORDER PROTOCOL**

General Orders will be incorporated into the manual as required upon approval of Staff. General Orders will modify existing policies or create a new policy as appropriate and will be rescinded upon incorporation into the manual.

### **204.2 RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **204.2.1 STAFF**

The staff shall review and approve revisions of the Policy Manual, which will incorporate changes originally made by a Departmental Directive.

#### **204.2.2 SHERIFF**

The Sheriff shall issue all Departmental Directives.

### **204.3 ACCEPTANCE OF GENERAL ORDERS**

All employees are required to read and obtain any necessary clarification of all Departmental Directives. All employees are required to acknowledge in writing the receipt and review of any new Departmental Directive. Signed acknowledgement forms and/or e-mail receipts showing an employee's acceptance will be maintained by the Training Lieutenant.

## Emergency Management Plan

### 206.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The County has prepared an Emergency Response Plan for use by all employees in the event of a major disaster or other emergency event. The plan provides for a strategic response by all employees and assigns specific responsibilities in the event that the plan is activated (Government Code § 8610).

The county's emergency plan can be located at: <http://www.stanoes.com/pdf/sc-eop.pdf>

### 206.2 ACTIVATING THE EMERGENCY PLAN

The Emergency Response Plan can be activated on the order of the official designated by local ordinance.

#### 206.2.1 RECALL OF PERSONNEL

In the event that the Emergency Management Plan is activated, all employees of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department are subject to immediate recall. Employees may also be subject to recall during extraordinary circumstances as deemed necessary by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

Failure to promptly respond to an order to report for duty may result in discipline.

### 206.3 LOCATION OF THE PLAN

The Emergency Response Plan is available in Administration and the Watch Commander's office. All supervisors should familiarize themselves with the Emergency Management Plan. The Administration supervisor should ensure that department personnel are familiar with the roles police personnel will play when the plan is implemented.

### 206.4 UPDATING OF MANUALS

The Sheriff or designee shall review the Emergency Response Plan Manual at least once every two years to ensure that the manual conforms to any revisions made by the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and should appropriately address any needed revisions.

## Training Policy

### 208.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department to administer a training program that will provide for the professional growth and continued development of its personnel. By doing so, the Department will ensure its personnel possess the knowledge and skills necessary to provide a professional level of service that meets the needs of the community.

### 208.2 PHILOSOPHY

The Department seeks to provide ongoing training and encourages all personnel to participate in advanced training and formal education on a continual basis. Training is provided within the confines of funding, requirements of a given assignment, staffing levels, and legal mandates. Whenever possible, the Department will use courses certified by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST).

### 208.3 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Training Program are to:

- (a) Enhance the level of law enforcement service to the public
- (b) Increase the technical expertise and overall effectiveness of our personnel
- (c) Provide for continued professional development of department personnel

### 208.4 TRAINING PLAN

A training plan will be developed and maintained by the Training Lieutenant. It is the responsibility of the Training Lieutenant to maintain, review, and update the training plan on an annual basis. The plan will address the following areas:

- State Mandated Training
- Policy Compliance Statements

### 208.5 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Training Unit will conduct an annual training-needs assessment of the Department. The needs assessment will be reviewed by staff. Upon approval by the staff, the needs assessment will form the basis for the training plan for the fiscal year.

### 208.6 TRAINING COMMITTEE

The Training Lieutenant should establish a Training Committee, which will serve to assist with identifying training needs for the Department.

The Training Committee shall be comprised of at least three members, with the senior ranking member of the committee acting as the chairperson. Members should be selected based on

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their abilities at post-incident evaluation and at assessing related training needs. The Training Lieutenant may remove or replace members of the committee at his/her discretion. Members from represented labor organizations shall be included, when appropriate.

The Training Committee should review certain incidents to determine whether training would likely improve future outcomes or reduce or prevent the recurrence of the undesirable issues related to the incident. Specific incidents the Training Committee should review include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Any incident involving the death or serious injury of an employee.
- (b) Incidents involving a high risk of death, serious injury or civil liability.
- (c) Incidents identified by a supervisor as appropriate to review to identify possible training needs.

The Training Committee should convene on a regular basis as determined by the Training Lieutenant to review the identified incidents. The committee shall determine by consensus whether a training need exists and then submit written recommendations of its findings to the Training Lieutenant. The recommendation should not identify specific facts of any incidents, such as identities of employees involved or the date, time and location of the incident, but should focus on the type of training being recommended.

The Training Lieutenant will consider the recommendations of the committee and determine what training should be addressed, taking into consideration the mission of the Department and available resources.

### **208.7 TRAINING PROCEDURES**

- (a) All employees assigned to attend training shall attend as scheduled unless previously excused by their immediate supervisor. Excused absences from mandatory training should be limited to the following:
  - 1. Court appearances
  - 2. First choice vacation
  - 3. Sick leave
  - 4. Physical limitations preventing the employee's participation.
  - 5. Emergency situations
- (b) When an employee is unable to attend mandatory training, that employee shall:
  - 1. Notify his/her supervisor as soon as possible prior to the start of training.
  - 2. Document his/her absence in a memorandum to his/her supervisor.
  - 3. Make arrangements through his/her supervisor and the Training Lieutenant to attend the required training on an alternate date.

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### **208.8 DAILY TRAINING BULLETINS**

This Policy Section (208.8) does not apply to this manual.



## Electronic Mail

### 212.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper use and application of the Department's electronic mail (email) system by employees of this department. Email is a communication tool available to employees to enhance efficiency in the performance of job duties and is to be used in accordance with generally accepted business practices and current law (e.g., California Public Records Act). Messages transmitted over the email system must only be those that involve official business activities or contain information essential to employees for the accomplishment of business-related tasks and/or communication directly related to the business, administration, or practices of the Department.

### 212.2 EMAIL RIGHT OF PRIVACY

All email messages, including any attachments, that are transmitted over department networks are considered department records and therefore are department property. The Department reserves the right to access, audit or disclose, for any lawful reason, any message including any attachment that is transmitted over its email system or that is stored on any department system.

The email system is not a confidential system since all communications transmitted on, to or from the system are the property of the Department. Therefore, the email system is not appropriate for confidential communications. If a communication must be private, an alternative method to communicate the message should be used instead of email. Employees using the Department's email system shall have no expectation of privacy concerning communications utilizing the system.

Employees should not use personal accounts to exchange email or other information that is related to the official business of the Department.

### 212.3 PROHIBITED USE OF EMAIL

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive and harassing or any other inappropriate messages on the email system is prohibited and may result in discipline.

Email messages addressed to the entire department are only to be used for official business related items that are of particular interest to all users and must be approved by a supervisor. Personal advertisements are not acceptable.

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message under another user's name. Users are strongly encouraged to log off the network when their computer is unattended. This added security measure would minimize the misuse of an individual's email, name and/or password by others.

### 212.4 NETWORK USE POLICIES

"Network" refers to the connection of a computer workstation to a server or any other computer system through a local or wide area network. This policy applies to all Internet, Intranet, e-mail,

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file transfers (FTP), web browsers, word processors, spreadsheets or other software that can use networks to communicate.

### **212.5 ACCEPTABLE USES OF NETWORK/COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

Stanislaus County network access and use of computers are intended to be used to conduct County business. Employees are encouraged to use technical resources as an efficient and effective business tool.

Networks and computers must be used in a manner that does not jeopardize security, confidentiality, or place the County in a litigious position as a result of breaking any local; state or federal law pursuant to privacy, public record, or copyright.

### **212.6 UNACCEPTABLE USES OF THE NETWORK/COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

County network access or individual computer usage may not be used for transmitting, retrieving, receiving or storing of any communications of a discriminatory or harassing nature or materials that are perceived as being obscene. Harassment of any kind is prohibited by County policy. No messages with derogatory or inflammatory remarks about an individual's race, age, disability, religion, national origin, physical attributes or sexual preference shall be transmitted. No abusive, profane or offensive language will be transmitted through the County's network system. Electronic media may not be used for any other purpose that is illegal, against County policy, causes discredit to the employee's department or the County, or is contrary to the County's best interest.

This policy does not apply to computer access when conducting a criminal investigation.

Computers and computer networks shall be used only for authorized County business. It is unacceptable for employees to use networks for personal gain or profit, or for personal reasons that would result in depleting resources, impeding the organization's ability to conduct business, or cause any interruption or delay in service to the public.

Employees shall obtain approval from a supervisor/manager before sending general email to all users.

### **212.7 NETWORK/COMPUTER COMMUNICATION**

Each employee is responsible for the content of all text, audio or images that they place or send over the County's network system, or which appear on their computer (including screensavers). No electronic communication may be sent which hides the identity of the sender or represents the sender as someone else, unless authorized by departmental directive. All messages communicated on the County's network system shall contain the employee's name. Any messages or information sent by an employee are statements that reflect on the County. All communications sent by employees via the County's network system must comply with this and other County policies and may not disclose any confidential or proprietary County information.

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### **212.8 SOFTWARE DOWNLOADS**

To protect the integrity of the network, downloading of software from anywhere on the network, including the Internet is limited to software that has been purchased by the County department or has been approved for downloading by the departmental network administrator. No employee may bring software from home or outside of authorized County purchases and install it on his/her computer even if only installed on the personal drive, without first having received permission from his/her manager or Department Head.

### **212.9 COPYRIGHT ISSUES**

All employees obtaining access to copyrighted materials must respect all copyrights and may not copy, retrieve, modify or forward copyrighted materials, except where expressly allowed by the copyright law or with expressed written permission from the right owner.

### **212.10 SECURITY**

County networks with access to the Internet must be protected by a firewall approved by County Management Information Services. Employees must abide County policies or any applicable local, State or Federal laws. Management Information Services routinely monitors usage patterns for its network communications for purposes of cost analysis, allocation, and managing the County's gateway to the Internet.

### **212.11 DEPARTMENT HEAD RESPONSIBILITY**

The Sheriff or the Sheriff's designee has the responsibility for insuring that employees comply with County policies regarding Internet and e-mail.

### **212.12 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY**

All employees have a responsibility to understand and comply with this policy. Employees and supervisors are to apply common sense and reasonable judgment in a consistent and nondiscriminatory way when interpreting this policy.

### **212.13 VIOLATION**

An employee who violates this policy may be subject to the appropriate disciplinary action which may include suspension, demotion or termination from County employment. In addition, any employee found to have violated this policy may have his/her access to the Internet and email limited or revoked completely.

## **Administrative Communications**

### **214.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Administrative communications of this department are governed by the following policies.

### **214.2 DEPARTMENT E-MAIL**

Department E-mail may be issued periodically by the Sheriff to announce and document all promotions, transfers, hiring of new personnel, separations, personnel and group commendations, or other changes in status.

### **214.3 CORRESPONDENCE**

In order to ensure that the letterhead and name of the Department are not misused, all external correspondence shall be on Department letterhead. All Department letterhead shall bear the signature element of the Sheriff. Personnel should use Department letterhead only for official business and with approval of their supervisor.

### **214.4 SURVEYS**

All surveys made in the name of the Department shall be authorized by the Sheriff or a Division Commander.

## Staffing Levels

### **216.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that proper supervision is available for all shifts. The Department intends to balance the employee's needs against the need to have flexibility and discretion in using personnel to meet operational needs. While balance is desirable, the paramount concern is the need to meet operational requirements of the Department.

### **216.2 MINIMUM STAFFING LEVELS**

Minimum staffing levels should result in the scheduling of at least two regular supervisors on duty whenever possible. Watch Commanders will ensure that at least one field supervisor is deployed during each watch, in addition to the Watch Commander.

#### **216.2.1 SUPERVISION DEPLOYMENTS**

In order to accommodate training and other unforeseen circumstances, a deputy may be used as a field supervisor in place of a field sergeant. A field sergeant may be used as a watch commander. A deputy will not be used as a watch commander.

## License to Carry a Firearm

### 218.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Sheriff is given the statutory discretion to issue a license to carry a firearm to residents within the community (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155). This policy will provide a written process for the application and issuance of such licenses. Pursuant to Penal Code § 26160, this policy shall be made accessible to the public.

#### 218.1.1 APPLICATION OF POLICY

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the Chief or other head of a municipal police [department/office] from entering into an agreement with the Sheriff of the county or preclude the Sheriff of the county from entering into an agreement with the Chief of any municipal police [department/office] to process all applications and license renewals for the carrying of concealed weapons (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).

### 218.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will fairly and impartially consider all applications to carry firearms in accordance with applicable law and this policy.

### 218.3 QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

In order to qualify for a license to carry a firearm, the applicant must meet certain requirements, including:

- (a) Be a resident of the County of Stanislaus (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).
- (b) Be at least 21 years of age (Penal Code § 29610).
- (c) Fully complete an application that will include substantial personal information. Much of the information in the application may be subject to public access under the Public Records Act.
- (d) Be free from criminal convictions that would disqualify the applicant from carrying a firearm. Fingerprints will be required and a complete criminal background check will be conducted.
- (e) Be of good moral character (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).
- (f) Show good cause for the issuance of the license (Penal Code § 26150; Penal Code § 26155).
- (g) Pay all associated application fees. These fees are set by statute and may not be refunded if the application is denied.
- (h) Provide proof of ownership or registration of any firearm to be licensed.
- (i) Be free from any psychological conditions that might make the applicant unsuitable for carrying a firearm (Penal Code § 26190).
- (j) Complete required training (Penal Code § 26165).

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### **218.4 APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application process for a license to carry a concealed weapon shall consist of two phases. Upon the successful completion of each phase, the applicant will advance to the next phase until the process is completed and the license is either issued or denied.

#### **218.4.1 PHASE ONE (TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS)**

- (a) Any individual applying for a license to carry a firearm shall first fully complete a California Department of Justice (DOJ) application to be signed under penalty of perjury. Any applicant who provides false information or statements on the application will be removed from further consideration and may be prosecuted for a criminal offense (Penal Code § 26180).
  - 1. If an incomplete application package is received, the Sheriff or authorized designee may do any of the following:
    - (a) Require the applicant to complete the package before any further processing.
    - (b) Issue a denial if the materials submitted at the time demonstrate that the applicant would not qualify for a license to carry a firearm even if the package was completed (e.g., not a resident, disqualifying criminal conviction, absence of good cause).
- (b) At the time the completed application is submitted, the applicant shall submit required fees online via Permittium CCW system; application fee, along with a separate check made payable to the County of Stanislaus for a nonrefundable 20 percent of the application fee to cover the cost of processing the application (Penal Code § 26190).
  - 1. Additional fees may be required for fingerprinting..
  - 2. Full payment of the remainder of the application fee will be required upon issuance of a license.
- (c) No person determined to fall within a prohibited class described in Penal Code § 29800, Penal Code § 29900, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100 or Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 will be issued a license to carry a firearm. A license shall not be issued if the California DOJ determines that the applicant is prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning or purchasing a firearm (Penal Code § 26195).
- (d) The applicant shall submit proof of ownership or registration of each firearm to be licensed.

Once the Sheriff or authorized designee has reviewed the completed application package and relevant background information, the application will either be advanced to phase two or denied.

In the event that an application is denied at the conclusion of, or during, phase one, the applicant shall be notified in writing within 90 days of the initial application or within 30 days after receipt of the applicant's criminal background check from the California DOJ, whichever is later. If the license is denied, the notice shall state which requirement was not satisfied (Penal Code § 26205).

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### 218.4.2 PHASE TWO

This phase is to be completed only by those applicants successfully completing phase one.

- (a) Upon successful completion of phase one, the applicant shall be scheduled for an interview with a department designee. During this stage, there will be further discussion of the applicant's statement of good cause and any potential restrictions or conditions that might be placed on the license.
  1. The determination of good cause should consider the totality of circumstances in each individual case.
  2. Any denial for lack of good cause should be rational, articulable and not arbitrary in nature.
  3. The [Department/Office] will provide written notice to the applicant as to the determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26202).
- (b) The applicant shall complete a course of training approved by the [department/office], which complies with Penal Code § 26165. The applicant will not be required to complete and pay for any training courses prior to any determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26165; Penal Code § 26202).

Once the Sheriff or authorized designee has verified the successful completion of phase two, the license to carry a firearm will either be granted or denied.

Whether an application is approved or denied at the conclusion of or during phase two, the applicant shall be notified in writing within 90 days of the initial application or within 30 days after receipt of the applicant's criminal background check from the California DOJ, whichever is later. If the license is denied, the notice shall state which requirement was not satisfied (Penal Code § 26205).

### **218.5 LIMITED BUSINESS LICENSE TO CARRY A CONCEALED FIREARM**

The authority to issue a limited business license to carry a concealed firearm to a non-resident applicant is granted only to the Sheriff of the county in which the applicant works. A chief of a municipal police [department/office] may not issue limited licenses (Penal Code § 26150). Therefore, such applicants may be referred to the Sheriff for processing.

An individual who is not a resident of the county but who otherwise successfully completes all portions of phases one and two above, may apply for and be issued a limited license subject to approval by the Sheriff and subject to the following:

- (a) The applicant physically spends a substantial period of working hours in the applicant's principal place of employment or business within the County of Stanislaus (Penal Code § 26150).
- (b) Such a license will be valid for a period not to exceed 90 days from the date of issuance (Penal Code § 26220).
- (c) The applicant shall provide a copy of the license to the licensing authority of the city or county in which the applicant resides (Penal Code § 26220).



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- (d) Any application for renewal or reissuance of such a license may be granted only upon concurrence of the original issuing authority and the licensing authority of the city or county in which the applicant resides (Penal Code § 26220).

### **218.6 ISSUED FIREARMS PERMITS**

In the event a license to carry a firearm is issued by the Sheriff, the following shall apply:

- (a) The license will be subject to any and all reasonable restrictions or conditions the Sheriff has deemed warranted, including restrictions as to the time, place, manner and circumstances under which the person may carry the firearm.
  - 1. All such restrictions or conditions shall be conspicuously noted on any license issued (Penal Code § 26200).
  - 2. The licensee will be required to sign a Restrictions and Conditions Agreement. Any violation of any of the restrictions and conditions may result in the immediate revocation of the license.
- (b) The license shall be laminated, bearing a photograph of the licensee with the expiration date, type of firearm, restrictions and other pertinent information clearly visible.
  - 1. Each license shall be numbered and clearly identify the licensee.
  - 2. All licenses shall be subjected to inspection by the Sheriff or any law enforcement officer.
- (c) The license will be valid for a period not to exceed two years from the date of issuance (Penal Code § 26220).
  - 1. A license issued to a state or federal magistrate, commissioner or judge will be valid for a period not to exceed three years.
  - 2. A license issued to any reserve peace officer as defined in Penal Code § 830.6(a) or (b), or a custodial officer employed by the Sheriff as provided in Penal Code § 831.5 will be valid for a period not to exceed four years, except that such license shall be invalid upon the individual's conclusion of service as a reserve officer.
- (d) If the licensee's place of residence was the basis for issuance of a license and the licensee moves out of the county of issuance, the license shall expire 90 days after the licensee has moved (Penal Code § 26210).
- (e) The licensee shall notify this [department/office] in writing within 10 days of any change of place of residency.

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### 218.6.1 LICENSE RESTRICTIONS

- (a) The Sheriff may place special restrictions limiting time, place, manner and circumstances under which any license shall be valid. In general, these restrictions will prohibit the licensee from:
  - 1. Consuming any alcoholic beverage while armed.
  - 2. Falsely representing him/herself as a peace officer.
  - 3. Unjustified or unreasonable displaying of a firearm.
  - 4. Committing any crime.
  - 5. Being under the influence of any medication or drug while armed.
  - 6. Interfering with any law enforcement officer's duties.
  - 7. Refusing to display his/her license or firearm for inspection upon demand of any peace officer.
  - 8. Loading the permitted firearm with illegal ammunition.
- (b) The Sheriff reserves the right to inspect any license or licensed firearm at any time.
- (c) The alteration of any previously approved firearm including, but not limited to adjusting the trigger pull, adding laser sights or modifications shall void any license and serve as grounds for revocation.
- (d) The Sheriff does not issue a license to carry a concealed firearm for employment purposes.

### 218.6.2 AMENDMENTS TO LICENSES

Any licensee may apply to amend a license at any time during the period of validity by completing and submitting an online Application for License Amendment via the Permitium system, along with the current processing in order to (Penal Code § 26215):

- (a) Add or delete authority to carry a firearm listed on the license.
- (b) Change the address or other personal information of the licensee (Penal Code § 26210).

In the event that any amendment to a valid license is approved by the Sheriff, a new license will be issued reflecting the amendment. An amendment to any license will not serve to extend the original expiration date and an application for an amendment will not constitute an application for renewal of the license.

### 218.6.3 REVOCATION OF LICENSES

Any license issued pursuant to this policy may be immediately revoked by the Sheriff for any of the following reasons:

- (a) The licensee has violated any of the restrictions or conditions placed upon the license.
- (b) The licensee becomes psychologically unsuitable to carry a firearm.

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- (c) The licensee is determined to be within a prohibited class described in Penal Code § 29800, Penal Code § 29900, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100, Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 or any state or federal law.
- (d) The licensee engages in any conduct which involves a lack of good moral character or that might otherwise remove the good cause for the original issuance of the license.

The issuance of a license by the Sheriff shall not entitle the holder to either a property or liberty interest as the issuance, amendment or revocation of such license remains exclusively within the discretion of the Sheriff as set forth herein.

If any license is revoked, the [Department/Office] will immediately notify the licensee in writing and the California DOJ (Penal Code § 26225).

### 218.6.4 LICENSE RENEWAL

No later than 90 days prior to the expiration of any valid license to carry a firearm, the licensee may apply to the Sheriff for a renewal by:

- (a) Verifying all information submitted in the original application under penalty of perjury.
- (b) Completing a [department/office]-approved training course pursuant to Penal Code § 26165. The applicant shall not be required to pay for a training course prior to the determination of good cause (Penal Code § 26165). The applicant shall upload the original gun safety certificate of completion into the Permitium online system.
- (c) Paying a non-refundable renewal application fee.

Once the Sheriff or authorized designee has verified the successful completion of the renewal process, the renewal of the license to carry a firearm will either be granted or denied. Prior issuance of a license shall not entitle any licensee to any property or liberty right to renewal.

Whether an application for renewal is approved or denied, the applicant shall be notified in writing within 90 days of the renewal application or within 30 days after receipt of the applicant's criminal background check from the California DOJ, whichever is later (Penal Code § 26205).

### **218.7 [DEPARTMENT/OFFICE] REPORTING AND RECORDS**

Pursuant to Penal Code § 26225, the Sheriff shall maintain a record of the following and immediately provide copies of each to the California DOJ:

- (a) The denial of a license
- (b) The denial of an amendment to a license
- (c) The issuance of a license
- (d) The amendment of a license
- (e) The revocation of a license

The Sheriff shall annually submit to the State Attorney General the total number of licenses to carry firearms issued to reserve peace officers and judges.

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### **218.8 CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS**

The home address and telephone numbers of any peace officer, public defender, prosecutor, magistrate, court commissioner or judge contained in an application shall not be considered public record (Government Code § 6254(u)(2)).

Any information in an application for a license to carry a firearm that indicates when or where the applicant is vulnerable to attack or that concerns the applicant's medical or psychological history or that of his/her family shall not be considered public record (Government Code § 6254(u)(1)).

## Retiree Concealed Firearms

### 220.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the issuance, denial, suspension or revocation of Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department identification cards under the Law Enforcement Officers' Safety Act (LEOSA) and California law (18 USC § 926C; Penal Code § 25455).

### 220.2 QUALIFIED RETIREES

Any full-time sworn deputy of this department who was authorized to, and did, carry a firearm during the course and scope of his/her employment shall be issued an identification card with a "CCW Approved" endorsement upon honorable retirement (Penal Code § 25455).

- (a) For the purpose of this policy, honorably retired includes all peace officers who have qualified for, and accepted, a service or disability retirement, however, shall not include any deputy who retires in lieu of termination.
- (b) No CCW Approved endorsement shall be issued to any deputy retiring because of a psychological disability (Penal Code § 26305).

#### 220.2.1 QUALIFIED RETIREES FROM OTHER AGENCIES

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department may provide an identification card with a CCW Approved endorsement to honorably retired peace officers from any jurisdiction that this department now serves under the following conditions (Penal Code § 25905):

- (a) The retiree's previous agency is no longer providing law enforcement services or the relevant government body is dissolved.
- (b) This department is in possession of the retiree's complete personnel records or can verify the retiree's honorably retired status.
- (c) The retiree is in compliance with all of the requirements of this department for the issuance of a CCW Approved endorsement.

#### 220.2.2 QUALIFIED RETIRED RESERVES

Qualified retired reserve officers who meet the department requirements should be provided an identification card with a CCW Approved endorsement (Penal Code § 26300).

### 220.3 CALIFORNIA IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUANCE

Any full-time sworn deputy of this department who was authorized to, and did, carry a firearm during the course and scope of his/her employment shall be issued an identification card with a Carrying Concealed Weapon endorsement, "CCW Approved," upon honorable retirement (Penal Code § 25455).

- (a) For the purpose of this policy, honorably retired includes all peace officers who have qualified for, and accepted, a service or disability retirement.

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- (b) No CCW approved endorsement should be issued to any deputy retiring in lieu of termination.
- (c) No CCW Approved endorsement shall be issued to any deputy retiring because of a psychological disability (Penal Code § 26305).

### **220.4 LEOSA**

The Sheriff may issue an identification card for LEOSA purposes to any qualified former deputy of this department who (18 USC § 926C(c)):

- (a) Separated from service in good standing from this department as a deputy.
- (b) Before such separation, had regular employment as a law enforcement officer for an aggregate of 10 years or more or, if employed as a law enforcement officer for less than 10 years, separated from service after completing any applicable probationary period due to a service-connected disability as determined by this department.
- (c) Has not been disqualified for reasons related to mental health.
- (d) Is not prohibited by federal law from receiving or possessing a firearm.

#### **220.4.1 LEOSA AUTHORIZATION**

Any qualified former law enforcement officer, including a former deputy of this department, may carry a concealed firearm under 18 USC § 926C when he/she is:

- (a) In possession of photographic identification that identifies him/her as having been employed as a law enforcement officer, and one of the following:
  1. An indication from the person's former law enforcement agency that he/she has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found by the law enforcement agency to meet agency-established active duty standards for qualification in firearms training to carry a firearm of the same type as the concealed firearm.
  2. A certification, issued by either the state in which the person resides or by a certified firearms instructor who is qualified to conduct a firearms qualification test equivalent to active duty law enforcement officers within that state, indicating that the person has, within the past year, been tested or otherwise found to meet the standards established by the state or, if not applicable, the standards of any law enforcement agency in that state.
- (b) Not under the influence of alcohol or another intoxicating or hallucinatory drug or substance.
- (c) Not prohibited by federal or state law from receiving a firearm.
- (d) Not in a location prohibited by California law or by a private person or entity on his/her property if such prohibition is permitted by California law.

### **220.5 FIREARM QUALIFICATIONS**

The Armorer may provide former deputies from this department an opportunity to qualify. Written evidence of the qualification and the weapons used will be provided and will contain the date of the qualification. The Armorer will maintain a record of the qualifications and weapons used.

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### **220.6 IDENTIFICATION CARD FORMAT**

The identification card issued to any qualified and honorably retired deputy shall be two inches by three inches and minimally contain the following (Penal Code § 25460):

- (a) Photograph of the retiree.
- (b) Retiree's name and date of birth.
- (c) Date of retirement.
- (d) Name and address of this department.
- (e) A stamped endorsement stating "CCW Approved" along with the date by which the endorsement must be renewed (not more than one year). In the case in which a CCW endorsement has been denied or revoked, the identification card shall be stamped "No CCW Privilege".
- (f) If applicable, a LEOSA notation that "This person is in compliance with 18 USC § 926C(d)(1)."

### **220.7 RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER CCW ENDORSEMENT**

In order to obtain or retain a CCW identification card, the former deputy shall:

- (a) Remain subject to all applicable department policies and federal, state and local laws.
- (b) Demonstrate good judgment and character commensurate with carrying a loaded and concealed firearm.
- (c) Not engage in conduct that compromises public safety.

### **220.8 DENIAL OR REVOCATION OF STATE CCW ENDORSEMENT**

The CCW endorsement under Penal Code § 25470 for any deputy retired from this department may be denied or permanently revoked only upon a showing of good cause. Any denial or revocation under this section shall also be considered disqualification under 18 USC § 926C(d).

The CCW endorsement may be immediately and temporarily revoked by the Watch Commander when the conduct of a retired peace officer compromises public safety. Good cause, if challenged, shall be determined in the following manner:

- (a) In the event that a CCW endorsement is initially denied, the Department shall provide the affected retiree with written notice of a hearing by either personal service or first class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the retiree's last known address (Penal Code § 26315).
- (b) Prior to revocation of any CCW endorsement, the Department shall provide the affected retiree with written notice of a hearing by either personal service or first class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested to the retiree's last known address (Penal Code § 26315).
  - 1. The retiree shall have 15 days from the date of service to file a written request for a hearing.

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2. The hearing, absent written agreement between the parties, shall be held no later than 120 days after the request is received (Penal Code § 26315).
  3. The failure to submit a timely written request for a hearing shall be deemed a waiver of such right.
- (c) The hearing for the denial or revocation of any CCW endorsement shall be conducted before a hearing board composed of three members, one selected by the Department, one selected by the retiree or his/her employee organization and one selected jointly (Penal Code § 26320).
1. The decision of such hearing board shall be binding on the Department and the retiree.
  2. Any retiree who waives the right to a hearing or whose CCW endorsement has been revoked at a hearing shall immediately surrender his/her identification card. The Department will then reissue a new identification card which shall be stamped "No CCW Privilege".

### **220.9 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY**

Employees who have reason to suspect a retiree's conduct has compromised public safety should notify the Watch Commander as soon as practical. The Watch Commander should take the following steps in these instances:

- (a) Take appropriate steps to promptly look into the matter.
- (b) If warranted, contact the retiree in person and advise him/her in writing of the following:
  1. The retiree's CCW endorsement is immediately and temporarily revoked.
  2. The retiree will have 15 days to request a hearing to determine whether the temporary revocation should become permanent.
  3. The retiree will forfeit his/ her right to a hearing and the CCW endorsement will be permanently revoked if the retiree fails to respond to the notice of hearing within the 15-day period.
- (c) A current copy of Penal Code §§ 26305, 26312 and 26315 should be attached to the written notice.
- (d) In the event that personal contact with the retiree cannot be reasonably achieved in a timely manner, the Watch Commander should attempt to make the above notice of temporary suspension through another peace officer. For example, if a retiree was arrested or detained by a distant agency, the Watch Commander may request that a peace officer of that agency act as the Department's agent to deliver the written notification.
- (e) Notification of the temporary suspension should also be promptly mailed to the retiree via first class mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested (Penal Code § 26312).
- (f) The Watch Commander should document in a memo the investigation, the actions taken, and, if applicable, any notification made to the retiree. The memo should be forwarded to the Sheriff.



## Chapter 3 - General Operations

## Use of Force

### 300.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines on the reasonable use of force. While there is no way to specify the exact amount or type of reasonable force to be applied in any situation, every member of this department is expected to use these guidelines to make such decisions in a professional, impartial and reasonable manner.

#### 300.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Deadly force** - Any use of force that creates a substantial risk of causing death or serious bodily injury, including but not limited to the discharge of a firearm (Penal Code § 835a).

**Force** - The application of physical techniques or tactics, chemical agents, or weapons to another person. It is not a use of force when a person allows him/herself to be searched, escorted, handcuffed, or restrained.

### 300.2 POLICY

The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. Deputies are involved on a daily basis in numerous and varied interactions and, when warranted, may use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

Deputies must have an understanding of, and true appreciation for, their authority and limitations. This is especially true with respect to overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties.

The Department recognizes and respects the value of all human life and dignity without prejudice to anyone. Vesting deputies with the authority to use reasonable force and to protect the public welfare requires monitoring, evaluation and a careful balancing of all interests.

#### 300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE

Any deputy present and observing another deputy using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances shall, when in a position to do so, intercede to prevent the use of unreasonable force. A deputy who observes another employee use force that exceeds the degree of force permitted by law should promptly report these observations to a supervisor.

### 300.3 USE OF FORCE

Deputies shall use only that amount of force that reasonably appears necessary given the facts and totality of the circumstances known to or perceived by the deputy at the time of the event to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose (Penal Code § 835a).

The reasonableness of force will be judged from the perspective of a reasonable deputy on the scene at the time of the incident. Any evaluation of reasonableness must allow for the fact that deputies are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force that reasonably

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appears necessary in a particular situation, with limited information and in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving.

Given that no policy can realistically predict every possible situation a deputy might encounter, deputies are entrusted to use well-reasoned discretion in determining the appropriate use of force in each incident.

It is also recognized that circumstances may arise in which deputies reasonably believe that it would be impractical or ineffective to use any of the tools, weapons, or methods provided by the [Department/Office]. Deputies may find it more effective or reasonable to improvise their response to rapidly unfolding conditions that they are confronting. In such circumstances, the use of any improvised device or method must nonetheless be objectively reasonable and utilized only to the degree that reasonably appears necessary to accomplish a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

While the ultimate objective of every law enforcement encounter is to avoid or minimize injury, nothing in this policy requires a deputy to retreat or be exposed to possible physical injury before applying reasonable force.

### 300.3.1 USE OF FORCE TO EFFECT AN ARREST

Any peace officer may use objectively reasonable force to effect an arrest, to prevent escape, or to overcome resistance. A peace officer who makes or attempts to make an arrest need not retreat or desist from his/her efforts by reason of resistance or threatened resistance on the part of the person being arrested; nor shall a deputy be deemed the aggressor or lose his/her right to self-defense by the use of reasonable force to effect the arrest, prevent escape, or to overcome resistance. Retreat does not mean tactical repositioning or other de-escalation techniques (Penal Code § 835a).

### 300.3.2 FACTORS USED TO DETERMINE THE REASONABLENESS OF FORCE

When determining whether to apply force and evaluating whether a deputy has used reasonable force, a number of factors should be taken into consideration, as time and circumstances permit. These factors include but are not limited to:

- (a) The apparent immediacy and severity of the threat to deputies or others (Penal Code § 835a).
- (b) The conduct of the individual being confronted, as reasonably perceived by the deputy at the time.
- (c) Deputy/subject factors (age, size, relative strength, skill level, injuries sustained, level of exhaustion or fatigue, the number of deputies available vs. subjects).
- (d) The conduct of the involved deputy (Penal Code § 835a).
- (e) The effects of drugs or alcohol.
- (f) The individual's apparent mental state or capacity (Penal Code § 835a).
- (g) The individual's apparent ability to understand and comply with deputy commands (Penal Code § 835a).

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- (h) Proximity of weapons or dangerous improvised devices.
- (i) The degree to which the subject has been effectively restrained and his/her ability to resist despite being restrained.
- (j) The availability of other reasonable and feasible options and their possible effectiveness (Penal Code § 835a).
- (k) Seriousness of the suspected offense or reason for contact with the individual.
- (l) Training and experience of the deputy.
- (m) Potential for injury to deputies, suspects, and others.
- (n) Whether the person appears to be resisting, attempting to evade arrest by flight, or is attacking the deputy.
- (o) The risk and reasonably foreseeable consequences of escape.
- (p) The apparent need for immediate control of the subject or a prompt resolution of the situation.
- (q) Whether the conduct of the individual being confronted no longer reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to the deputy or others.
- (r) Prior contacts with the subject or awareness of any propensity for violence.
- (s) Any other exigent circumstances.

### 300.3.3 PAIN COMPLIANCE TECHNIQUES

Pain compliance techniques may be effective in controlling a physically or actively resisting individual. Deputies may only apply those pain compliance techniques for which they have successfully completed department-approved training. Deputies utilizing any pain compliance technique should consider:

- (a) The degree to which the application of the technique may be controlled given the level of resistance.
- (b) Whether the person can comply with the direction or orders of the deputy.
- (c) Whether the person has been given sufficient opportunity to comply.

The application of any pain compliance technique shall be discontinued once the deputy determines that compliance has been achieved.

### 300.3.4 CAROTID CONTROL HOLD

The proper application of the carotid control hold may be effective in restraining a violent or combative individual. However, the use of the carotid control hold is subject to the following:

- (a) The deputy shall have successfully completed department-approved training in the use and application of the carotid control hold.

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- (b) The carotid control hold may only be used when circumstances perceived by the deputy at the time indicate that such application reasonably appears necessary to control a person in any of the following circumstances:
  - 1. The subject is violent or physically resisting.
  - 2. The subject, by words or actions, has demonstrated an intention to be violent and reasonably appears to have the potential to harm deputies, him/herself or others.
- (c) The application of a carotid control hold on the following individuals should generally be avoided unless the totality of the circumstances indicates that other available options reasonably appear ineffective, or would present a greater danger to the deputy, the subject or others, and the deputy reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the risk of applying a carotid control hold:
  - 1. Females who are known to be pregnant
  - 2. Elderly individuals
  - 3. Obvious juveniles
- (d) Any individual who has had the carotid control hold applied, regardless of whether he/she was rendered unconscious, shall be promptly examined by paramedics or other qualified medical personnel as soon as practicable and should be monitored until examined by paramedics or other appropriate medical personnel.
- (e) The deputy shall inform any person receiving custody, or any person placed in a position of providing care, that the individual has been subjected to the carotid control hold and whether the subject lost consciousness as a result.
- (f) Any deputy attempting or applying the carotid control hold shall promptly notify a supervisor of the use or attempted use of such hold.
- (g) The use or attempted use of the carotid control hold shall be thoroughly documented by the deputy in any related reports.

### **300.4 DEADLY FORCE APPLICATIONS**

If an objectively reasonable deputy would consider it safe and feasible to do so under the totality of the circumstances, deputies should evaluate the use of other reasonably available resources and techniques when determining whether to use deadly force. The use of deadly force is only justified in the following circumstances (Penal Code § 835a):

- (a) A deputy may use deadly force to protect him/herself or others from what he/she reasonably believes is an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the deputy or another person.

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- (b) A deputy may use deadly force to apprehend a fleeing person for any felony that threatened or resulted in death or serious bodily injury, if the deputy reasonably believes that the person will cause death or serious bodily injury to another unless immediately apprehended. Where feasible, the deputy shall, prior to the use of force, make reasonable efforts to identify themselves as a peace officer and to warn that deadly force may be used, unless the deputy has objectively reasonable grounds to believe the person is aware of those facts.

Deputies shall not use deadly force against a person based on the danger that person poses to him/herself, if an objectively reasonable deputy would believe the person does not pose an imminent threat of death or serious bodily injury to the deputy or to another person (Penal Code § 835a).

An “imminent” threat of death or serious bodily injury exists when, based on the totality of the circumstances, a reasonable deputy in the same situation would believe that a person has the present ability, opportunity, and apparent intent to immediately cause death or serious bodily injury to the deputy or another person. A deputy’s subjective fear of future harm alone is insufficient as an imminent threat. An imminent threat is one that from appearances is reasonably believed to require instant attention (Penal Code § 835a).

### 300.4.1 SHOOTING AT OR FROM MOVING VEHICLES

Shots fired at or from a moving vehicle are rarely effective. Deputies should move out of the path of an approaching vehicle instead of discharging their firearm at the vehicle or any of its occupants. A deputy should only discharge a firearm at a moving vehicle or its occupants when the deputy reasonably believes there are no other reasonable means available to avert the threat of the vehicle, or if deadly force other than the vehicle is directed at the deputy or others.

Deputies should not shoot at any part of a vehicle in an attempt to disable the vehicle.

## **300.5 REPORTING THE USE OF FORCE**

Any use of force by a member of this department shall be documented promptly, completely and accurately in an appropriate report, depending on the nature of the incident. The deputy should articulate the factors perceived and why he/she believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances. To collect data for purposes of training, resource allocation, analysis and related purposes, the Department may require the completion of additional report forms, as specified in department policy, procedure or law.

### 300.5.1 NOTIFICATION TO SUPERVISORS

Supervisory notification shall be made as soon as practicable following the application of force in any of the following circumstances:

- (a) The application caused a visible injury.
- (b) The application would lead a reasonable deputy to conclude that the individual may have experienced more than momentary discomfort.
- (c) The individual subjected to the force complained of injury or continuing pain.

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- (d) The individual indicates intent to pursue litigation.
- (e) Any application of a TASER device or control device.
- (f) Any application of a restraint device other than handcuffs, shackles or belly chains.
- (g) The individual subjected to the force was rendered unconscious.
- (h) An individual was struck or kicked.
- (i) An individual alleges any of the above has occurred.

### 300.5.2 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Statistical data regarding all officer-involved shootings and incidents involving use of force resulting in serious bodily injury is to be reported to the California Department of Justice as required by Government Code § 12525.2. See the Records Bureau policy.

### 300.6 MEDICAL CONSIDERATION

Prior to booking or release, medical assistance shall be obtained for any person who exhibits signs of physical distress, who has sustained visible injury, expresses a complaint of injury or continuing pain, or who was rendered unconscious. Any individual exhibiting signs of physical distress after an encounter should be continuously monitored until he/she can be medically assessed.

Based upon the deputy's initial assessment of the nature and extent of the subject's injuries, medical assistance may consist of examination by fire personnel, paramedics, hospital staff or medical staff at the jail. If any such individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal shall be fully documented in related reports and, whenever practicable, should be witnessed by another deputy and/or medical personnel. If a recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included in the recording, if possible.

The on-scene supervisor, or if not available, the primary handling deputy shall ensure that any person providing medical care or receiving custody of a person following any use of force is informed that the person was subjected to force. This notification shall include a description of the force used and any other circumstances the deputy reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

Persons who exhibit extreme agitation, violent irrational behavior accompanied by profuse sweating, extraordinary strength beyond their physical characteristics and imperviousness to pain (sometimes called "excited delirium"), or who require a protracted physical encounter with multiple deputies to be brought under control, may be at an increased risk of sudden death. Calls involving these persons should be considered medical emergencies. Deputies who reasonably suspect a medical emergency should request medical assistance as soon as practicable and have medical personnel stage away if appropriate.

### 300.7 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

When a supervisor is able to respond to an incident in which there has been a reported application of force, the supervisor should:

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- (a) Obtain the basic facts from the involved deputies. Absent an allegation of misconduct or excessive force, this will be considered a routine contact in the normal course of duties.
- (b) Ensure that any injured parties are examined and treated.
- (c) Ensure that photographs have been taken of any areas involving visible injury or complaint of pain. These photographs should be retained until all potential for civil litigation has expired.
- (d) Review and approve all related reports.
- (e) Determine if there is any indication that the subject may pursue civil litigation.
  - 1. If there is an indication of potential civil litigation, the supervisor should complete and route a notification of a potential claim through the appropriate channels.

In the event that a supervisor is unable to respond to the scene of an incident involving the reported application of force, the supervisor is still expected to complete as many of the above items as circumstances permit.

### **300.7.1 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY**

The Watch Commander shall review each use of force by any personnel within his/her command to ensure compliance with this policy and to address any training issues.

### **300.8 TRAINING**

Deputies will receive periodic training on this policy and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.



## Restraint Devices

### 306.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of handcuffs and other restraints during detentions and arrests.

### 306.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department authorizes the use of restraint devices in accordance with this policy, the Use of Force Policy and department training. Restraint devices shall not be used to punish, to display authority or as a show of force.

### 306.3 USE OF RESTRAINTS

Only members who have successfully completed Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department-approved training on the use of restraint devices described in this policy are authorized to use these devices.

When deciding whether to use any restraint, deputies should carefully balance officer safety concerns with factors that include, but are not limited to:

- The circumstances or crime leading to the arrest.
- The demeanor and behavior of the arrested person.
- The age and health of the person.
- Whether the person is known to be pregnant.
- Whether the person has a hearing or speaking disability. In such cases, consideration should be given, safety permitting, to handcuffing to the front in order to allow the person to sign or write notes.
- Whether the person has any other apparent disability.

#### 306.3.1 RESTRAINT OF DETAINEES

Situations may arise where it may be reasonable to restrain a person who may, after brief investigation, be released without arrest. Unless arrested, the use of restraints on detainees should continue only for as long as is reasonably necessary to ensure the safety of deputies and others. When deciding whether to remove restraints from a detainee, deputies should continuously weigh the safety interests at hand against the continuing intrusion upon the detainee.

#### 306.3.2 RESTRAINT OF PREGNANT PERSONS

Persons who are known to be pregnant should be restrained in the least restrictive manner that is effective for officer safety and in no event shall these persons be restrained by the use of leg irons, waist chains or handcuffs behind the body.

No person who is in labor, delivery or recovery after delivery shall be handcuffed or restrained except in extraordinary circumstances and only when a supervisor makes an individualized

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determination that such restraints are necessary for the safety of the arrestee, deputies or others (Penal Code § 3407; Penal Code § 6030).

### 306.3.3 RESTRAINT OF JUVENILES

A juvenile under 14 years of age should not be restrained unless he/she is suspected of a dangerous felony or when the deputy has a reasonable suspicion that the juvenile may resist, attempt escape, injure him/herself, injure the deputy or damage property.

### 306.3.4 NOTIFICATIONS

Whenever a deputy transports a person with the use of restraints other than handcuffs, the deputy shall inform the jail staff upon arrival at the jail that restraints were used. This notification should include information regarding any other circumstances the deputy reasonably believes would be potential safety concerns or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration) that may have occurred prior to, or during transportation to the jail.

## **306.4 APPLICATION OF HANDCUFFS OR PLASTIC CUFFS**

Handcuffs, including temporary nylon or plastic cuffs, may be used only to restrain a person's hands to ensure officer safety.

Although recommended for most arrest situations, handcuffing is discretionary and not an absolute requirement of the Department. Deputies should consider handcuffing any person they reasonably believe warrants that degree of restraint. However, deputies should not conclude that in order to avoid risk every person should be handcuffed, regardless of the circumstances.

In most situations handcuffs should be applied with the hands behind the person's back. When feasible, handcuffs should be double-locked to prevent tightening, which may cause undue discomfort or injury to the hands or wrists.

In situations where one pair of handcuffs does not appear sufficient to restrain the individual or may cause unreasonable discomfort due to the person's size, deputies should consider alternatives, such as using an additional set of handcuffs or multiple plastic cuffs.

Handcuffs should be removed as soon as it is reasonable or after the person has been searched and is safely confined within a detention facility.

## **306.5 APPLICATION OF SPIT HOODS**

Spit hoods are temporary protective devices designed to prevent the wearer from biting and/or transferring or transmitting fluids (saliva and mucous) to others.

Spit hoods may be placed upon persons in custody when the deputy reasonably believes the person will bite or spit, either on a person or in an inappropriate place. They are generally used during application of a physical restraint, while the person is restrained, or during or after transport.

Deputies utilizing spit hoods should ensure that the spit hood is fastened properly to allow for adequate ventilation and so that the restrained person can breathe normally. Deputies should provide assistance during the movement of a restrained person due to the potential for impairing or

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distorting that person's vision. Deputies should avoid comingling those wearing spit hoods with other detainees.

Spit hoods should not be used in situations where the restrained person is bleeding profusely from the area around the mouth or nose, or if there are indications that the person has a medical condition, such as difficulty breathing or vomiting. In such cases, prompt medical care should be obtained. If the person vomits while wearing a spit hood, the spit hood should be promptly removed and discarded. Persons who have been sprayed with oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray should be thoroughly decontaminated, including hair, head, and clothing, prior to application of a spit hood.

Those who have been placed in a spit hood should be continually monitored and shall not be left unattended until the spit hood is removed. Spit hoods shall be discarded after each use.

### **306.6 APPLICATION OF AUXILIARY RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Auxiliary restraint devices include transport belts, waist or belly chains, transportation chains, leg irons and other similar devices. Auxiliary restraint devices are intended for use during long-term restraint or transportation. They provide additional security and safety without impeding breathing, while permitting adequate movement, comfort and mobility.

Only department-authorized devices may be used. Any person in auxiliary restraints should be monitored as reasonably appears necessary.

### **306.7 APPLICATION OF LEG RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Leg restraints may be used to restrain the legs of a violent or potentially violent person when it is reasonable to do so during the course of detention, arrest or transportation. Only restraint devices approved by the Department shall be used.

In determining whether to use the leg restraint, deputies should consider:

- (a) Whether the deputy or others could be exposed to injury due to the assaultive or resistant behavior of a suspect.
- (b) Whether it is reasonably necessary to protect the suspect from his/her own actions (e.g., hitting his/her head against the interior of the patrol unit, running away from the arresting deputy while handcuffed, kicking at objects or deputies).
- (c) Whether it is reasonably necessary to avoid damage to property (e.g., kicking at windows of the patrol unit).

#### **306.7.1 GUIDELINES FOR USE OF LEG RESTRAINTS**

When applying leg restraints the following guidelines should be followed:

- (a) If practicable, deputies should notify a supervisor of the intent to apply the leg restraint device. In all cases, a supervisor shall be notified as soon as practicable after the application of the leg restraint device.

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- (b) Once applied, absent a medical or other emergency, restraints should remain in place until the deputy arrives at the jail or other facility or the person no longer reasonably appears to pose a threat.
- (c) Once secured, the person should be placed in a seated or upright position, secured with a seat belt, and shall not be placed on his/her stomach for an extended period, as this could reduce the person's ability to breathe.
- (d) The restrained person should be continually monitored by a deputy while in the leg restraint. The deputy should ensure that the person does not roll onto and remain on his/her stomach.
- (e) The deputy should look for signs of labored breathing and take appropriate steps to relieve and minimize any obvious factors contributing to this condition.
- (f) When transported by ambulance/paramedic unit, the restrained person should be accompanied by a deputy when requested by medical personnel. The transporting deputy should describe to medical personnel any unusual behaviors or other circumstances the deputy reasonably believes would be potential safety or medical risks to the subject (e.g., prolonged struggle, extreme agitation, impaired respiration).

### **306.8 REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION**

If an individual is restrained and released without an arrest, the deputy shall document the details of the detention and the need for handcuffs or other restraints.

If an individual is arrested, the use of restraints other than handcuffs shall be documented in the related report.

## Less Lethal Options

### 308.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use and maintenance of control devices that are described in this policy.

### 308.2 POLICY

In order to control subjects who are violent or who demonstrate the intent to be violent, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department authorizes deputies to use control devices in accordance with the guidelines in this policy and the Use of Force Policy.

### 308.3 ISSUING, CARRYING AND USING CONTROL DEVICES

Control devices described in this policy may be carried and used by members of this department only if the device has been issued by the Department or approved by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

Only deputies who have successfully completed department-approved training in the use of any control device are authorized to carry and use the device.

Control devices may be used when a decision has been made to control, restrain or arrest a subject who is violent or who demonstrates the intent to be violent, and the use of the device appears reasonable under the circumstances. When reasonable, a verbal warning and opportunity to comply should precede the use of these devices.

When using control devices, deputies should carefully consider potential impact areas in order to minimize injuries and unintentional targets.

### 308.4 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 308.4.1 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Watch Commander may authorize the use of a control device by selected personnel or members of specialized units who have successfully completed the required training.

#### 308.4.2 ARMORER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Armorer shall control the inventory and issuance of all control devices and shall ensure that all damaged, inoperative, outdated or expended control devices or munitions are properly disposed of, repaired or replaced.

Every control device will be periodically inspected by the Armorer or the designated instructor for a particular control device. The inspection should be documented.

#### 308.4.3 USER RESPONSIBILITIES

All normal maintenance, charging or cleaning shall remain the responsibility of personnel using the various devices.

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Any damaged, inoperative, outdated or expended control devices or munitions, along with documentation explaining the cause of the damage, shall be returned to the Armorer for disposition. Damage to County property forms shall also be prepared and forwarded through the chain of command, when appropriate, explaining the cause of damage.

### **308.5 BATON GUIDELINES**

The need to immediately control a suspect must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury. The head, neck, throat, spine, heart, kidneys and groin should not be intentionally targeted except when the deputy reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the deputy or others.

When carrying a baton, uniformed personnel shall carry the baton in its authorized holder on the equipment belt. Plainclothes and non-field personnel may carry the baton as authorized and in accordance with the needs of their assignment or at the direction of their supervisor.

### **308.6 TEAR GAS GUIDELINES**

Tear gas may be used for crowd control, crowd dispersal or against barricaded suspects based on the circumstances. Only the Watch Commander, Incident Commander or Crisis Response Unit Commander may authorize the delivery and use of tear gas, and only after evaluating all conditions known at the time and determining that such force reasonably appears justified and necessary.

When practicable, fire personnel should be alerted or summoned to the scene prior to the deployment of tear gas to control any fires and to assist in providing medical aid or gas evacuation if needed.

### **308.7 OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (OC) GUIDELINES**

As with other control devices, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray and pepper projectiles may be considered for use to bring under control an individual or groups of individuals who are engaging in, or are about to engage in violent behavior. Pepper projectiles and OC spray should not, however, be used against individuals or groups who merely fail to disperse or do not reasonably appear to present a risk to the safety of officers or the public.

#### **308.7.1 OC SPRAY**

Uniformed personnel carrying OC spray shall carry the device in its holster on the equipment belt. Plainclothes and non-field personnel may carry OC spray as authorized, in accordance with the needs of their assignment or at the direction of their supervisor.

#### **308.7.2 PEPPER PROJECTILE SYSTEMS**

Pepper projectiles are plastic spheres that are filled with a derivative of OC powder. Because the compressed gas launcher delivers the projectiles with enough force to burst the projectiles on impact and release the OC powder, the potential exists for the projectiles to inflict injury if they strike the head, neck, spine or groin. Therefore, personnel using a pepper projectile system should not intentionally target those areas, except when the deputy reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the deputy or others.

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Deputies encountering a situation that warrants the use of a pepper projectile system should notify a supervisor as soon as practicable. A supervisor should respond to all pepper projectile system incidents where the suspect has been hit or exposed to the chemical agent. The supervisor shall ensure that all notifications and reports are completed as required by the Use of Force Policy.

Each deployment of a pepper projectile system shall be documented. Accidental discharges shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented on the appropriate report form. Only non-incident use of a pepper projectile system, such as training and product demonstrations, is exempt from the reporting requirement.

### **308.7.3 TREATMENT FOR OC SPRAY EXPOSURE**

Persons who have been sprayed with or otherwise affected by the use of OC should be provided with clean water to cleanse the affected areas as soon as practicable. Those persons who complain of further severe effects shall be examined by appropriate medical personnel.

### **308.8 POST-APPLICATION NOTICE**

Whenever tear gas or OC has been introduced into a residence, building interior, vehicle or other enclosed area, deputies should provide the owners or available occupants with notice of the possible presence of residue that could result in irritation or injury if the area is not properly cleaned. Such notice should include advisement that clean up will be at the owner's expense. Information regarding the method of notice and the individuals notified should be included in related reports.

### **308.9 KINETIC ENERGY PROJECTILE GUIDELINES**

This department is committed to reducing the potential for violent confrontations. Kinetic energy projectiles, when used properly, are less likely to result in death or serious physical injury and can be used in an attempt to de-escalate a potentially deadly situation.

#### **308.9.1 DEPLOYMENT AND USE**

Only department-approved kinetic energy munitions shall be carried and deployed. Approved munitions may be used to compel an individual to cease his/her actions when such munitions present a reasonable option.

Deputies are not required or compelled to use approved munitions in lieu of other reasonable tactics if the involved deputy determines that deployment of these munitions cannot be done safely. The safety of hostages, innocent persons and deputies takes priority over the safety of subjects engaged in criminal or suicidal behavior.

Circumstances appropriate for deployment include, but are not limited to, situations in which:

- (a) The suspect is armed with a weapon and the tactical circumstances allow for the safe application of approved munitions.
- (b) The suspect has made credible threats to harm him/herself or others.

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- (c) The suspect is engaged in riotous behavior or is throwing rocks, bottles or other dangerous projectiles at people and/or deputies.
- (d) There is probable cause to believe that the suspect has already committed a crime of violence and is refusing to comply with lawful orders.

### 308.9.2 DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Before discharging projectiles, the deputy should consider such factors as:

- (a) Distance and angle to target.
- (b) Type of munitions employed.
- (c) Type and thickness of subject's clothing.
- (d) The subject's proximity to others.
- (e) The location of the subject.
- (f) Whether the subject's actions dictate the need for an immediate response and the use of control devices appears appropriate.

A verbal warning of the intended use of the device should precede its application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of deputies or when it is not practicable due to the circumstances. The purpose of the warning is to give the individual a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply and to warn other deputies and individuals that the device is being deployed.

Deputies should keep in mind the manufacturer's recommendations and their training regarding effective distances and target areas. However, deputies are not restricted solely to use according to manufacturer recommendations. Each situation must be evaluated on the totality of circumstances at the time of deployment.

The need to immediately incapacitate the subject must be weighed against the risk of causing serious injury or death. The head and neck should not be intentionally targeted, except when the deputy reasonably believes the suspect poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death to the deputy or others.

### 308.9.3 SAFETY PROCEDURES

Shotguns specifically designated for use with kinetic energy projectiles will be specially marked in a manner that makes them readily identifiable as such.

Deputies should inspect the shotgun and projectiles at the beginning of each shift to ensure that the shotgun is in proper working order and the projectiles are of the approved type and appear to be free from defects.

When it is not deployed, the shotgun will be properly and securely stored in the vehicle. When deploying the kinetic energy projectile shotgun, the deputy shall visually inspect the kinetic energy projectiles to ensure that conventional ammunition is not being loaded into the shotgun.



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### **308.10 TRAINING FOR CONTROL DEVICES**

The Training Manager shall ensure that all personnel who are authorized to carry a control device have been properly trained and certified to carry the specific control device and are retrained or recertified as necessary.

- (a) Proficiency training shall be monitored and documented by a certified, control-device weapons or tactics instructor.
- (b) All training and proficiency for control devices will be documented in the deputy's training file.
- (c) Deputies who fail to demonstrate proficiency with the control device or knowledge of this agency's Use of Force Policy will be provided remedial training. If a deputy cannot demonstrate proficiency with a control device or knowledge of this agency's Use of Force Policy after remedial training, the deputy will be restricted from carrying the control device and may be subject to discipline.

### **308.11 REPORTING USE OF CONTROL DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES**

Any application of a control device or technique listed in this policy shall be documented in the related incident report and reported pursuant to the Use of Force Policy.

## Conducted Energy Device

### 309.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the issuance and use of TASER devices.

### 309.2 POLICY

The TASER® device is intended to control a violent or potentially violent individual, while minimizing the risk of serious injury. The appropriate use of such a device should result in fewer serious injuries to deputies and suspects.

### 309.3 ISSUANCE AND CARRYING TASER DEVICES

Only members who have successfully completed department-approved training may be issued and carry the TASER device.

TASER devices are issued for use during a member's current assignment. Those leaving a particular assignment may be required to return the device to the department's inventory.

Deputies shall only use the TASER device and cartridges that have been issued by the Department. Uniformed deputies who have been issued the TASER device shall wear the device in an approved holster on their person. Non-uniformed deputies may secure the TASER device in the driver's compartment of their vehicle.

Members carrying the TASER device should perform a spark test on the unit prior to every shift.

When carried while in uniform deputies shall carry the TASER device in a weak-side holster on the side opposite the duty weapon.

- (a) All TASER devices shall be clearly and distinctly marked to differentiate them from the duty weapon and any other device.
- (b) Whenever practicable, deputies should carry two or more cartridges on their person when carrying the TASER device.
- (c) Deputies shall be responsible for ensuring that their issued TASER device is properly maintained and in good working order.
- (d) Deputies should not hold both a firearm and the TASER device at the same time.

### 309.4 VERBAL AND VISUAL WARNINGS

A verbal warning of the intended use of the TASER device should precede its application, unless it would otherwise endanger the safety of deputies or when it is not practicable due to the circumstances. The purpose of the warning is to:

- (a) Provide the individual with a reasonable opportunity to voluntarily comply.
- (b) Provide other deputies and individuals with a warning that the TASER device may be deployed.

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If, after a verbal warning, an individual is unwilling to voluntarily comply with a deputy's lawful orders and it appears both reasonable and feasible under the circumstances, the deputy may, but is not required to, display the electrical arc (provided that a cartridge has not been loaded into the device), or the laser in a further attempt to gain compliance prior to the application of the TASER device. The aiming laser should never be intentionally directed into the eyes of another as it may permanently impair his/her vision.

The fact that a verbal or other warning was given or the reasons it was not given shall be documented by the deputy deploying the TASER device in the related report.

### **309.5 USE OF THE TASER DEVICE**

The TASER device has limitations and restrictions requiring consideration before its use. The TASER device should only be used when its operator can safely approach the subject within the operational range of the device. Although the TASER device is generally effective in controlling most individuals, deputies should be aware that the device may not achieve the intended results and be prepared with other options.

#### **309.5.1 APPLICATION OF THE TASER DEVICE**

The TASER device may be used in any of the following circumstances, when the circumstances perceived by the deputy at the time indicate that such application is reasonably necessary to control a person:

- (a) The subject is violent or is physically resisting.
- (b) The subject has demonstrated, by words or action, an intention to be violent or to physically resist, and reasonably appears to present the potential to harm deputies, him/herself or others.

Mere flight from a pursuing deputy, without other known circumstances or factors, is not good cause for the use of the TASER device to apprehend an individual.

#### **309.5.2 SPECIAL DEPLOYMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

The use of the TASER device on certain individuals should generally be avoided unless the totality of the circumstances indicates that other available options reasonably appear ineffective or would present a greater danger to the deputy, the subject or others, and the deputy reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the risk of using the device. This includes:

- (a) Individuals who are known to be pregnant.
- (b) Elderly individuals or obvious juveniles.
- (c) Individuals with obviously low body mass.
- (d) Individuals who are handcuffed or otherwise restrained.

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- (e) Individuals who have been recently sprayed with a flammable chemical agent or who are otherwise in close proximity to any known combustible vapor or flammable material, including alcohol-based oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray.
- (f) Individuals whose position or activity may result in collateral injury (e.g., falls from height, operating vehicles).

Because the application of the TASER device in the drive-stun mode (i.e., direct contact without probes) relies primarily on pain compliance, the use of the drive-stun mode generally should be limited to supplementing the probe-mode to complete the circuit, or as a distraction technique to gain separation between deputies and the subject, thereby giving deputies time and distance to consider other force options or actions.

The TASER device shall not be used to psychologically torment, elicit statements or to punish any individual.

### 309.5.3 TARGETING CONSIDERATIONS

Reasonable efforts should be made to target lower center mass and avoid the head, neck, chest and groin. If the dynamics of a situation or officer safety do not permit the deputy to limit the application of the TASER device probes to a precise target area, deputies should monitor the condition of the subject if one or more probes strikes the head, neck, chest or groin until the subject is examined by paramedics or other medical personnel.

### 309.5.4 MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS OF THE TASER DEVICE

Deputies should apply the TASER device for only one standard cycle and then evaluate the situation before applying any subsequent cycles. Multiple applications of the TASER device against a single individual are generally not recommended and should be avoided unless the deputy reasonably believes that the need to control the individual outweighs the potentially increased risk posed by multiple applications.

If the first application of the TASER device appears to be ineffective in gaining control of an individual, the deputy should consider certain factors before additional applications of the TASER device, including:

- (a) Whether the probes are making proper contact.
- (b) Whether the individual has the ability and has been given a reasonable opportunity to comply.
- (c) Whether verbal commands, other options or tactics may be more effective.

Deputies should generally not intentionally apply more than one TASER device at a time against a single subject.

### 309.5.5 ACTIONS FOLLOWING DEPLOYMENTS

Deputies shall notify a supervisor of all TASER device discharges. Confetti tags should be collected and the expended cartridge, along with both probes and wire, should be submitted

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into evidence. The cartridge serial number should be noted and documented on the evidence paperwork. The evidence packaging should be marked "Biohazard" if the probes penetrated the subject's skin.

### **309.5.6 DANGEROUS ANIMALS**

The TASER device may be deployed against an animal as part of a plan to deal with a potentially dangerous animal, such as a dog, if the animal reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to human safety and alternative methods are not reasonably available or would likely be ineffective.

### **309.5.7 OFF-DUTY CONSIDERATIONS**

Deputies are not authorized to carry department TASER devices while off-duty.

Deputies shall ensure that TASER devices are secured while in their homes, vehicles or any other area under their control, in a manner that will keep the device inaccessible to others.

## **309.6 DOCUMENTATION**

Deputies shall document all TASER device discharges in the related arrest/crime report and the TASER device report form. Notification shall also be made to a supervisor in compliance with the Use of Force Policy. Unintentional discharges, pointing the device at a person, laser activation and arcing the device will also be documented on the report form.

### **309.6.1 TASER DEVICE FORM**

Items that should be included in the TASER device report form are:

- (a) The type and brand of TASER device and cartridge and cartridge serial number.
- (b) Date, time and location of the incident.
- (c) Whether any display, laser or arc deterred a subject and gained compliance.
- (d) As best as can be determined, the number of TASER device activations, the duration of each cycle, the duration between activations, and the duration that the subject received applications.
- (e) The range at which the TASER device was used.
- (f) The type of mode used (probe or drive-stun).
- (g) Location of any probe impact.
- (h) Location of contact in drive-stun mode.
- (i) Description of where missed probes went.
- (j) Whether medical care was provided to the subject.
- (k) Whether the subject sustained any injuries.
- (l) Whether any deputies sustained any injuries.

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### 309.6.2 REPORTS

The deputy should include the following in the arrest/crime report:

- (a) Identification of all personnel firing TASER devices
- (b) Identification of all witnesses
- (c) Medical care provided to the subject
- (d) Observations of the subject's physical and physiological actions
- (e) Any known or suspected drug use, intoxication or other medical problems

### 309.7 MEDICAL TREATMENT

Personnel who have received training on TASER probe removal may remove TASER probes after deployment, provided the TASER probes are not lodged in sensitive areas (groin, female breast, head, face, neck). TASER probes lodged in sensitive areas should only be removed by qualified medical personnel. Used TASER device probes shall be treated as a sharps biohazard, similar to a used hypodermic needle, and handled appropriately. Universal precautions should be taken.

All persons who have been struck by TASER device probes or who have been subjected to the electric discharge of the device shall be medically assessed prior to booking (which may be accomplished by notifying jail medical staff prior to booking). Additionally, any such individual who falls under any of the following categories should, as soon as practicable, be examined by paramedics or other qualified medical personnel:

- (a) The person is suspected of being under the influence of controlled substances and/or alcohol.
- (b) The person may be pregnant.
- (c) The person reasonably appears to be in need of medical attention.
- (d) The TASER device probes are lodged in a sensitive area (e.g., groin, female breast, head, face, neck).
- (e) The person requests medical treatment.

Any individual exhibiting signs of distress or who is exposed to multiple or prolonged applications (i.e., more than 15 seconds) shall be transported to a medical facility for examination or medically evaluated prior to booking. If any individual refuses medical attention, such a refusal should be witnessed by another deputy and/or medical personnel and shall be fully documented in related reports. If an audio recording is made of the contact or an interview with the individual, any refusal should be included, if possible.

The transporting deputy shall inform any person providing medical care or receiving custody that the individual has been subjected to the application of the TASER device.

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### **309.8 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

When possible, supervisors should respond to calls when they reasonably believe there is a likelihood the TASER device may be used. A supervisor should respond to all incidents where the TASER device was activated.

A supervisor should review each incident where a person has been exposed to an activation of the TASER device. The device's onboard memory should be downloaded through the data port by a supervisor or Armorer and saved with the related arrest/crime report. Photographs of probe sites should be taken and witnesses interviewed.

### **309.9 TRAINING**

Personnel who are authorized to carry the TASER device shall be permitted to do so only after successfully completing the initial department-approved training.

Proficiency training for personnel who have been issued TASER devices should occur every year. A reassessment of a deputy's knowledge and/or practical skill may be required at any time if deemed appropriate by the Training Manager. All training and proficiency for TASER devices will be documented in the deputy's training file.

Command staff, supervisors and investigators should receive TASER device training as appropriate for the investigations they conduct and review.

Deputies who do not carry TASER devices should receive training that is sufficient to familiarize them with the device and with working with deputies who use the device.

The Training Lieutenant is responsible for ensuring that all members who carry TASER devices have received initial and annual proficiency training. Periodic audits should be used for verification.

Application of TASER devices during training could result in injury to personnel and should not be mandatory for certification.

The training should include:

- (a) A review of this policy.
- (b) A review of the Use of Force Policy.
- (c) Performing weak-hand draws or cross-draws to reduce the possibility of accidentally drawing and firing a firearm.
- (d) Target area considerations, to include techniques or options to reduce the accidental application of probes near the head, neck, chest and groin.
- (e) Handcuffing a subject during the application of the TASER device and transitioning to other force options.
- (f) De-escalation techniques.
- (g) Restraint techniques that do not impair respiration following the application of the TASER device.

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## Officer-Involved Shooting & Critical Incident

### 310.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Law enforcement officers perform a vital and often dangerous job in our communities. Situations will occur where peace officers must use deadly force; we expect that such force will be used only when legally necessary and as prescribed by law. When officers or deputies use deadly force, the public has a right to expect that a thorough and neutral examination will be conducted of these incidents and that all parties shall be held legally accountable for their actions.

The Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office and participating local law enforcement agencies agree that district attorney personnel, which means at least one Deputy District Attorney, will immediately respond to the scene of any specified officer-involved shootings, in custody and traffic related deaths. The policies and procedures to be followed are set out in this protocol.

### 310.2 INVESTIGATION RESPONSIBILITY

Law enforcement agencies may have the responsibility in an officer-involved shooting, in-custody or traffic related death investigation to address several issues, such as:

- (a) Whether any criminal law violations have occurred
- (b) Whether any participant has incurred or is at risk of incurring civil liability
- (c) Whether departmental policies have been followed
- (d) Whether appropriate Law enforcement tactics were utilized under the circumstances

It is the District Attorney's role to only investigate and determine whether any violation of criminal law may have occurred. However, the role of the law enforcement agency may also be to administratively investigate other issues as well, and they may sometimes choose to conduct an administrative review concurrently with the criminal investigation.

During the course of an administrative inquiry, law enforcement agencies are authorized by law to compel their officers to give statements regarding matters that are the subjects of administrative investigations. (Public Safety Officer Procedural Bill of Rights Act, Government Code sections 3300 et. seq.) However, the law provides that such a compelled statement and any evidence derived therefrom may be inadmissible in a criminal prosecution. Therefore, it is very important from the outset of an investigation to clearly separate the administrative from the criminal investigation. District attorney personnel should not be present during any compelled interview, nor should they receive any information concerning the content of a compelled statement, absent unusual circumstances. Because evidence derived from a compelled statement may be inadmissible in a criminal proceeding, care should be given to keep separate criminal and administrative investigations.

Deputy district attorneys and investigators of the Stanislaus County District Attorney's Office will respond to the incident site to work with law enforcement officers and, when appropriate, conduct their own independent investigation. The District Attorney's Office will work with the investigating



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agency to ensure that the inquiry is conducted in a fair and professional manner that will serve the interests of justice, the community, the involved officers, those persons injured, and the families of those affected. The primary objective of this program is to accurately, thoroughly, and objectively investigate all relevant evidence and to determine the potential criminal liability, or lack thereof, of any party.

### **310.3 TYPES OF INVESTIGATIONS**

This protocol shall apply when any of the following incidents occur within Stanislaus County:

- (a) A peace officer, on or off duty, shoots and injures any person;
- (b) An individual dies while in the custody or control of a law enforcement officer or agency, or during an attempt to take a person into custody. (This subsection does not apply to custodial deaths as defined in Penal Code section 5021, as there already exists a reporting protocol and procedure in place within the county.);
- (c) An individual is seriously injured or dies as a result of the operation of a police vehicle by a peace officer;
- (d) Upon the request of any law enforcement agency to investigate any serious incident that said agency may deem appropriate.

This protocol will also apply to peace officers employed by an agency outside of Stanislaus County, if the incident occurs within Stanislaus County. This protocol will not apply where peace officers from Stanislaus County are involved in incidents that occur outside the borders of Stanislaus County.

Upon the request of any law enforcement agency, the District Attorney's Office will review any officer-involved use of force for criminal violations, even if not covered by this protocol.

### **310.4 JURISDICTION**

The first field supervisor on scene, (from any agency involved), shall obtain a public safety statement from the involved officer(s) as soon as it is safe and practical to do so. It is extremely important to get this information so that the proper investigation can be conducted and that the officers' rights are protected. The public safety questions should be based and determined by the policy of each law enforcement agency.

The first field supervisor on scene, should ensure the involved officer(s) secures their weapon until it is requested by the agency investigators handling the incident. There is no need to remove the officer's weapon publicly on scene. For consistency, the following criteria should be followed:

- (a) Handguns used by the involved officer(s) should be secured in his/her holster.
- (b) The involved officer should be transported to their agency or the investigating agency's office with a buddy officer.

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- (c) The involved officer shall remain in uniform, if medically appropriate to do so, or how they were dressed during the shooting, until their uniform/weapon can be examined, documented and collected;
- (d) Injured involved officers (taken to a hospital) should have their belt/holster/weapon secured in a field supervisor's vehicle trunk for later examination/collection by investigators.
- (e) Long guns used by involved officer(s) should be secured in a field supervisor's vehicle trunk for later examination/collection by investigators.

### **310.5 THE INVESTIGATION PROCESS**

For all incidents described above, it is the responsibility of the law enforcement agency investigating the incident to immediately notify the District Attorney's Office personnel via the Communications Center, i.e., County Emergency Dispatch. The law enforcement agency may also notify the required District Attorney's Office personnel directly. If the law enforcement agency turns over the investigation to another agency, both agencies shall notify the District Attorney's Office as set forth above.

Notification should be made as soon as practicable. Each agency should notify the District Attorney immediately after notification is made to its own investigators.

If the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is conducting the investigation on behalf of another agency, both the Sheriff's Department and the participating agency shall notify the District Attorney regarding the incident, or have the Stanislaus County Communications Center do so.

The district attorney personnel should be given a brief summary of all the facts known at the time, including: location of the incident, command post location (if applicable), suggested access routes, and any safety concerns. The notification should be made as soon as possible, preferably no later than 30 minutes after the incident. An early response to the scene of an investigation is critical so that district attorney personnel may gain first-hand knowledge of lighting conditions, witness demeanor, trajectories, vehicle and pedestrian traffic conditions, etc.

The Stanislaus County Communications Center will notify the deputy district attorney and the district attorney investigator on-call who will respond to the scene.

### **310.6 THE SHOOTING INCIDENT CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

- (a) The investigating law enforcement agency shall be the agency that has primary jurisdiction over where the incident occurred. However, that agency may elect to transfer primary responsibility to another agency that will then have primary jurisdiction. The investigating law enforcement agency shall have the primary responsibility to conduct a thorough, objective, and professional investigation of the incident. They shall be responsible for securing the location, collecting all physical evidence, photographing and/or diagramming the scene, and interviewing witnesses in cooperation with district attorney personnel. The responsibilities of the on-scene district attorney personnel shall include the following:

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1. Assist and advise the investigating officer on criminal law issues as they relate to the investigation;
  1. Observe and participate fully with the investigative agency in the criminal investigation;
  2. Advise and assist investigative officers as to the collection of evidence and the interview of witnesses, when appropriate.
- (b) District attorney personnel will check in with the officer maintaining the incident scene log upon their arrival. As soon as practical, the officer in charge of the investigation will provide district attorney personnel with an initial briefing of the incident. The briefing will consist of all relevant information known at that time, including, but not limited to:
1. Names and present whereabouts of the officer involved in the incident;
  2. Names, addresses and present whereabouts of all civilian witnesses to the incident;
  3. Statements of the officers, if not compelled pursuant to Government Code sections 3300, et.al. (*Lybarger*);
  4. A summary of the physical evidence discovered;
  5. A summary of witness statements and the status of the investigation;
  6. A "Walk through" at the scene, including witnesses descriptions of the events and the evidence recovered; and
  7. The medical condition of injured parties.

The investigating officer will ensure that district attorney personnel have access to the scene of the investigation. All physical evidence shall remain in the custody of the law enforcement agency conducting the investigation.

If district attorney personnel determine that additional district attorney personnel are needed to assist with the investigation, additional district attorney investigators or deputy district attorneys can be called to the scene.

### **310.7 INTERVIEW OF CIVILIAN WITNESSES**

District attorney personnel, with the investigating agency, will attempt to locate, identify and interview all potential witnesses to an incident. District attorney personnel will be present and participate with the investigating agency in all interviews of civilian witnesses whenever practicable. All witnesses shall be interviewed separately to maintain the integrity of their statements. All interviews should be electronically recorded, if possible.

### **310.8 AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDINGS**

Any deputy involved in an incident shall be permitted to review available Mobile Audio Video (MAV) or other video or audio recordings prior to making a report, ordered to give an internal

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affairs statement, or before any criminal or civil proceedings. A peace officer is not required to review his or her body-worn camera video and audio recordings before making a report, giving an internal affairs statement, or before any criminal or civil proceeding. A peace officer involved in an incident involving a serious use of force shall not review his or her body-worn camera recording until accompanied by an assigned independent investigator or a supervisor. The separating and monitoring of the peace officer involved in a serious use of force shall be maintained during the review of the body-worn camera video and audio recordings and this review shall not occur jointly among involved employees. Once the recordings are approved, as to the validity of the body-worn camera recordings and any other relevant recordings are also approved as their validity, an officer may have a legal representative present during the review of the recordings without the independently assigned investigator or supervisor present, before the peace officer makes a report, is ordered to give an internal affairs statement, or before any criminal or civil proceeding.

Upon request, non-law enforcement witnesses who are able to verify their presence and their ability to contemporaneously perceive events at the scene of an incident may also be permitted to review available MAV or other video or audio recordings with approval of assigned investigators or a supervisor.

Any MAV and other known video or audio recordings of an incident should not be publicly released during an ongoing investigation without consulting the District Attorney or County Counsel's Office as appropriate.

### **310.9 INTERVIEW OF OFFICERS AND DEPUTIES**

All peace officer witnesses to the events of the incident shall be separately interviewed. The interviews should take place as soon as is practical and should be recorded. During the pendency of the investigation and prior to the interview, all witnesses or potential witnesses should be kept apart to maintain the integrity of their individual statements. When appropriate the interviews may take place at the scene to aid the officer in recalling and explaining the exact location of the parties and the events that took place.

District attorney personnel will be available to participate in interviews of law enforcement personnel. If the involved officer chooses not to make a voluntary statement and the law enforcement agency elects to compel a statement pursuant to the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act (Government Code sections 3300 et seq.), district attorney personnel will be available to participate in the compelled interview at the request of the investigating agency, and consented to by the peace officer and, if the deputy district attorney assigned to the investigation determines, in his or her judgment, that the presence of district attorney personnel will not compromise any criminal investigation.

### **310.10 INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS**

It is the intent of the District Attorney's Office and involved law enforcement agencies to complete their review of these matters as quickly as possible, consistent with the primary goal of conducting a thorough and objective review of the facts.

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## *Officer-Involved Shooting & Critical Incident*

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The investigating agency will submit all relevant reports regarding the incident to the District Attorney's Investigation Division as soon as possible and absent unusual circumstances within 90 days, depending on the policy of the investigating agency. As the investigation proceeds, reports should be forwarded to the Investigation Division as they are completed regardless of whether all reports are complete. This procedure will permit the review process to proceed simultaneously with the investigation. It will also permit timely requests and implementation of any additional investigation and clarification of completed reports if required.

### **310.11 FINAL ACTION**

At the conclusion of the investigation, the District Attorney's Office will review and analyze all of the evidence to determine whether the officer acted lawfully. The crime charging standards are the same for civilians and peace officers. The District Attorney's policies regarding crime charging are set forth in the District Attorney's Policies Manual, and can be best summarized as follows:

"The prosecutor should charge only if the following four basic requirements are satisfied:

- (a) The prosecutor, based on a complete investigation and a thorough consideration of all pertinent facts readily available, is satisfied that the evidence proves that the accused is guilty of the crime to be charged;
- (b) There is legally sufficient, admissible evidence of a corpus delicti;
- (c) There is legally sufficient, admissible evidence of the accused's identity as the perpetrator of the crime charged; and
- (d) The prosecutor has considered the probability of conviction by an objective fact finder and has determined that the admissible evidence is of such convincing force that it would warrant conviction of the crime charged by a reasonable and objective fact finder after hearing all the evidence available to the prosecutor at the time of charging and after considering the most plausible, reasonably foreseeable defense inherent in the prosecution evidence."

If no charges are filed, the District Attorney's Office will issue a closing letter summarizing the results of the investigation and analyzing the evidence. This letter will address the question of whether or not there is proof beyond a reasonable doubt that a peace officer, or any other person committed a crime, and whether there was a justification or excuse. It is not the purpose of the District Attorney's investigation or report to determine if any officer or deputy violated agency policy or procedure, or committed any act which would be subject to civil sanctions.

The District Attorney's Office will make every effort to issue a closing report containing its findings and conclusions within 60 days of the receipt of the completed investigator package. If the person responsible for causing the use of force by a peace officer is criminally prosecuted, this time period will usually not commence until the criminal case is completed. This letter shall be sent to the involved law enforcement agencies, and if requested by the involved law enforcement agencies and agreed to by the District Attorney's Office the letter will be sent in accordance with the case of *Rackauckas v. Superior Court*, (2002) 104 Cal.App.4th 169.

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### **310.12 ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE FOR ON-DUTY INCIDENTS**

(A) Studies have shown that psychological trauma may occur when a deputy caused death or serious injury to another human being. Employees have access to counseling to deal with problems they may be experiencing from a critical incident. The involved employee(s) will have a confidential debrief with the department approved psychologist. This shall occur within 7 calendar days of the incident, unless approved by the Sheriff or designee. The psychologist will confirm with Administration that the employee did/did not attend the confidential debrief.

(B) The Sheriff or designee has authority to assign the employee(s) to administrative duties for 3 days and additional time may be granted.

(C) In the event an employee is involved in a fatality or critical incident the Sheriff or designee may allow three (3) days of paid administrative leave.

## Firearms

### 312.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for issuing firearms, the safe and legal carrying of firearms, firearms maintenance and firearms training.

This policy does not apply to issues related to the use of firearms that are addressed in the Use of Force or Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths policies.

This policy only applies to those members who are authorized to carry firearms.

#### 312.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Sworn personnel** - Employees appointed pursuant to 830.1 of the California Penal Code, regularly employed and paid as a Deputy Sheriff-Coroner. The term "sworn personnel" also includes employees appointed pursuant to 830.1 (c) of the California Penal Code, regularly employed and paid as a Deputy Sheriff-Custodial, provided they are on-duty and carrying out their primary duty.

**On-duty** - Sworn personnel who are carrying out their duties while being monetarily compensated for their time.

**Primary firearm** - Firearms carried by sworn personnel as first choice and most easily accessible firearm.

**Back-up firearm** - Firearms carried by sworn personnel as a secondary firearm to the primary firearm.

**Uniformed personnel** - Sworn personnel performing their duties while wearing authorized uniforms of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department

**Plain clothes personnel** - Refers to Deputy Sheriff-Coroner personnel performing their duties in clothing that does not readily identify them as sworn personnel of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

**Undercover personnel** - Refers to Deputy Sheriff-Coroner personnel who by nature of their assignment are performing their duties while remaining covert in their identity as sworn personnel of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

#### 312.1.2 DEPUTY SHERIFF-CUSTODIAL RESTRICTIONS

Deputy Sheriff-Custodial personnel are limited peace officers, pursuant to Section 830.1(c) of the California Penal Code.

While on duty, custodial officers shall not carry or possess firearms except as permitted by law, required by assignment and authorized by their superior. This authority is limited to those custodial officers who have satisfactorily completed the training course specified in Penal Code Section 832 and the Jail Operations Course prescribed by the Board of Correction pursuant to Penal Code Section 6030 and

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- (a) Qualify, per policy, during regular department firearms training
- (b) Restricted to Department authorized firearms

Deputy Sheriff-Custodial personnel may carry a concealable firearm, off duty, if they have met all Department qualifications per policy. They must be in possession of a Department Identification Card with the proper authorization to carry a concealed weapon.

Deputy Sheriff-Custodial personnel have no peace officer authority while off duty and may not stop, detain or arrest any person (outside of a citizen's arrest).

All other regulations that pertain to Deputy Sheriff-Coroner personnel regarding firearms shall apply to Deputy Sheriff-Custodial personnel working in an armed assignment.

### **312.2 POLICY**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will equip Deputy Sheriff-Coroner personnel with firearms to address the risks posed to the public and department members by violent and sometimes well-armed persons. Deputy Sheriff-Custodial personnel will only be equipped with firearms as required by their work assignment, if they meet all other provisions within the policy and authorized by their supervisor. The Department will ensure firearms are appropriate and in good working order and that relevant training is provided as resources allow.

#### **312.2.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS**

All purchasing of Department firearms shall be coordinated through the Department Armorer.

The Armorer is responsible for registering all Department firearms.

Firearms used within the scope of employment must be registered with the Department.

Department issued firearms shall not be stored unattended in vehicles. Exception: Long rifles/ Shotguns secured in locking gun racks affixed to department vehicles while the employee is on-duty.

There will be no repairs or alterations of departmental weapons except by the Department Armorer or their authorized agents.

Individually owned firearms used in the course and scope of employment must meet all safety standards set by the manufacturer.

Only sworn personnel who have successfully passed the firearms qualification and the use of force training provided by the Department are authorized to carry a firearm.

The primary service firearm shall be carried in accordance with uniform and related requirements and as otherwise specified by this policy.

Deputy Sheriff-Coroner plain-clothes personnel shall ensure their department issued badge is displayed and easily recognizable while carrying an exposed firearm.

#### **312.2.2 AUTHORIZED SECONDARY FIREARM**

Deputies desiring to carry a secondary firearm are subject to the following restrictions:



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- (a) The firearm shall be in good working order and on the department's list of approved firearms.
- (b) Only one secondary firearm may be carried at a time.
- (c) The purchase of the firearm and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the deputy.
- (d) The firearm shall be carried out of sight at all times and in such a manner as to prevent accidental cocking, discharge or loss of physical control.
- (e) The firearm shall be inspected by the Armorer prior to being carried and thereafter shall be subject to inspection whenever deemed necessary.
- (f) Ammunition shall be the same as department issue. If the caliber of the firearm is other than department issue, the Sheriff shall approve the ammunition.
- (g) Prior to carrying the secondary firearm, personnel shall qualify under range supervision and thereafter shall qualify in accordance with the department qualification schedule. Deputies must demonstrate proficiency and safe handling, and that the firearm functions properly.
- (h) Personnel shall provide written notice of the make, model, color, serial number, and caliber of a second firearm to the Armorer.

### 312.2.3 AUTHORIZED OFF-DUTY FIREARM

The carrying of firearms by sworn deputies while off-duty is permitted by the Sheriff but may be rescinded should circumstances dictate (e.g., administrative leave). Sworn deputies who choose to carry a firearm while off-duty, based on their authority as a peace officer, will be required to meet the following guidelines:

- (a) The firearm shall be of good quality and workmanship and approved by the Department.
- (b) The purchase of the firearm and ammunition shall be the responsibility of the deputy.
- (c) The firearm shall be carried concealed at all times and in such a manner as to prevent accidental cocking, discharge, or loss of physical control.
- (d) It will be the responsibility of the deputy to submit the firearm to the Armorer for inspection prior to being carried. Thereafter the firearm shall be subject to periodic inspection by the Armorer.
- (e) Prior to carrying any off-duty firearm, the deputy shall demonstrate to the Armorer that he/she is proficient in handling and firing the firearm and that it will be carried in a safe manner.
- (f) The deputy will successfully qualify with the firearm prior to it being carried and qualify annually thereafter. The range qualification dates will be specified by the Armorer.
- (g) A complete description of the firearm shall be contained on the qualification record approved by the Armorer.

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- (h) If any member desires to use more than one firearm while off-duty, he/she may do so, as long as the deputy meets all the requirements set forth in this policy for each firearm used.
- (i) Deputies carrying department issued firearms shall only carry department-authorized ammunition.
- (j) When armed, whether on-or off-duty, deputies shall carry their department identification.

### 312.2.4 AMMUNITION

Deputies shall carry only department-authorized ammunition. Deputies shall be issued fresh duty ammunition in the specified quantity for all department issued firearms during the deputy's first scheduled qualification each year. Deputies carrying personally owned authorized firearms of a caliber differing from department issued firearms shall be responsible for obtaining fresh duty ammunition in accordance with the above at their own expense. Replacements for unserviceable or depleted ammunition issued by the Department shall be dispensed by the Armorer when needed in accordance with established policy.

### 312.2.5 ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

Firearms shall not be carried by any deputy or sworn member of the Sheriff's Department, on or off duty, who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any drug that would adversely affect the member's senses and/or judgment.

### 312.3 AUTHORIZED FIREARMS, AMMUNITION AND OTHER WEAPONS

Members shall only use firearms that are issued or approved by the [Department/Office] and have been thoroughly inspected by the Armorer. Except in an emergency or as directed by a supervisor, no firearm shall be carried by a member who has not qualified with that firearm at an authorized [department/office] range.

All other weapons not provided by the [Department/Office], including but not limited to edged weapons, chemical or electronic weapons, impact weapons or any weapon prohibited or restricted by law or that is not covered elsewhere by [department/office] policy, may not be carried by members in the performance of their official duties without the express written authorization of the member's Division Commander. This exclusion does not apply to the carrying of a single folding pocketknife that is not otherwise prohibited by law.

#### 312.3.1 SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- (a) Deputies shall not unnecessarily display or handle any firearm.
- (b) Deputies shall be governed by all rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the range and shall obey all orders issued by the Armorer. Deputies shall not dry fire or practice quick draws except under Armorer supervision.
- (c) Deputies shall not clean, repair, load or unload a firearm anywhere in the Department, except where clearing barrels are present.

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- (d) Shotguns or rifles removed from vehicles or the equipment storage room shall be loaded and unloaded in the parking lot and outside of the vehicle.
- (e) Deputies shall not place or store any firearm or other weapon on Department premises except where the place of storage is locked. No one shall carry firearms into the jail section or any part thereof when securing or processing a prisoner, but shall place all firearms in a secured location. It shall be the responsibility of the releasing deputy to make sure that persons from outside agencies do not enter the jail section with any firearm.
- (f) Deputies shall not use any automatic weapon, heavy caliber rifle, gas or other type of chemical weapon from the armory, except with approval of a supervisor.
- (g) Any weapon authorized by the department to be carried on- or off-duty, that is found by the deputy to be malfunctioning or needing service, shall not be carried. It shall be promptly presented to the department or Armorer for inspection. Any weapon determined to be in need of service or repair during an inspection by the department Armorer, will be immediately removed from service. If the weapon is the deputy's primary duty weapon, a replacement weapon will be issued to the officer until the duty weapon is serviceable.

### 312.3.2 STORAGE

Members shall ensure that all firearms and ammunition are locked and secured while in their homes, vehicles or any other area under their control, and in a manner that will keep them inaccessible to children and others who should not have access (Penal Code § 25100).

Members shall not permit department-issued firearms to be handled by anyone who is not authorized by the Department to do so.

Members shall be aware that negligent storage of a firearm could result in civil and criminal liability (Penal Code § 25100).

### 312.4 FIREARMS QUALIFICATIONS

All sworn personnel are required to qualify annually with their duty weapon and off-duty weapon/ secondary weapon on an approved range course. Any deputy with additional weapon systems assigned by the Armorer can be required to qualify with their weapon(s) quarterly, or up to four times per year. The Armorer shall keep accurate records of annual qualifications, repairs, maintenance, training or as directed by the Training Supervisor. In addition to regular qualification schedules, the Armorer shall be responsible for providing all sworn personnel with practical training designed to simulate field situations. At least annually, all personnel carrying a firearm will receive training on the department Use of Force policy and demonstrate their knowledge and understanding.

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### 312.4.1 NON QUALIFICATION

If any Deputy Sheriff-Coroner or Deputy Sheriff-Custodial is unable to qualify for any reason, including injury, illness, duty status, or scheduling conflict, that deputy shall submit a memorandum to his or her immediate supervisor prior to the end of the required shooting period.

Members who repeatedly fail to qualify will be relieved from an armed field assignment and appropriate disciplinary action may follow.

Deputy Sheriff-Coroner or Deputy Sheriff-Custodial members who fail to qualify on their first shooting attempt shall be provided remedial training until proficiency is demonstrated and will be allowed a maximum of two more attempts at the qualification for that training event. The deputy Deputy Sheriff-Coroner or Deputy Sheriff-Custodial will be subject to the following requirements:

- (a) Additional range assignments may be required until consistent weapon proficiency is demonstrated
- (b) Members shall be given credit for a range qualification after remedial training and a qualifying score is obtained
- (c) No range credit will be given for the following
  1. Unauthorized range make-up
  2. Failure to qualify after remedial training (maximum of three qualification attempts per training day)

### 312.5 DESTRUCTION OF ANIMALS

Deputies are authorized to use firearms to stop an animal in circumstances where the animal reasonably appears to pose an imminent threat to human safety and alternative methods are not reasonably available or would likely be ineffective.

In circumstances in which deputies have sufficient advance notice that a potentially dangerous animal may be encountered, deputies should develop reasonable contingency plans for dealing with the animal (e.g., fire extinguisher, TASER device, oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray, animal control officer). Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any deputy from shooting a dangerous animal if circumstances reasonably dictate that a contingency plan has failed or becomes impractical.

#### 312.5.1 INJURED ANIMALS

With the approval of a supervisor, a deputy may euthanize an animal that is so badly injured that human compassion requires its removal from further suffering and where other dispositions are impractical (Penal Code § 597.1(e)). Injured animals (with the exception of dogs and cats) may only be euthanized after a reasonable search to locate the owner has been made (Penal Code § 597.1(b)).

### 312.6 REPORT OF FIREARM DISCHARGE

Except during training or recreational use, any member who discharges a firearm intentionally or unintentionally, on- or off-duty, shall make a verbal report to his/her supervisor as soon as circumstances permit. Any unauthorized discharge of a firearm during training shall be

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appropriately reported to a range master sergeant. If any discharge of a firearm results in injury or death to another person, additional statements and reports shall be made in accordance with the Officer-Involved Shooting Policy. If a firearm was discharged as a use of force, the involved member shall adhere to the additional reporting requirements set forth in the Use of Force Policy.

In all other cases, written reports shall be made as follows:

- (a) If on-duty at the time of the incident, the member shall file a written report with his/her Division Commander or provide a recorded statement to investigators prior to the end of shift, unless otherwise directed.
- (b) If off-duty at the time of the incident, a written report shall be submitted or recorded statement provided no later than the end of the next regularly scheduled shift, unless otherwise directed by a supervisor.

### **312.7 ARMORER DUTIES**

The range will be under the exclusive control of the Armorer. All members attending will follow the directions of the Armorer. The Armorer will maintain a roster of all members attending the range and will submit the roster to the Training Manager after each range date. Failure of any member to sign in and out with the Armorer may result in non-qualification.

The range shall remain operational and accessible to [department/office] members during hours established by the [Department/Office].

The Armorer has the responsibility of making periodic inspection, at least once a year, of all duty firearms carried by members of this [department/office] to verify proper operation. The Armorer has the authority to deem any [department/office]-issued or personally owned firearm unfit for service. The member will be responsible for all repairs to his/her personally owned firearm and it will not be returned to service until inspected by the Armorer.

The Armorer has the responsibility for ensuring each member meets the minimum requirements during training shoots and, on at least a yearly basis, can demonstrate proficiency in the care, cleaning and safety of all firearms the member is authorized to carry.

The Armorer shall complete and submit to the Training Manager documentation of the training courses provided. Documentation shall include the qualifications of each instructor who provides the training, a description of the training provided and, on a form that has been approved by the [Department/Office], a list of each member who completes the training. The Armorer should keep accurate records of all training shoots, qualifications, repairs, maintenance or other records as directed by the Training Manager.

### **312.8 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR**

Firearms carried on duty shall be maintained in a clean, serviceable condition. Since the use of personally owned weapons is at the option of the individual deputy, that deputy will be responsible for the furnishing, maintenance and repair of such weapon.

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### 312.8.1 REPAIR OR MODIFICATIONS OF DUTY WEAPONS

The Armorer shall be the only person authorized to repair or modify any department-owned weapon. All repairs and/or modifications of department issued weapons not performed by the Armorer must be approved in advance by the Armorer and accomplished by a department approved gunsmith.

Any repairs or modifications to the deputy's personally owned weapon shall be done at his or her expense and must be approved by the Armorer.

### 312.9 FLYING WHILE ARMED

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has imposed rules governing law enforcement officers flying armed on commercial aircraft. The following requirements apply to personnel who intend to be armed while flying on a commercial air carrier or flights where screening is conducted (49 CFR 1544.219):

- (a) Deputies wishing to fly while armed must be flying in an official capacity, not for vacation or pleasure purposes.
- (b) Deputies must carry their Department badge and identification card which must contain a full-face picture, the deputy's signature and the signature of the Sheriff or the official seal of the Department and must present this identification to airline officials when requested. The deputy should also carry the standard photo identification needed for passenger screening by airline and TSA officials (e.g., driver's license, passport).
- (c) The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department must submit a National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) message prior to the deputy's travel. If approved, TSA will send the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department an NLETS message containing a unique alphanumeric identifier. The deputy must present the message to airport personnel as authorization to travel while armed on the day of travel.
- (d) An official letter signed by the Sheriff authorizing armed travel must accompany the deputy. The letter must outline the deputy's need to fly armed, must detail his/her itinerary, and should include that the deputy has completed the mandatory TSA training for law enforcement officer flying while armed.
- (e) Deputies must have completed the mandated TSA security training covering officers flying while armed. The training shall be given by the department-appointed instructor.
- (f) It is the deputy's responsibility to notify the air carrier in advance of the intended armed travel. This notification can be accomplished by early check-in at the carrier's check-in counter.
- (g) Discretion must be used to avoid alarming passengers or crew by displaying a firearm. If worn, the deputies should keep the firearm concealed on his/her person at all times. Firearms are not permitted in carry-on luggage, may not be stored in an overhead compartment and may be in a locked container inside a checked luggage per TSA and/or airline guidelines.

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- (h) Deputies should not surrender their firearm but should try to resolve any problems through the flight captain, ground security manager or other management representative of the air carrier.
- (i) Deputies shall not consume alcoholic beverages while aboard an aircraft, or within eight hours prior to boarding an aircraft.

### **312.10 CARRYING FIREARMS OUT OF STATE**

Qualified active full-time deputies and qualified retired deputies (see Policy Manual § 220) of this department are authorized to carry a concealed firearm in all other states subject to the following conditions (18 USC 926B and C):

- (a) The deputy shall carry his/her Department identification card whenever carrying such weapon.
- (b) Qualified retired deputies shall also carry certification of having met firearms qualification within the past 12 months.
- (c) The deputy is not the subject of any current disciplinary action.
- (d) The deputy may not be under the influence of alcohol or any other intoxicating or hallucinatory drug.
- (e) The deputy will remain subject to this and all other Department policies (including qualifying and training).

Deputies are cautioned that individual states may enact local regulations that permit private persons or entities to prohibit or restrict the possession of concealed firearms on their property, or that prohibit or restrict the possession of firearms on any state or local government property, installation, building, base or park. Federal authority may not shield an officer from arrest and prosecution in such locally restricted areas.

Visiting active and retired peace officers from other states are subject to all requirements set forth in 18 USC 926B and C.

## Vehicle Pursuits

### 314.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Vehicle pursuits expose innocent citizens, law enforcement officers and fleeing violators to the risk of serious injury or death. The primary purpose of this policy is to provide deputies with guidance in balancing the safety of the public and themselves against law enforcement's duty to apprehend violators of the law. Another purpose of this policy is to reduce the potential for pursuit-related collisions. Vehicular pursuits require deputies to exhibit a high degree of common sense and sound judgment. Deputies must not forget that the immediate apprehension of a suspect is generally not more important than the safety of the public and pursuing deputies.

Deciding whether to pursue a motor vehicle is a critical decision that must be made quickly and under difficult and unpredictable circumstances. In recognizing the potential risk to public safety created by vehicular pursuits, no deputy or supervisor shall be criticized or disciplined for deciding not to engage in a vehicular pursuit because of the risk involved. This includes circumstances where department policy would permit the initiation or continuation of the pursuit. It is recognized that vehicular pursuits are not always predictable and decisions made pursuant to this policy will be evaluated according to the totality of the circumstances reasonably available at the time of the pursuit.

Deputies must remember that the most important factors to the successful conclusion of a pursuit are proper self-discipline and sound professional judgment. Deputy's conduct during the course of a pursuit must be objectively reasonable; that is, what a reasonable deputy would do under the circumstances. An unreasonable individual's desire to apprehend a fleeing suspect at all costs has no place in professional law enforcement.

#### 314.1.1 VEHICLE PURSUIT DEFINED

A vehicle pursuit is an event involving one or more law enforcement officers attempting to apprehend a suspect, who is attempting to avoid arrest while operating a motor vehicle by using high-speed driving or other evasive tactics, such as driving off a highway, turning suddenly, or driving in a legal manner but willfully failing to yield to a deputy's signal to stop.

### 314.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the policy of this department that a vehicle pursuit shall be conducted only with red light and siren as required by Vehicle Code § 21055 for exemption from compliance with the rules of the road. The following policy is established to provide deputies with guidelines for driving with due regard and caution for the safety of all persons using the highway as required by Vehicle Code § 21056.

#### 314.2.1 WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT

Deputies are authorized to initiate a pursuit when it is reasonable to believe that a suspect is attempting to evade arrest or detention by fleeing in a vehicle.



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The following factors individually and collectively shall be considered in deciding whether to initiate a pursuit:

- (a) Seriousness of the known or reasonably suspected crime and its relationship to community safety.
- (b) The importance of protecting the public and balancing the known or reasonably suspected offense and the apparent need for immediate capture against the risks to deputies, innocent motorists and others.
- (c) Apparent nature of the fleeing suspects (e.g., whether the suspects represent a serious threat to public safety).
- (d) The identity of the suspects has been verified and there is comparatively minimal risk in allowing the suspects to be apprehended at a later time.
- (e) Safety of the public in the area of the pursuit, including the type of area, time of day, the amount of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and the speed of the pursuit relative to these factors.
- (f) Pursuing deputies familiarity with the area of the pursuit, the quality of radio communications between the pursuing units and the dispatcher/supervisor and the driving capabilities of the pursuing deputies under the conditions of the pursuit.
- (g) Weather, traffic and road conditions that substantially increase the danger of the pursuit beyond the worth of apprehending the suspect.
- (h) Performance capabilities of the vehicles used in the pursuit in relation to the speeds and other conditions of the pursuit.
- (i) Vehicle speeds.
- (j) Other persons in or on the pursued vehicle (e.g., passengers, co-offenders and hostages).
- (k) Availability of other resources such as helicopter assistance.
- (l) The sheriff's unit is carrying passengers other than sheriff's deputies. Pursuits should not be undertaken with a prisoner in the police vehicle.

### 314.2.2 WHEN TO TERMINATE A PURSUIT

Pursuits should be discontinued whenever the totality of objective circumstances known or which reasonably ought to be known to the deputy or supervisor during the pursuit indicates that the present risks of continuing the pursuit reasonably appear to outweigh the risks resulting from the suspect's escape.

The factors listed in **WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT** of this policy are expressly included herein and will apply equally to the decision to discontinue as well as the decision to initiate a pursuit. Deputies and supervisors must objectively and continuously weigh the seriousness of the offense against the potential danger to innocent motorists and themselves when electing to continue a

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pursuit. In the context of this policy, the term “terminate” shall be construed to mean discontinue or to stop chasing the fleeing vehicle.

In addition to the factors listed in **WHEN TO INITIATE A PURSUIT** of this policy, the following factors should also be considered in deciding whether to terminate a pursuit:

- (a) Distance between the pursuing deputies and the fleeing vehicle is so great that further pursuit would be futile or require the pursuit to continue for an unreasonable time and/or distance.
- (b) Pursued vehicle's location is no longer definitely known.
- (c) Deputy's pursuit vehicle sustains any type of damage that renders it unsafe to drive.
- (d) Extended pursuits of violators for misdemeanors not involving violence or risk of serious harm (independent of the pursuit) are discouraged.
- (e) There are hazards to uninvolved bystanders or motorists.
- (f) If the identity of the offender is known and it does not reasonably appear that the need for immediate capture outweighs the risks associated with continuing the pursuit, deputies should strongly consider discontinuing the pursuit and apprehending the offender at a later time.
- (g) Pursuit is terminated by a supervisor.

### 314.2.3 SPEED LIMITS

The speed of a pursuit is a factor that should be evaluated on a continuing basis by the deputy and supervisor. Evaluation of vehicle speeds shall take into consideration public safety, officer safety and the safety of the occupants of the fleeing vehicle.

Should high vehicle speeds be reached during a pursuit, deputies and supervisors shall also consider these factors when determining the reasonableness of the speed of the pursuit:

- (a) Pursuit speeds have become unreasonably unsafe for the surrounding conditions.
- (b) Pursuit speeds have exceeded the driving ability of the deputy.
- (c) Pursuit speeds are beyond the capabilities of the pursuit vehicle thus making its operation unsafe.

### 314.3 PURSUIT UNITS

Pursuit units should be limited to three vehicles; however, the number of units involved will vary with the circumstances. A deputy or supervisor may request additional units to join a pursuit if, after assessing the factors outlined above, it appears that the number of deputies involved would be insufficient to safely arrest the suspect(s). All other deputies should stay out of the pursuit, but should remain alert to its progress and location. Any deputy who drops out of a pursuit may then, if necessary, proceed to the termination point at legal speeds, following the appropriate rules of the road.

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### 314.3.1 MOTORCYCLE OFFICERS/UNMARKED UNITS

A distinctively marked patrol vehicle equipped with emergency overhead lighting should replace a sheriff's motorcycle or unmarked vehicle as primary and/or secondary pursuit unit as soon as practical.

### 314.3.2 VEHICLES WITHOUT EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Vehicles not equipped with red light and siren are generally prohibited from initiating or joining in any pursuit. Deputies in such vehicles, however, may become involved in emergency activities involving serious crimes or life threatening situations. Those deputies should terminate their involvement in any pursuit immediately upon arrival of a sufficient number of emergency police vehicles or any police helicopter. The exemptions provided by Vehicle Code § 21055 do not apply to deputies using vehicles without emergency equipment.

### 314.3.3 PRIMARY UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

The initial pursuing unit will be designated as the primary pursuit unit and will be responsible for the conduct of the pursuit unless it is unable to remain reasonably close enough to the violator's vehicle. The primary responsibility of the deputy initiating the pursuit is the apprehension of the suspects without unreasonable danger to him/herself or other persons.

Notify the Communications Center that a vehicle pursuit has been initiated and as soon as practicable provide information including, but not limited to:

- (a) Reason for the pursuit.
- (b) Location and direction of travel.
- (c) Speed of the fleeing vehicle.
- (d) Description of the fleeing vehicle and license number, if known.
- (e) Number of known occupants.
- (f) The identity or description of the known occupants.
- (g) Information concerning the use of firearms, threat of force, injuries, hostages or other unusual hazards.

Unless relieved by a supervisor or secondary unit, the deputy in the primary unit shall be responsible for the broadcasting of the progress of the pursuit. Unless practical circumstances indicate otherwise, and in order to concentrate on pursuit driving, the primary deputy should relinquish the responsibility of broadcasting the progress of the pursuit to a secondary unit or aircraft joining the pursuit.

### 314.3.4 SECONDARY UNITS RESPONSIBILITIES

The second deputy in the pursuit is responsible for the following:

- (a) The deputy in the secondary unit should immediately notify the dispatcher of entry into the pursuit.

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- (b) Remain a safe distance behind the primary unit unless directed to assume the role of primary deputy, or if the primary unit is unable to continue the pursuit.
- (c) The secondary deputy should be responsible for broadcasting the progress of the pursuit unless the situation indicates otherwise.

### 314.3.5 PURSUIT DRIVING TACTICS

The decision to use specific driving tactics requires the same assessment of considerations outlined in the factors to be considered concerning pursuit initiation and termination. The following are tactics for units involved in the pursuit:

- (a) Deputies, considering their driving skills and vehicle performance capabilities, will space themselves from other involved vehicles such that they are able to see and avoid hazards or react safely to maneuvers by the fleeing vehicle.
- (b) Because intersections can present increased risks, the following tactics should be considered:
  - 1. Available units not directly involved in the pursuit may proceed safely to controlled intersections ahead of the pursuit in an effort to warn cross traffic.
  - 2. Pursuing units should exercise due caution when proceeding through controlled intersections.
- (c) As a general rule, deputies should not pursue a vehicle driving left of center (wrong way) on a freeway. In the event that the pursued vehicle does so, the following tactics should be considered:
  - 1. Requesting assistance from an air unit.
  - 2. Maintaining visual contact with the pursued vehicle by paralleling it on the correct side of the roadway.
  - 3. Requesting other units to observe exits available to the suspects.
- (d) Notifying the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and/or other jurisdictional agency if it appears that the pursuit may enter their jurisdiction.
- (e) Deputies involved in a pursuit should not attempt to pass other units unless the situation indicates otherwise or they are requested to do so by the primary unit.

### 314.3.6 TACTICS/PROCEDURES FOR UNITS NOT INVOLVED IN THE PURSUIT

There should be no paralleling of the pursuit route. Deputies are authorized to use emergency equipment at intersections along the pursuit path to clear intersections of vehicular and pedestrian traffic to protect the public. Deputies should remain in their assigned area and should not become involved with the pursuit unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Non-pursuing personnel needed at the termination of the pursuit should respond in a non-emergency manner, observing the rules of the road.

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The primary and secondary units should be the only units operating under emergency conditions (red light and siren) unless other units are assigned to the pursuit.

### **314.3.7 PURSUIT TRAILING**

In the event the initiating unit from this agency either relinquishes control of the pursuit to another unit or jurisdiction, that initiating unit may, with permission of a supervisor, trail the pursuit to the termination point in order to provide necessary information and assistance for the arrest of the suspects.

The term trail means to follow the path of the pursuit at a safe speed while obeying all traffic laws and without activating emergency equipment. If the pursuit is at a slow rate of speed, the trailing unit will maintain sufficient distance from the pursuit units so as to clearly indicate an absence of participation in the pursuit.

### **314.3.8 AIRCRAFT ASSISTANCE**

When available, aircraft assistance should be requested. Once the air unit has established visual contact with the pursued vehicle, it should assume control over the pursuit. The primary and secondary ground units should consider the participation of aircraft assistance when determining whether to continue the pursuit.

The air unit should coordinate the activities of resources on the ground, report progress of the pursuit and provide deputies and supervisors with details of upcoming traffic congestion, road hazards, or other pertinent information to evaluate whether or not to continue the pursuit. If ground units are not within visual contact and the air unit determines that it is unsafe to continue the pursuit, the air unit has the authority to terminate the pursuit.

## **314.4 SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND RESPONSIBILITY**

It is the policy of this department that available supervisory and management control will be exercised over all vehicle pursuits involving deputies from this department.

The field supervisor of the deputy initiating the pursuit, or if unavailable, the nearest field supervisor will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Upon becoming aware of a pursuit, immediately ascertaining all reasonably available information to continuously assess the situation and risk factors associated with the pursuit in order to ensure that the pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.
- (b) Engaging in the pursuit, when appropriate, to provide on-scene supervision.
- (c) Exercising management and control of the pursuit even if not engaged in it.
- (d) Ensuring that no more than the number of required police units needed are involved in the pursuit under the guidelines set forth in this policy.
- (e) Directing that the pursuit be terminated if, in his/her judgment, it is unjustified to continue the pursuit under the guidelines of this policy.

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- (f) Ensuring that aircraft are requested if available.
- (g) Ensuring that the proper radio channel is being used.
- (h) Ensuring the notification and/or coordination of outside agencies if the pursuit either leaves or is likely to leave the jurisdiction of this agency.
- (i) Controlling and managing SCSD units when a pursuit enters another jurisdiction.
- (j) Preparing post-pursuit critique and analysis of the pursuit for training purposes.

### 314.4.1 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY

Upon becoming aware that a pursuit has been initiated, the Watch Commander should monitor and continually assess the situation and ensure the pursuit is conducted within the guidelines and requirements of this policy. The Watch Commander has the final responsibility for the coordination, control and termination of a vehicle pursuit and shall be in overall command.

The Watch Commander shall review all pertinent reports for content and forward to the Division Commander.

### 314.5 COMMUNICATIONS

If the pursuit is confined within the County limits, radio communications will be conducted on the primary channel unless instructed otherwise by a supervisor or communications dispatcher. If the pursuit leaves the jurisdiction of this department or such is imminent, involved units should, whenever available, switch radio communications to an emergency channel most accessible by participating agencies and units.

#### 314.5.1 COMMUNICATION CENTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon notification that a pursuit has been initiated, the Communications Center will:

- (a) Coordinate pursuit communications of the involved units and personnel.
- (b) Notify and coordinate with other involved or affected agencies as practicable.
- (c) Ensure that a field supervisor is notified of the pursuit.
- (d) Assign an incident number and log all pursuit activities.
- (e) Broadcast pursuit updates as well as other pertinent information as necessary.
- (f) Notify the Watch Commander as soon as practicable.

#### 314.5.2 LOSS OF PURSUED VEHICLE

When the pursued vehicle is lost, the primary unit should broadcast pertinent information to assist other units in locating suspects. The primary unit will be responsible for coordinating any further search for either the pursued vehicle or suspects fleeing on foot.

### 314.6 INTER-JURISDICTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

When a pursuit enters another agency's jurisdiction, the primary deputy or supervisor, taking into consideration distance traveled, unfamiliarity with the area and other pertinent facts, should

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determine whether to request the other agency to assume the pursuit. Unless entry into another jurisdiction is expected to be brief, it is generally recommended that the primary deputy or supervisor ensure that notification is provided to each outside jurisdiction into which the pursuit is reasonably expected to enter, regardless of whether such jurisdiction is expected to assist.

### 314.6.1 ASSUMPTION OF PURSUIT BY ANOTHER AGENCY

Units originally involved will discontinue the pursuit when advised that another agency has assumed the pursuit and assistance of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is no longer needed. Upon discontinuing the pursuit, the primary unit may proceed upon request, with or at the direction of a supervisor, to the termination point to assist in the investigation.

The role and responsibilities of deputies at the termination of a pursuit initiated by this department shall be coordinated with appropriate consideration of the units from the agency assuming the pursuit.

Notification of a pursuit in progress should not be construed as a request to join the pursuit. Requests to or from another agency to assume a pursuit should be specific. Because of communication limitations between local agencies and CHP units, a request for CHP assistance will mean that they will assume responsibilities for the pursuit. For the same reasons, when a pursuit leaves the freeway and a request for assistance is made to this department, the CHP should relinquish control.

### 314.6.2 PURSUITS EXTENDING INTO THIS JURISDICTION

The agency that initiates a pursuit shall be responsible for conducting the pursuit. Units from this department should not join a pursuit unless specifically requested to do so by the agency whose officers are in pursuit. The exception to this is when a single unit from the initiating agency is in pursuit. Under this circumstance, a unit from this department may join the pursuit until sufficient units from the initiating agency join the pursuit.

When a request is made for this department to assist or take over a pursuit from another agency that has entered this jurisdiction, the supervisor should consider these additional following factors:

- (a) Ability to maintain the pursuit
- (b) Circumstances serious enough to continue the pursuit
- (c) Adequate staffing to continue the pursuit
- (d) The public's safety within this jurisdiction
- (e) Safety of the pursuing deputies

As soon as practicable, a supervisor or the Watch Commander should review a request for assistance from another agency. The Watch Commander or supervisor, after consideration of the above factors, may decline to assist in, or assume the other agency's pursuit.

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Assistance to a pursuing allied agency by deputies of this department will terminate at the County limits provided that the pursuing officers have sufficient assistance from other sources. Ongoing participation from this department may continue only until sufficient assistance is present.

In the event that a pursuit from another agency terminates within this jurisdiction, deputies shall provide appropriate assistance to officers from the allied agency including, but not limited to, scene control, coordination and completion of supplemental reports and any other assistance requested or needed.

### **314.7 PURSUIT INTERVENTION**

Pursuit intervention is an attempt to terminate the ability of a suspect to continue to flee in a motor vehicle through tactical application of technology, road spikes, blocking, boxing, ramming or roadblock procedures. In this context, ramming shall be construed to mean maneuvering the sheriff's unit into contact with the pursued vehicle to mechanically disable or forcibly position it such that further flight is not possible or practical.

#### **314.7.1 WHEN USE IS AUTHORIZED**

Use of pursuit intervention tactics should be employed only after approval of a supervisor. In deciding whether to use intervention tactics, deputies/supervisors should balance the risks of allowing the pursuit to continue with the potential hazards arising from the use of each tactic to the public, the deputies and persons in or on the pursued vehicle. With these risks in mind, the decision to use any intervention tactic should be reasonable in light of the circumstances confronting the deputy at the time of the decision.

It is imperative that deputies act within the bounds of legality, good judgment and accepted practices. Supervisors should authorize only those tactics in which the deputy has been properly trained to apply.

#### **314.7.2 DEFINITIONS**

**Blocking or vehicle intercept** - A slow-speed coordinated maneuver where two or more patrol vehicles simultaneously intercept and block the movement of a suspect vehicle, the driver of which may be unaware of the impending enforcement stop, with the goal of containment and preventing a pursuit. Blocking is not a moving or stationary road block.

**Boxing-in** - A tactic designed to stop a violator's vehicle by surrounding it with law enforcement vehicles and then slowing all vehicles to a stop.

**Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT)** - A low-speed maneuver designed to cause the suspect vehicle to spin out and terminate the pursuit.

**Ramming** - The deliberate act of impacting a violator's vehicle with another vehicle to functionally damage or otherwise force the violator's vehicle to stop.

**Roadblocks** - A tactic designed to stop a violator's vehicle by intentionally placing an emergency vehicle or other immovable object in the path of the violator's vehicle.



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**Spikes or tack strips** - A device that extends across the roadway designed to puncture the tires of the pursued vehicle.

### 314.7.3 USE OF FIREARMS

The use of firearms to disable a pursued vehicle is not generally an effective tactic and involves all the dangers associated with discharging firearms. Deputies should not utilize firearms during an ongoing pursuit unless the conditions and circumstances dictate that such use reasonably appears necessary to protect life. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any deputy from using a firearm to stop a suspect from using a vehicle as a deadly weapon.

### 314.7.4 INTERVENTION STANDARDS

Any pursuit intervention tactic, depending upon the conditions and circumstances under which it is used, may present dangers to the deputies, the public or anyone in or on the vehicle being pursued. Certain applications of intervention tactics may be construed to be a use of deadly force and subject to the requirements for such use. Deputies shall consider these facts and requirements prior to deciding how, when, where and if an intervention tactic should be employed.

- (a) Blocking or vehicle intercept should only be considered in cases involving felony suspects or impaired drivers who pose a threat to public safety when deputies reasonably believe that attempting a conventional enforcement stop will likely result in the driver attempting to flee in the vehicle. Because of the potential risks involved, this technique should only be employed by deputies who have received training in such tactics after giving consideration to the following:
  - 1. The need to immediately stop the suspect vehicle or prevent it from leaving substantially outweighs the risks of injury or death to occupants of the suspect vehicle, deputies, or other members of the public.
  - 2. All other reasonable intervention techniques have failed or reasonably appear ineffective.
  - 3. Employing the blocking maneuver does not unreasonably increase the risk to officer safety.
  - 4. The target vehicle is stopped or traveling at a low speed.
  - 5. At no time should civilian vehicles be used to deploy this technique.
- (b) Only those deputies trained in the use of the Pursuit Intervention Technique (PIT) will be authorized to use this procedure and only then with approval of a supervisor upon consideration of the circumstances and conditions presented at the time, including the potential for risk of injury to deputies, the public and occupants of the pursued vehicle.
- (c) Ramming a fleeing vehicle should be done only after other reasonable tactical means at the deputy's disposal have been exhausted. This tactic should be reserved for situations where there does not appear to be another reasonable alternative method. This policy is an administrative guide to direct deputies in their decision-making

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process before ramming another vehicle. When ramming is used as a means to stop a fleeing vehicle, one or more of the following factors should be present:

1. The suspect is an actual or suspected felon who reasonably appears to represent a serious threat to the public if not apprehended.
  2. The suspect is driving with willful or wanton disregard for the safety of other persons or is driving in a reckless and life-endangering manner.
  3. If there does not reasonably appear to be a present or immediately foreseeable serious threat to the public, the use of ramming is not authorized.
- (d) As with all intervention techniques, pursuing deputies should obtain supervisor approval before attempting to box a suspect vehicle during a pursuit. The use of such a technique must be carefully coordinated with all involved units, taking into consideration the circumstances and conditions presented at the time as well as the potential risk of injury to deputies, the public and occupants of the pursued vehicle.
- (e) The use of spike strips should be approved in advance by a supervisor and deployed only when it is reasonably certain that only the pursued vehicle will be affected by their use. Deputies should carefully consider the limitations of such devices as well as the potential risks to deputies, the public and occupants of the pursued vehicle. If the pursued vehicle is a motorcycle, a vehicle transporting hazardous materials, or a school bus transporting children, deputies and supervisors should weigh the potential consequences against the need to immediately stop the vehicle.
- (f) Because roadblocks involve a potential for serious injury or death to occupants of the pursued vehicle if the suspect does not stop, the intentional placement of roadblocks in the direct path of a pursued vehicle is generally discouraged and should not be deployed without prior approval of a supervisor and only then under extraordinary conditions when all other reasonable intervention techniques have failed or reasonably appear ineffective and the need to immediately stop the pursued vehicle substantially outweighs the risks of injury or death to occupants of the pursued vehicle, deputies or other members of the public.

### 314.7.5 CAPTURE OF SUSPECTS

Proper self-discipline and sound professional judgment are the keys to a successful conclusion of a pursuit and apprehension of evading suspects. Deputies shall use only that amount of force, which reasonably appears necessary under the circumstances, to properly perform their lawful duties.

Unless relieved by a supervisor, the primary deputy should coordinate efforts to apprehend the suspects following the pursuit. Deputies should consider safety of the public and the involved deputies when formulating plans to contain and capture the suspects.

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### **314.8 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

The following reports should be completed upon conclusion of all pursuits:

- (a) The primary deputy should complete appropriate crime/arrest reports.
- (b) The Watch Commander shall ensure that an Allied Agency Vehicle Pursuit Report (form CHP 187A) is filed with the CHP not later than 30 days following the pursuit (Vehicle Code § 14602.1). The primary deputy should complete as much of the required information on the form as is known and forward the report to the Watch Commander for review and distribution.
- (c) After first obtaining the available information, a field supervisor shall promptly complete a Supervisor's Log, briefly summarizing the pursuit, and submit it to his/her manager. This log should minimally contain the following information:
  1. Date and time of pursuit
  2. Length of pursuit
  3. Involved units and deputies
  4. Initial reason for pursuit
  5. Starting and termination points
  6. Disposition (arrest, citation), including arrestee information if applicable
  7. Injuries and/or property damage
  8. Medical treatment
  9. Name of supervisor at scene
  10. A preliminary determination whether the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy and whether additional review or follow-up is warranted

#### **314.8.1 REGULAR AND PERIODIC PURSUIT TRAINING**

In addition to initial and supplementary Police Officer Standard Training (POST) training on pursuits required by Penal Code § 13519.8, all sworn members of this department will participate no less than annually in regular and periodic department training addressing this policy and the importance of vehicle safety and protecting the public at all times, including a recognition of the need to balance the known offense and the need for immediate capture against the risks to deputies and others (Vehicle Code § 17004.7(d)).

#### **314.8.2 POLICY REVIEW**

Each sworn member of this department shall certify in writing that they have received, read and understand this policy initially and upon any amendments.

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### **314.9 APPLICATION OF VEHICLE PURSUIT POLICY**

This policy is expressly written and adopted pursuant to the provisions of Vehicle Code § 17004.7, with additional input from the POST Vehicle Pursuit Guidelines.

## Deputy Response to Calls/Code 3

### 316.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides for the safe and appropriate response to emergency and non-emergency situations whether dispatched or self-initiated.

### 316.2 RESPONSE TO CALLS

Deputies responding Code-3 shall continuously operate emergency lighting equipment, including at minimum a steady forward facing red light, and shall sound the siren as reasonably necessary pursuant to Vehicle Code § 21055.

Responding with emergency light(s) and siren does not relieve the deputy of the duty to continue to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons. The use of any other warning equipment without a red light and siren does not provide any exemption from the Vehicle Code.

Deputies should only respond Code-3 when so dispatched or when circumstances reasonably indicate an emergency response is required. Deputies not authorized to respond Code-3 shall observe all traffic laws and proceed without the use of emergency lights and siren.

### 316.3 REQUESTING EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Requests for emergency assistance should be limited to those situations where the involved personnel reasonably believe that there is an immediate threat to the safety of deputies, or assistance is needed to prevent imminent serious harm to a citizen. In any event, where a situation has stabilized and emergency response is not required, the requesting deputy shall immediately notify the Communications Center.

If circumstances permit, the requesting deputy should give the following information:

- The unit number
- The location
- The reason for the request and type of emergency
- The number of units required

### 316.4 INITIATING CODE 3 RESPONSE

If a deputy believes a Code-3 response to any call is appropriate, the deputy shall immediately notify the Communications Center. Generally, only two units should respond Code-3 to any situation. Should another deputy believe a Code-3 response is appropriate, the Communications Center shall be notified and the Watch Commander or field supervisor will make a determination as to whether one or more deputies driving Code-3 is appropriate. Only those units that are closest to the Code-3 related call/incident should respond.

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## *Deputy Response to Calls/Code 3*

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### **316.4.1 CODE 3 RESPONSE CATEGORIES**

The decision to initiate a Code-3 response shall involve the careful consideration of facts immediately available at the time of response. The decision shall be based on the same criteria whether dispatched or self-initiated and shall be for one of the following reasons:

- Preservation of Life
- A Crime of Violence in Progress
- The Prevention of a Crime of Violence
- The Existence of a Serious Public Hazard

### **316.5 RESPONSIBILITIES OF RESPONDING DEPUTIES**

Deputies shall exercise sound judgment and care with due regard for life and property when responding to an emergency call. Deputies shall reduce speed at all street intersections to such a degree that they shall have complete control of the vehicle.

The decision to continue a Code-3 response is at the discretion of the deputy. If, in the deputy's judgment, the roadway conditions or traffic congestion does not permit such a response without unreasonable risk, the deputy may elect to respond to the call without the use of red lights and siren at the legal speed limit. In such an event, the deputy should immediately notify the Communications Center. A deputy shall also discontinue the Code-3 response when directed by a supervisor.

Upon receiving authorization or determining a Code-3 response is appropriate, a deputy should immediately give the location from which he/she is responding. When responding Code-3 and coming to a green light at an intersection, or any uncontrolled intersection, the deputy shall check each lane of the intersection to make sure it is safe to proceed. When responding Code-3 and coming to a red light or stop sign controlled intersection, the deputy shall slow with due regard for all persons using the highway and shall check each lane of the intersection to make sure it is safe to proceed through.

### **316.6 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon being notified that a Code-3 response has been initiated, the Watch Commander or the field supervisor shall verify the following:

- (a) The proper response has been initiated
- (b) No more than those units reasonably necessary under the circumstances are involved in the response
- (c) Affected outside jurisdictions are being notified as practical

The field supervisor shall monitor the response until it has been stabilized or terminated and assert control by directing units into or out of the response if necessary. If, in the supervisor's judgment, the circumstances require additional units to be assigned a Code-3 response, the supervisor may do so.

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It is the supervisor's responsibility to terminate a Code-3 response that, in his/her judgment is inappropriate due to the circumstances.

When making the decision to authorize a Code-3 response, the Watch Commander or the field supervisor should consider the following:

- The type of call
- The necessity of a timely response
- Traffic and roadway conditions
- The location of the responding units

### **316.7 FAILURE OF EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**

If the emergency equipment on the vehicle should fail to operate, the deputy must terminate the Code-3 response and respond accordingly. In all cases, the deputy shall notify the Watch Commander, field supervisor, or the Communications Center of the equipment failure so that another unit may be assigned to the emergency response.

## Canine Program

### 318.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Canine Program was established to augment police services to the community. Highly skilled and trained teams of handlers and canines have evolved from the program and are used to supplement police operations to locate individuals, contraband and to apprehend criminal offenders.

### 318.2 GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF CANINES

A canine may be used to locate and apprehend a suspect if the canine handler reasonably believes that the individual has either committed or threatened to commit any serious offense and if any of the following conditions exist:

- (a) There is a reasonable belief that the individual poses an imminent threat of violence or serious harm to the public, any deputy, or the handler.
- (b) The individual is physically resisting or threatening to resist arrest and the use of a canine reasonably appears to be necessary to overcome such resistance.
- (c) The individual(s) is/are believed to be concealed in an area where entry by other than the canine would pose a threat to the safety of deputies or the public.

It is recognized that situations may arise that do not fall within the provisions set forth in this policy. In any such case, a standard of objective reasonableness shall be used to review the decision to use a canine in view of the totality of the circumstances.

Absent reasonable belief that an individual has committed or threatened to commit a serious offense, mere flight from pursuing deputy(s) shall not serve as good cause for the use of a canine to apprehend the individual.

Once the individual has been located and no longer reasonably appears to represent a threat or risk of escape, the canine should be placed in a down-stay or otherwise secured as soon as it becomes reasonably practical.

#### 318.2.1 PREPARATION FOR UTILIZING A CANINE

Prior to the use of a canine to search for or apprehend any individual, the canine handler and/or the supervisor on scene shall carefully consider all pertinent information that is reasonably available at the time. The information should include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) The individual's age or estimate thereof.
- (b) The nature of the suspected offense.
- (c) Any potential danger to the public and/or other deputies at the scene if the canine is released.
- (d) The degree of resistance or threatened resistance, if any, the subject has shown.



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- (e) The potential for escape or flight if the police dog is not utilized.
- (f) The potential for injury to deputies or the public caused by the suspect if the canine is not utilized.

As circumstances permit, the canine handler should make every reasonable effort to communicate and coordinate with other involved personnel to minimize the risk of unintended injury.

A canine handler shall have the ultimate authority not to deploy the dog. The handler will evaluate each situation and determine if the use of a canine is technically feasible. Generally, the decision whether to deploy the dog shall remain with the handler. However, a supervisor sufficiently apprised of the situation may decide not to deploy the dog.

### 318.2.2 WARNINGS GIVEN TO ANNOUNCE THE USE OF A CANINE

Unless it would otherwise increase the risk of injury or escape, a clearly audible warning to announce that a canine will be released if the person does not come forth, shall be made prior to releasing a canine. The canine handler, when practical, shall first advise the supervisor of his/her decision if a verbal warning is not given prior to releasing the canine. In the event of an apprehension, the handler shall document in any related report whether or not a verbal warning was given and, if none was given, the reasons why.

### 318.2.3 USE OF NARCOTIC-DETECTION CANINES

A narcotic-detection-trained canine may be used in accordance with current law under the following circumstances:

- (a) To assist in the search for narcotics during a search warrant service.
- (b) To obtain a search warrant by using the detection canine in support of probable cause.
- (c) To search vehicles, buildings, bags and any other articles deemed necessary.

A narcotic-detection canine will not be used to search a person for narcotics.

### 318.2.4 GUIDELINES FOR NON-APPREHENSION USE

Because canines have senses far superior to those of humans, they may often be effectively utilized to track or search for non-criminals (e.g. lost children, individuals who may be disoriented or in need of medical attention) or even suspects wanted for minor criminal offenses. In such circumstances, it will be necessary for the handler to evaluate the conditions and ability of the canine to determine the feasibility of such an application.

- (a) Absent a change in circumstances that present an imminent threat to deputies, the canine or the public, such applications should be conducted on leash or under such conditions that will minimize the likelihood that the canine will bite or otherwise injure the individual.
- (b) Throughout the deployment of the canine in such circumstances, the handler should consider issuing periodic verbal assurances that the canine will not bite or hurt the person.

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- (c) Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor, assisting personnel should take direction from the handler in order to minimize interference with the canine.
- (d) Once the individual has been located, the canine should be placed in a down stay or otherwise secured as soon as it becomes reasonably practicable.

### 318.2.5 REPORTING CANINE USE, BITES AND INJURIES

Whenever a canine is deployed and intentionally bites or otherwise causes injury to a suspect, a supervisor shall be promptly notified and the injuries documented in a Canine Use Report Form. The deployment and injuries should also be included in any related incident or arrest report.

Any unintended bite or injury caused by the canine during deployments, operations, training, presentations or under any other circumstances, either on- or off-duty, shall be promptly reported to the Unit Coordinator. Unintended bites or injuries caused by the canine should be documented in an administrative report, not on a Canine Use Report Form.

### 318.2.6 REPORTING CANINE INJURIES

In the event that a canine is injured, the injury will be immediately reported to the Watch Commander.

Medical care for any injured canine shall follow the protocol established in the Medical Care of the Canine section of this policy.

The injury will be documented on a Canine Use Report Form.

### 318.2.7 ASSIGNMENT OF CANINES

The canine teams shall be assigned to the Operations Division to supplement and assist the Patrol Bureau.

Canine teams should function primarily as cover units however; they may be assigned by the Watch Commander to other functions based on the needs of the watch at the time.

Canine teams should not be assigned to handle matters that will take them out of service for extended periods of time unless absolutely necessary and only with the approval of the Watch Commander.

## **318.3 REQUEST FOR USE OF CANINE TEAMS**

Personnel within the Department are encouraged to freely solicit the use of the canines. Requests for a canine team from outside of the Patrol Bureau shall go through the Unit Coordinator or the Watch Commander.

### 318.3.1 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER AGENCIES

The Watch Commander or the Unit Coordinator must approve all requests for canine assistance from outside agencies, subject to the following provisions:

- (a) Canine teams shall not be used for any assignment that is not consistent with this policy.

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- (b) The handler has the ultimate authority to decide whether the canine should be used for any specific assignment.
- (c) Canine teams shall not be called out while off-duty or used outside the boundaries of the County of Stanislaus unless authorized by the Watch Commander or the Unit Coordinator.
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the canine handler to coordinate with outside agency personnel in order to minimize the risk of unintended injury.

### 318.3.2 REQUEST FOR PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS

All public requests for a canine team shall be approved by the Unit Coordinator prior to making any commitment.

Handlers shall not demonstrate any apprehension work to the public unless authorized to do so by the Unit Coordinator.

### **318.4 SELECTION OF CANINE HANDLERS**

The following are the minimum qualifications for the assignment of canine handler:

- (a) Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department deputy (currently off probation)
- (b) Reside in an adequately fenced, single-family, residence (minimum five-foot high fence with locking gates)
- (c) Have a garage which can be secured and accommodate a canine unit
- (d) Live within 30 minutes travel time from the Stanislaus County limits

### **318.5 CANINE HANDLER RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### 318.5.1 AVAILABILITY

The handler shall be available for call-out under conditions specified by the Unit Coordinator.

#### 318.5.2 CARE FOR THE CANINE AND EQUIPMENT

The handler shall ultimately be responsible for the health and welfare of the canine and shall ensure that the canine receives proper nutrition, grooming, training, medical care, affection, and living conditions. The handler will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Unless required by a particular application, the handler shall not expose the canine to any foreseeable and unreasonable risk of harm.
- (b) The handler shall maintain all department equipment under his/her control in a clean and serviceable condition and when not on duty shall maintain the canine unit in a garage, secured from public view.
- (c) When a handler takes a vacation or extended number of days off, the assigned canine vehicle shall be maintained in a secure location at the handler's residence.

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- (d) Handlers shall permit the Unit Coordinator to conduct spontaneous on-site inspections of affected areas of their residence as well as the canine unit, to verify that conditions and equipment conform to this policy.
- (e) Any changes in the living status of the handler which may affect the lodging or environment of the canine shall be reported to the Unit Coordinator as soon as possible.
- (f) When off-duty, canines shall be maintained in kennels, provided by the County, at the homes of their handlers. When a canine is kenneled at the handler's home, the gate shall be secured with a lock. When off-duty, canines may be let out of their kennels while under the direct control of their handlers.
- (g) The canine should be permitted to socialize in the home with the handler's family for short periods of time and under the direct supervision of the handler.
- (h) Under no circumstances will the canine be lodged at another location unless approved by the Unit Coordinator or Watch Commander.
- (i) When off-duty, handlers shall not involve their canines in any activity or conduct unless approved in advance by the Unit Coordinator or Watch Commander.
- (j) Whenever a canine handler anticipates taking a vacation or an extended number of days off, it may be necessary to temporarily relocate the canine. In those situations, the handler shall give reasonable notice to the Unit Coordinator so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

### **318.5.3 CANINE IN PUBLIC AREAS**

All canines shall be kept on a leash when in areas that allow access to the public. Exceptions would include specific police operations for which the canines are trained.

- (a) Canines shall not be left unattended in any area to which the public may have access.
- (b) When the canine unit is left unattended all windows and doors shall be secured in such a manner as to prevent unauthorized access to the dog. The handler shall also insure that the unattended unit remains inhabitable for the canine.

### **318.5.4 HANDLER COMPENSATION**

The canine handler shall be compensated for time spent in the care, feeding, grooming and other needs of the dog as provided in the Fair Labor Standards Act. The compensation shall be prescribed in the employee's Memorandum of Understanding.

## **318.6 MEDICAL CARE OF THE CANINE**

All medical attention shall be rendered by the designated canine veterinarian, except during an emergency as provided in Policy Manual § 318.6.2.

### **318.6.1 NON-EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**

Non-emergency medical care will be coordinated through the Unit Coordinator.

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Any indication that a canine is not in good physical condition shall be reported to the Unit Coordinator or the Watch Commander as soon as practical.

All records of medical treatment shall be maintained in the canine handler's personnel file.

### **318.6.2 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE**

The handler shall notify the Unit Coordinator as soon as practicable when emergency medical care for the canine is required.

Depending on the severity of the injury or illness, the canine shall either be treated by the designated veterinarian or transported to a designated emergency medical facility for treatment. If the handler and dog are out of the area, the handler may use the nearest available veterinarian.

### **318.7 TRAINING**

Before assignment in the field, each canine team shall be trained and certified to meet current POST guidelines. Cross-trained dog teams or those dog teams trained exclusively for the detection of narcotics and/or explosives shall be trained and certified to meet the standards established for such detection dogs by the California Narcotic Canine Association or other recognized and approved certification standards.

The Unit Coordinator shall be responsible for scheduling periodic training for all department personnel in order to familiarize them with how to conduct themselves in the presence of department canines.

#### **318.7.1 CONTINUED TRAINING**

Each canine team shall thereafter be recertified to current POST guidelines and the California Narcotic Canine Association or other recognized and approved certification standards on an annual basis. Additional training considerations are as follows:

- (a) Canine teams shall receive training as defined in the current contract with the department's canine training provider.
- (b) Canine handlers are encouraged to engage in additional training with approval of the Unit Coordinator.
- (c) To ensure that all training is consistent, no handler, trainer, or outside vendor is authorized to train to a standard that is contrary to the policies of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.
- (d) All canine training shall be conducted while on-duty unless otherwise approved by the Unit Coordinator or Watch Commander.

#### **318.7.2 FAILURE TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE POST TRAINING**

Any dog team failing POST canine certification and, if cross-trained, the California Narcotic Canine Association or other recognized and approved certification standards shall not be deployed in the field until certification is achieved. When practical, pending successful certification, the canine handler shall be temporarily reassigned to regular patrol duties.

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### 318.7.3 TRAINING RECORDS

All canine training records shall be maintained in the canine handler's training file.

### **318.8 CANINE UNIT COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Unit Coordinator shall be appointed by staff and shall supervise the Canine Program. The Unit Coordinator is directly responsible to the Operations Division Commander. The Unit Coordinator shall be responsible for, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Review all Canine Use Reports to insure compliance with policy and to identify training issues and other needs of the program.
- (b) Maintain liaison with the vendor kennel.
- (c) Maintain liaison with administrative staff and functional supervisors.
- (d) Maintain liaison with other agency canine coordinators.
- (e) Maintain accurate records to document canine activities.
- (f) Recommend and oversee the procurement of needed equipment and services for the unit.
- (g) Be responsible for scheduling all canine related activities.
- (h) Ensure the canine teams are scheduled for continuous training to maximize the capabilities of the teams.

### **318.9 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE TRAINING AIDS**

Controlled substance training aids are required to effectively train and maintain drug detecting dogs. Further, controlled substances can also be an effective training aid during training sessions for law enforcement personnel and the public.

Health & Safety Code § 11367.5 provides that any Sheriff, Chief Of Police, the Chief of the Bureau of Controlled Substance Enforcement, or the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol, or a designee thereof may, in his or her discretion, provide controlled substances in his or her possession for training purposes:

- (a) To any duly authorized peace officer or civilian drug detection canine trainer working under the direction of a law enforcement agency
- (b) Provided the controlled substances are no longer needed as criminal evidence
- (c) Provided the person receiving the controlled substances, if required by the Drug Enforcement Administration, possesses a current and valid Drug Enforcement Administration registration that specifically authorizes the recipient to possess controlled substances while providing substance abuse training to law enforcement or the community or while providing canine drug detection training

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### 318.9.1 PROCEDURES

Due to the responsibilities and liabilities involved with possessing readily usable amounts of controlled substances and the ever-present danger of accidental ingestion of these controlled substances by the canine, the following procedure shall be strictly followed:

- (a) All necessary controlled substance training samples shall be acquired from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's evidence personnel or from allied agencies authorized by Health & Safety Code § 11367.5 to provide controlled substance training samples. All controlled substance training samples shall be weighed and tested prior to dispensing to the individual canine handler
- (b) The weight and test results shall be recorded and maintained by this department
- (c) Any person receiving controlled substance training samples pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 11367.5 shall maintain custody and control of the controlled substances and shall keep records regarding any loss of, or damage to, those controlled substances
- (d) All controlled substance training samples will be inspected, weighed, and tested quarterly. The results of the quarterly testing shall be recorded and maintained by the canine coordinator with a copy forwarded to the dispensing agency
- (e) All controlled substance training samples will be stored in locked metal boxes at all times, except during training. The locked metal boxes shall be secured in the trunk of the canine handler's assigned patrol unit, or stored in a locked evidence locker. There are no exceptions to this procedure
- (f) The Canine Unit Coordinator shall periodically inspect every controlled substance training sample for damage or tampering and take any appropriate action
- (g) Any unusable controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the Property and Evidence Unit or to the dispensing agency
- (h) All controlled substance training samples shall be returned to the dispensing agency upon the conclusion of the training or upon demand by the dispensing agency

### 318.9.2 IMMUNITY

All duly authorized peace officers acting in the performance of their official duties and any person working under their immediate direction, supervision or instruction are immune from prosecution under the Uniform Controlled Substance Act while providing substance abuse training or canine drug detection training (Health & Safety Code § 11367.5(b)).

## Domestic Violence

### 320.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the guidelines necessary to deter, prevent and reduce domestic violence through vigorous enforcement and to address domestic violence as a serious crime against society. The policy specifically addresses the commitment of this department to take enforcement action when appropriate, to provide assistance to victims and to guide deputies in the investigation of domestic violence.

#### 320.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Court order** - All forms of orders related to domestic violence that have been issued by a court of this state or another, whether civil or criminal, regardless of whether service has been made.

### 320.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's response to incidents of domestic violence and violations of related court orders shall stress enforcement of the law to protect the victim and shall communicate the philosophy that domestic violence is criminal behavior. It is also the policy of this department to facilitate victims' and offenders' access to appropriate civil remedies and community resources whenever feasible.

### 320.3 OFFICER SAFETY

The investigation of domestic violence cases often places deputies in emotionally charged and sometimes highly dangerous environments. No provision of this policy is intended to supersede the responsibility of all deputies to exercise due caution and reasonable care in providing for the safety of any deputies and parties involved.

### 320.4 INVESTIGATIONS

The following guidelines should be followed by deputies when investigating domestic violence cases:

- (a) Calls of reported, threatened, imminent or ongoing domestic violence and the violation of any court order are of extreme importance and should be considered among the highest response priorities. This includes incomplete 9-1-1 calls.
- (b) When practicable, deputies should obtain and document statements from the victim, the suspect and any witnesses, including children, in or around the household or location of occurrence.
- (c) Deputies should list the full name and date of birth (and school if available) of each child who was present in the household at the time of the offense. The names of other children who may not have been in the house at that particular time should also be obtained for follow-up.



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- (d) When practicable and legally permitted, video or audio record all significant statements and observations.
- (e) All injuries should be photographed, regardless of severity, taking care to preserve the victim's personal privacy. Where practicable, photographs should be taken by a person of the same sex. Victims whose injuries are not visible at the time of the incident should be asked to contact the Investigations in the event that the injuries later become visible.
- (f) Deputies should request that the victim complete and sign an authorization for release of medical records related to the incident when applicable.
- (g) If the suspect is no longer at the scene, deputies should make reasonable efforts to locate the suspect to further the investigation, provide the suspect with an opportunity to make a statement and make an arrest or seek an arrest warrant if appropriate.
- (h) Seize any firearms or other dangerous weapons in the home, if appropriate and legally permitted, for safekeeping or as evidence. If the domestic violence involved threats of bodily harm, any firearm discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search must be taken into temporary custody (Penal Code § 18250).
- (i) When completing an incident or arrest report for violation of a court order, deputies should include specific information that establishes that the offender has been served, including the date the offender was served, the name of the agency that served the order and the provision of the order that the subject is alleged to have violated. When reasonably available, the arresting deputy should attach a copy of the order to the incident or arrest report.
- (j) Deputies should take appropriate enforcement action when there is probable cause to believe an offense has occurred. Factors that should not be used as sole justification for declining to take enforcement action include:
  - 1. Marital status of suspect and victim.
  - 2. Whether the suspect lives on the premises with the victim.
  - 3. Claims by the suspect that the victim provoked or perpetuated the violence.
  - 4. The potential financial or child custody consequences of arrest.
  - 5. The physical or emotional state of either party.
  - 6. Use of drugs or alcohol by either party.
  - 7. Denial that the abuse occurred where evidence indicates otherwise.
  - 8. A request by the victim not to arrest the suspect.
  - 9. Location of the incident (public/private).
  - 10. Speculation that the complainant may not follow through with the prosecution.
  - 11. The racial, cultural, social, professional position or sexual orientation of the victim or suspect.

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### **320.4.1 IF A SUSPECT IS ARRESTED**

If a suspect is arrested, deputies should:

- (a) Advise the victim that there is no guarantee the suspect will remain in custody.
- (b) Provide the victim's contact information to the jail staff to enable notification of the victim upon the suspect's release from jail.
- (c) Advise the victim whether any type of court order will be in effect when the suspect is released from jail.

### **320.4.2 IF NO ARREST IS MADE**

If no arrest is made, the deputy should:

- (a) Advise the parties of any options, including but not limited to:
  1. Voluntary separation of the parties.
  2. Appropriate resource referrals (e.g., counselors, friends, relatives, shelter homes, victim witness unit).
- (b) Document the resolution in a report.

### **320.5 VICTIM ASSISTANCE**

Victims may be traumatized or confused. Deputies should:

- (a) Recognize that a victim's behavior and actions may be affected.
- (b) Provide the victim with the [department/office]'s domestic violence information handout, even if the incident may not rise to the level of a crime.
- (c) Alert the victim to any available victim advocates, shelters and community resources.
- (d) Stand by for a reasonable amount of time when an involved person requests law enforcement assistance while removing essential items of personal property.
- (e) Seek medical assistance as soon as practicable for the victim if he/she has sustained injury or complains of pain.
- (f) Ask the victim whether he/she has a safe place to stay. Assist in arranging to transport the victim to an alternate shelter if the victim expresses a concern for his/her safety or if the deputy determines that a need exists.
- (g) Make reasonable efforts to ensure that children or dependent adults who are under the supervision of the suspect or victim are being properly cared for.
- (h) Seek or assist the victim in obtaining an emergency order if appropriate.

A deputy shall advise an individual protected by a Canadian domestic violence protection order of available local victim services (Family Code § 6452).

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### **320.6 DISPATCH ASSISTANCE**

All calls of domestic violence, including incomplete 9-1-1 calls, should be dispatched as soon as practicable.

Dispatchers are not required to verify the validity of a court order before responding to a request for assistance. Deputies should request that dispatchers check whether any of the involved persons are subject to the terms of a court order.

### **320.7 FOREIGN COURT ORDERS**

Various types of orders may be issued in domestic violence cases. Any foreign court order properly issued by a court of another state, Indian tribe, or territory shall be enforced by deputies as if it were the order of a court in this state. An order should be considered properly issued when it reasonably appears that the issuing court has jurisdiction over the parties and reasonable notice and opportunity to respond was given to the party against whom the order was issued (18 USC § 2265). An otherwise valid out-of-state court or foreign order shall be enforced, regardless of whether the order has been properly registered with this state (Family Code § 6403).

Canadian domestic violence protection orders shall also be enforced in the same manner as if issued in this state (Family Code § 6452).

### **320.8 VERIFICATION OF COURT ORDERS**

Determining the validity of a court order, particularly an order from another jurisdiction, can be challenging. Therefore, in determining whether there is probable cause to make an arrest for a violation of any court order, deputies should carefully review the actual order when available, and where appropriate and practicable:

- (a) Ask the subject of the order about his/her notice or receipt of the order, his/her knowledge of its terms and efforts to respond to the order.
  1. If a determination is made that a valid foreign order cannot be enforced because the subject has not been notified or served the order, the deputy shall inform the subject of the order, make a reasonable effort to serve the order upon the subject, and allow the subject a reasonable opportunity to comply with the order before enforcing the order. Verbal notice of the terms of the order is sufficient notice (Family Code § 6403).
- (b) Check available records or databases that may show the status or conditions of the order.
  1. Registration or filing of an order in California is not required for the enforcement of a valid foreign order (Family Code § 6403).
- (c) Contact the issuing court to verify the validity of the order.
- (d) Contact a law enforcement official from the jurisdiction where the order was issued to verify information.

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Deputies should document in an appropriate report their efforts to verify the validity of an order, regardless of whether an arrest is made. Deputies should contact a supervisor for clarification when needed.

### **320.9 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS**

California law provides for the following:

#### **320.9.1 STANDARDS FOR ARRESTS**

Deputies investigating a domestic violence report should consider the following:

- (a) An arrest should be made when there is probable cause to believe that a felony or misdemeanor domestic violence offense has been committed (Penal Code § 13701). Any decision to not arrest an adult when there is reasonable cause to do so requires supervisor approval.
  - 1. Deputies are only authorized to make an arrest without a warrant for a misdemeanor domestic violence offense if the deputy makes the arrest as soon as probable cause arises (Penal Code § 836).
- (b) A deputy responding to a domestic violence call who cannot not make an arrest will advise the victim of his/her right to make a private person's arrest. The advisement should be made out of the presence of the suspect and shall include advising the victim how to safely execute the arrest. Deputies shall not dissuade victims from making a lawful private person's arrest. Deputies should refer to the provisions in the Private Persons Arrests Policy for options regarding the disposition of private person's arrests (Penal Code § 836(b)).
- (c) Deputies shall not cite and release a person for the following offenses (Penal Code § 853.6(a)(3)):
  - 1. Penal Code § 243(e)(1) (battery against spouse, cohabitant)
  - 2. Penal Code § 273.5 (corporal injury on spouse, cohabitant, fiancé/fiancée, person of a previous dating or engagement relationship, mother/father of the offender's child)
  - 3. Penal Code § 273.6 (violation of protective order) if violence or threats of violence have occurred or the suspect has gone to the workplace or residence of the protected party
  - 4. Penal Code § 646.9 (stalking)
  - 5. Other serious or violent felonies specified in Penal Code § 1270.1
- (d) In responding to domestic violence incidents, including mutual protective order violations, deputies should generally be reluctant to make dual arrests. Deputies shall make reasonable efforts to identify the dominant aggressor in any incident. The dominant aggressor is the person who has been determined to be the most significant,

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rather than the first, aggressor (Penal Code § 13701). In identifying the dominant aggressor, a deputy shall consider:

1. The intent of the law to protect victims of domestic violence from continuing abuse.
  2. The threats creating fear of physical injury.
  3. The history of domestic violence between the persons involved.
  4. Whether either person acted in self-defense.
- (e) An arrest shall be made when there is probable cause to believe that a violation of a domestic violence court order has been committed (Penal Code § 13701; Penal Code § 836), regardless of whether the offense was committed in the deputy's presence. After arrest, the deputy shall confirm that a copy of the order has been registered, unless the victim provides a copy (Penal Code § 836).

### 320.9.2 COURT ORDERS

- (a) A deputy who obtains an emergency protective order from the court shall serve it on the restrained person if the person can be reasonably located, and shall provide the person protected or the person's parent/guardian with a copy of the order. The deputy shall file a copy with the court as soon as practicable and shall have the order entered into the computer database system for protective and restraining orders maintained by the Department of Justice (Family Code § 6271; Penal Code § 646.91).
- (b) At the request of the petitioner, a deputy at the scene of a reported domestic violence incident shall serve a court order on a restrained person (Family Code § 6383; Penal Code § 13710).
- (c) Any deputy serving a protective order that indicates that the respondent possesses weapons or ammunition shall request that the firearm/ammunition be immediately surrendered (Family Code § 6389(c)(2)).
- (d) During the service of a protective order any firearm discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search shall be taken into temporary custody (Penal Code § 18250).
- (e) If a valid Canadian order cannot be enforced because the person subject to the order has not been notified or served with the order, the deputy shall notify the protected individual that reasonable efforts shall be made to contact the person subject to the order. The deputy shall make a reasonable effort to inform the person subject to the order of the existence and terms of the order and provide him/her with a record of the order, if available, and shall allow the person a reasonable opportunity to comply with the order before taking enforcement action (Family Code § 6452).

### 320.9.3 PUBLIC ACCESS TO POLICY

A copy of this domestic violence policy will be provided to members of the public upon request (Penal Code § 13701).

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### 320.9.4 REPORTS AND RECORDS

- (a) A written report shall be completed on all incidents of domestic violence. All such reports should be documented on the appropriate form, which includes information and notations specific to domestic violence incidents as required by Penal Code § 13730.
- (b) Reporting deputies should provide the victim with the case number of the report. The case number may be placed in the space provided on the domestic violence victim information handout provided to the victim. If the case number is not immediately available, an explanation should be given regarding how the victim can obtain the information at a later time.
- (c) Deputies who seize any firearm or other deadly weapon in a domestic violence incident shall issue the individual possessing such weapon a receipt that includes the name and residential mailing address of the owner or person who possessed the weapon and notice of where the weapon may be recovered, along with the applicable time limit for recovery (Penal Code § 18250; Penal Code § 18255; Penal Code § 33800; Family Code § 6389(c)(2)).

### 320.9.5 RECORD-KEEPING AND DATA COLLECTION

This department shall maintain records of court orders related to domestic violence and the service status of each (Penal Code § 13710), as well as records on the number of domestic violence related calls reported to the Department, including whether weapons were used in the incident or whether the incident involved strangulation or suffocation (Penal Code § 13730). This information is to be reported to the Attorney General monthly. It shall be the responsibility of the Records Manager to maintain and report this information as required.

### 320.9.6 DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF BAIL INCREASE

Any deputy who makes a warrantless arrest for a felony or misdemeanor violation of a domestic violence restraining order shall evaluate the totality of the circumstances to determine whether reasonable cause exists to seek an increased bail amount. If there is reasonable cause to believe that the scheduled bail amount is insufficient to assure the arrestee's appearance or to protect the victim or family member of a victim, the deputy shall prepare a declaration in support of increased bail (Penal Code § 1269c).

## Search and Seizure

### 322.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Both the federal and state Constitutions provide every individual with the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures. This policy provides general guidelines for Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department personnel to consider when dealing with search and seizure issues.

### 322.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to respect the fundamental privacy rights of individuals. Members of this department will conduct searches in strict observance of the constitutional rights of persons being searched. All seizures by this department will comply with relevant federal and state law governing the seizure of persons and property.

The Department will provide relevant and current training to deputies as guidance for the application of current law, local community standards and prosecutorial considerations regarding specific search and seizure situations, as appropriate.

### 322.3 SEARCHES

The U.S. Constitution generally provides that a valid warrant is required in order for a search to be valid. There are, however, several exceptions that permit a warrantless search.

Examples of law enforcement activities that are exceptions to the general warrant requirement include, but are not limited to, searches pursuant to the following:

- Valid consent
- Incident to a lawful arrest
- Legitimate community caretaking interests
- Vehicle searches under certain circumstances
- Exigent circumstances

Certain other activities are recognized by federal and state courts and by certain statutes as legitimate law enforcement activities that also do not require a warrant. Such activities may include seizure and examination of abandoned property, and observations of activities and property located on open public areas.

Because case law regarding search and seizure is constantly changing and subject to interpretation by the courts, each member of this department is expected to act in each situation according to current training and his/her familiarity with clearly established rights as determined by case law.

Whenever practicable, deputies are encouraged to contact a supervisor to resolve questions regarding search and seizure issues prior to electing a course of action.

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### **322.4 SEARCH PROTOCOL**

Although conditions will vary and officer safety and other exigencies must be considered in every search situation, the following guidelines should be followed whenever circumstances permit:

- (a) Members of this department will strive to conduct searches with dignity and courtesy.
- (b) Deputies should explain to the person being searched the reason for the search and how the search will be conducted.
- (c) Searches should be carried out with due regard and respect for private property interests and in a manner that minimizes damage. Property should be left in a condition as close as reasonably possible to its pre-search condition.
- (d) In order to minimize the need for forcible entry, an attempt should be made to obtain keys, combinations or access codes when a search of locked property is anticipated.
- (e) When the person to be searched is of the opposite sex as the searching deputy, a reasonable effort should be made to summon a deputy of the same sex as the subject to conduct the search. When it is not practicable to summon a deputy of the same sex as the subject, the following guidelines should be followed:
  1. Another deputy or a supervisor should witness the search.
  2. The deputy should not search areas of the body covered by tight-fitting clothing, sheer clothing or clothing that could not reasonably conceal a weapon.

### **322.5 DOCUMENTATION**

Deputies are responsible to document any search and to ensure that any required reports are sufficient including, at minimum, documentation of the following:

- Reason for the search
- Any efforts used to minimize the intrusiveness of any search (e.g., asking for consent or keys)
- What, if any, injuries or damage occurred; photographs should be taken of any injuries or damaged property
- All steps taken to secure property
- The results of the search, including a description of any property or contraband seized
- If the person searched is the opposite sex, any efforts to summon a deputy of the same sex as the person being searched and the identification of any witness deputy

Supervisors shall review reports to ensure the reports are accurate, that actions are properly documented and that current legal requirements and department policy have been met.



## Temporary Custody of Juveniles

### 324.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines consistent with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act for juveniles taken into temporary custody by members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (34 USC § 11133).

Guidance regarding contacting juveniles at schools or who may be victims is provided in the Child Abuse Policy.

#### 324.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Juvenile non-offender** - An abused, neglected, dependent, or alien juvenile who may be legally held for his/her own safety or welfare. This also includes any juvenile who may have initially been contacted for an offense that would not subject an adult to arrest (e.g., fine-only offense) but was taken into custody for his/her protection or for purposes of reuniting the juvenile with a parent, guardian, or other responsible person. Juveniles 11 years of age or younger are considered juvenile non-offenders even if they have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest.

**Juvenile offender** - A juvenile 12 to 17 years of age who is alleged to have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest (a non-status offense) (Welfare and Institutions Code § 602). It also includes an offense under Penal Code § 29610 for underage possession of a handgun or concealable firearm (28 CFR 31.303).

**Non-secure custody** - When a juvenile is held in the presence of a deputy or other custody employee at all times and is not placed in a locked room, cell, or behind any locked doors. Juveniles in non-secure custody may be handcuffed but not to a stationary or secure object. Personal supervision, through direct visual monitoring and audio two-way communication is maintained. Monitoring through electronic devices, such as video, does not replace direct visual observation (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1(d); 15 CCR 1150).

**Safety checks** - Direct, visual observation personally by a member of this [department/office] performed at random intervals within time frames prescribed in this policy to provide for the health and welfare of juveniles in temporary custody.

**Secure custody** - When a juvenile offender is held in a locked room, a set of rooms, or a cell. Secure custody also includes being physically secured to a stationary object (15 CCR 1146).

Examples of secure custody include:

- (a) A juvenile left alone in an unlocked room within the secure perimeter of the adult temporary holding area.
- (b) A juvenile handcuffed to a rail.
- (c) A juvenile placed in a room that contains doors with delayed egress devices that have a delay of more than 30 seconds.

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- (d) A juvenile being processed in a secure booking area when a non-secure booking area is available.
- (e) A juvenile left alone in a secure booking area after being photographed and fingerprinted.
- (f) A juvenile placed in a cell within the adult temporary holding area, whether or not the cell door is locked.
- (g) A juvenile placed in a room that is capable of being locked or contains a fixed object designed for cuffing or restricting movement.

**Sight and sound separation** - Located or arranged to prevent physical, visual, or auditory contact.

**Status offender** - A juvenile suspected of committing a criminal violation of the law that would not be a criminal violation but for the age of the offender. Examples may include running away, underage possession of tobacco, curfew violation, and truancy. A juvenile in custody on a court order or warrant based upon a status offense is also a status offender. This includes the habitually disobedient or truant juvenile under Welfare and Institutions Code § 601 and any juvenile suspected of an offense that would not subject an adult to arrest (e.g., fine-only offense).

### **324.2 POLICY**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is committed to releasing juveniles from temporary custody as soon as reasonably practicable and keeping juveniles safe while they are in temporary custody at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. Juveniles should be held in temporary custody only for as long as reasonably necessary for processing, transfer or release.

### **324.3 JUVENILES WHO SHOULD NOT BE HELD**

Juveniles who exhibit any of the following conditions should not be held at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department:

- (a) Unconscious
- (b) Seriously injured
- (c) A known suicide risk or obviously severely emotionally disturbed
- (d) Significantly intoxicated except when approved by the Watch Commander. A medical clearance shall be obtained for minors who are under the influence of drugs, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance to the extent that they are unable to care for themselves (15 CCR 1151).
- (e) Extremely violent or continuously violent

Deputies taking custody of a juvenile who exhibits any of the above conditions should take reasonable steps to provide medical attention or mental health assistance and notify a supervisor of the situation (15 CCR 1142; 15 CCR 1151).

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These juveniles should not be held at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department unless they have been evaluated by a qualified medical and/or mental health professional (15 CCR 1142).

If the deputy taking custody of the juvenile believes the juvenile may be a suicide risk, the juvenile shall be under continuous direct supervision until evaluation, release or a transfer is completed (15 CCR 1142).

### **324.3.1 EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY**

When emergency medical attention is required for a juvenile, medical assistance will be called immediately. The Watch Commander shall be notified of the need for medical attention for the juvenile. Department members should administer first aid as applicable (15 CCR 1142).

### **324.3.2 SUICIDE PREVENTION OF JUVENILES IN CUSTODY**

Department members should be alert to potential symptoms based upon exhibited behavior that may indicate the juvenile is a suicide risk. These symptoms may include depression, refusal to communicate, verbally threatening to kill him/herself or any unusual behavior which may indicate the juvenile may harm him/herself while in either secure or non-secure custody (15 CCR 1142).

### **324.4 CUSTODY OF JUVENILES**

Deputies should take custody of a juvenile and temporarily hold the juvenile at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department when there is no other lawful and practicable alternative to temporary custody. Refer to the Child Abuse Policy for additional information regarding detaining a juvenile that is suspected of being a victim.

No juvenile should be held in temporary custody at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department without authorization of the arresting deputy's supervisor or the Watch Commander. Juveniles taken into custody shall be held in non-secure custody unless otherwise authorized by this policy.

Any juvenile taken into custody shall be released to the care of the juvenile's parent or other responsible adult or transferred to a juvenile custody facility or to other authority as soon as practicable and in no event shall a juvenile be held beyond six hours from the time of his/her entry into the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (34 USC § 11133; Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1(d)).

#### **324.4.1 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE NON-OFFENDERS**

Non-offenders taken into protective custody in compliance with the Child Abuse Policy should generally not be held at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. Custodial arrangements should be made for non-offenders as soon as reasonably possible. Juvenile non-offenders shall not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133; Welfare and Institutions Code § 206).

Juveniles 11 years of age or younger who have committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest may be held in non-secure custody for the offenses listed in Welfare and Institutions Code § 602(b) (murder and the sexual assault offenses) and should be referred to a probation officer for a placement determination.

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### **324.4.2 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE STATUS OFFENDERS**

Status offenders should generally be released by citation or with a warning rather than taken into temporary custody. However, deputies may take custody of a status offender if requested to do so by a parent or legal guardian in order to facilitate reunification (e.g., transported home or to the station to await a parent). Juvenile status offenders shall not be held in secure custody (34 USC § 11133).

### **324.4.3 CUSTODY OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS**

Juvenile offenders should be held in non-secure custody while at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department unless another form of custody is authorized by this policy or is necessary due to exigent circumstances.

Generally, a juvenile offender may be taken into custody when authorized by a court order or when there is probable cause to believe the juvenile has committed an offense that would subject an adult to arrest (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625).

A juvenile offender who is 14 years of age or older and suspected of using a firearm in violation of Welfare and Institutions Code § 625.3 shall be transported to a juvenile facility.

A juvenile offender suspected of committing murder or a sex offense that may subject a juvenile to criminal jurisdiction under Welfare and Institutions Code § 602(b), or a serious or violent felony should be referred to a probation officer for a decision on further detention.

In all other cases the juvenile offender may be:

- (a) Released upon warning or citation.
- (b) Released to a parent or other responsible adult after processing at the [Department/Office].
- (c) Referred to a probation officer for a decision regarding whether to transport the juvenile offender to a juvenile facility.
- (d) Transported to his/her home or to the place where the juvenile offender was taken into custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.2).

In determining which disposition is appropriate, the investigating deputy or supervisor shall prefer the alternative that least restricts the juvenile's freedom of movement, provided that alternative is compatible with the best interests of the juvenile and the community (Welfare and Institutions Code § 626).

Whenever a juvenile offender under the age of 14 is taken into custody, the deputy should take reasonable steps to verify and document the child's ability to differentiate between right and wrong, particularly in relation to the alleged offense (Penal Code § 26).

### **324.5 ADVISEMENTS**

Deputies shall take immediate steps to notify the juvenile's parent, guardian, or a responsible relative that the juvenile is in custody, the location where the juvenile is being held, and the intended disposition (Welfare and Institutions Code § 627).

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Whenever a juvenile is taken into temporary custody, he/she shall be given the *Miranda* rights advisement regardless of whether questioning is intended (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625).

Anytime a juvenile offender is placed in secure custody, he/she shall be informed of the purpose of the secure custody, the length of time the secure custody is expected to last, and of the maximum six-hour limitation (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1(d)).

Juveniles taken into custody for an offense shall immediately be advised (or at least within one hour from being taken into custody, if possible) that they may make three telephone calls: one call completed to his/her parent or guardian; one to a responsible relative or his/her employer; and another call completed to an attorney. The calls shall be at no expense to the juvenile when completed to telephone numbers within the local calling area. Juveniles should be asked whether they are a caregiver and provided two more phone calls in the same manner as provided to adults in the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy (Welfare and Institutions Code § 627; Penal Code § 851.5).

### **324.6 JUVENILE CUSTODY LOGS**

Any time a juvenile is held in custody at the [Department/Office], the custody shall be promptly and properly documented in the juvenile custody log, including:

- (a) Identifying information about the juvenile.
- (b) Date and time of arrival and release from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (15 CCR 1150).
- (c) Watch Commander notification and approval to temporarily hold the juvenile.
- (d) Any charges for which the juvenile is being held and classification of the juvenile as a juvenile offender, status offender or non-offender.
- (e) Any changes in status (e.g., emergency situations, unusual incidents).
- (f) Time of all safety checks.
- (g) Any medical and other screening requested and completed (15 CCR 1142).
- (h) Circumstances that justify any secure custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1(d); 15 CCR 1145).
- (i) Any other information that may be required by other authorities, such as compliance inspectors or a local juvenile court authority.

The Watch Commander shall initial the log to approve the custody, including any secure custody, and shall also initial the log when the juvenile is released.

### **324.7 NO-CONTACT REQUIREMENTS**

Sight and sound separation shall be maintained between all juveniles and adults while in custody at the [Department/Office] (34 USC § 11133; Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1(d); Welfare and Institutions Code § 208; 15 CCR 1144). There should also be sight and sound separation between non-offenders and juvenile and status offenders.

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In situations where brief or accidental contact may occur (e.g., during the brief time a juvenile is being fingerprinted and/or photographed in booking), a member of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (trained in the supervision of persons in custody) shall maintain a constant, immediate, side-by-side presence with the juvenile or the adult to minimize any contact. If inadvertent or accidental contact does occur, reasonable efforts shall be taken to end the contact (15 CCR 1144).

### **324.8 TEMPORARY CUSTODY REQUIREMENTS**

Members and supervisors assigned to monitor or process any juvenile at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall ensure the following:

- (a) The Watch Commander should be notified if it is anticipated that a juvenile may need to remain at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department more than four hours. This will enable the Watch Commander to ensure no juvenile is held at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department more than six hours.
- (b) A staff member of the same sex shall supervise personal hygiene activities and care, such as changing clothing or using the restroom, without direct observation to allow for privacy.
- (c) Personal safety checks and significant incidents/activities shall be noted on the log.
- (d) Juveniles in custody are informed that they will be monitored at all times, except when using the toilet.
  1. There shall be no viewing devices, such as peep holes or mirrors, of which the juvenile is not aware.
  2. This does not apply to surreptitious and legally obtained recorded interrogations.
- (e) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to toilets and wash basins (15 CCR 1143).
- (f) Food shall be provided if a juvenile has not eaten within the past four hours or is otherwise in need of nourishment, including any special diet required for the health of the juvenile (15 CCR 1143).
- (g) Juveniles shall have reasonable access to a drinking fountain or water (15 CCR 1143).
- (h) Juveniles shall have reasonable opportunities to stand and stretch, particularly if handcuffed or restrained in any way.
- (i) Juveniles shall have privacy during family, guardian and/or lawyer visits (15 CCR 1143).
- (j) Juveniles shall be permitted to remain in their personal clothing unless the clothing is taken as evidence or is otherwise unsuitable or inadequate for continued wear while in custody (15 CCR 1143).
- (k) Blankets shall be provided as reasonably necessary (15 CCR 1143).
  1. The supervisor should ensure that there is an adequate supply of clean blankets.
- (l) Adequate shelter, heat, light and ventilation should be provided without compromising security or enabling escape.
- (m) Juveniles shall have adequate furnishings, including suitable chairs or benches.

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- (n) Juveniles shall have the right to the same number of telephone calls as an adult in temporary custody.
- (o) No discipline may be administered to any juvenile, nor may juveniles be subjected to corporal or unusual punishment, humiliation or mental abuse (15 CCR 1142).

### **324.9 USE OF RESTRAINT DEVICES**

Juvenile offenders may be handcuffed in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. A juvenile offender may be handcuffed at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department when the juvenile presents a heightened risk. However, non-offenders and status offenders should not be handcuffed unless they are combative or threatening (15 CCR 1142).

Other restraints shall only be used after less restrictive measures have failed and with the approval of the Watch Commander. Restraints shall only be used so long as it reasonably appears necessary for the juvenile's protection or the protection of others (15 CCR 1142).

Juveniles in restraints shall be kept away from other unrestrained juveniles or monitored in such a way as to protect the juvenile from abuse (15 CCR 1142).

### **324.10 PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The deputy taking custody of a juvenile offender or status offender at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall ensure a thorough search of the juvenile's property is made and all property is removed from the juvenile, especially those items that could compromise safety, such as pens, pencils and belts.

The personal property of a juvenile should be placed in a property bag. The property should be inventoried in the juvenile's presence and sealed into the bag. The property should be kept in a monitored or secure location until the juvenile is released from the custody of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

### **324.11 SECURE CUSTODY**

Only juvenile offenders 14 years of age or older may be placed in secure custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207; 15 CCR 1145). Watch Commander approval is required before placing a juvenile offender in secure custody.

Secure custody should only be used for juvenile offenders when there is a reasonable belief that the juvenile is a serious risk of harm to him/herself or others. Factors to be considered when determining if the juvenile offender presents a serious security risk to him/herself or others include the following (15 CCR 1145):

- (a) Age, maturity and delinquent history
- (b) Severity of offense for which the juvenile was taken into custody
- (c) The juvenile offender's behavior

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- (d) Availability of staff to provide adequate supervision or protection of the juvenile offender
- (e) Age, type and number of other individuals in custody at the facility

Members of this [department/office] shall not use secure custody for convenience when non-secure custody is, or later becomes, a reasonable option (15 CCR 1145).

When practicable and when no locked enclosure is available, handcuffing one hand of a juvenile offender to a fixed object while otherwise maintaining the juvenile in non-secure custody should be considered as the method of secure custody. An employee must be present at all times to ensure the juvenile's safety while secured to a stationary object (15 CCR 1148).

Juveniles shall not be secured to a stationary object for more than 60 minutes. Supervisor approval is required to secure a juvenile to a stationary object for longer than 60 minutes and every 30 minutes thereafter (15 CCR 1148). Supervisor approval should be documented.

The decision for securing a minor to a stationary object for longer than 60 minutes and every 30 minutes thereafter shall be based upon the best interests of the juvenile offender (15 CCR 1148).

### 324.11.1 LOCKED ENCLOSURES

A thorough inspection of the area shall be conducted before placing a juvenile into the enclosure. A second inspection shall be conducted after removing the juvenile. Any damage noted to the room should be photographed and documented in the crime report.

The following requirements shall apply to a juvenile offender who is held inside a locked enclosure:

- (a) The juvenile shall constantly be monitored by an audio/video system during the entire custody.
- (b) Juveniles shall have constant auditory access to [department/office] members (15 CCR 1147).
- (c) Initial placement into and removal from a locked enclosure shall be logged (Welfare and Institutions Code § 207.1(d)).
- (d) Unscheduled safety checks to provide for the health and welfare of the juvenile by a staff member, no less than once every 15 minutes, shall occur (15 CCR 1147; 15 CCR 1151).
  - 1. All safety checks shall be logged.
  - 2. The safety check should involve questioning the juvenile as to his/her well-being (sleeping juveniles or apparently sleeping juveniles should be awakened).
  - 3. Requests or concerns of the juvenile should be logged.
- (e) Males and females shall not be placed in the same locked room (15 CCR 1147).



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- (f) Juvenile offenders should be separated according to severity of the crime (e.g., felony or misdemeanor).
- (g) Restrained juveniles shall not be mixed in a cell or room with unrestrained juveniles.

### **324.12 SUICIDE ATTEMPT, DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY OF A JUVENILE**

The Watch Commander will ensure procedures are in place to address the suicide attempt, death or serious injury of any juvenile held at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (15 CCR 1142; 15 CCR 1047). The procedures will address:

- (a) Immediate notification of the on-duty supervisor, Sheriff and Investigations Division Supervisor.
- (b) Notification of the parent, guardian or person standing in loco parentis, of the juvenile.
- (c) Notification of the appropriate prosecutor.
- (d) Notification of the County attorney.
- (e) Notification to the coroner.
- (f) Notification of the juvenile court.
- (g) In the case of a death, providing a report to the Attorney General under Government Code § 12525 within 10 calendar days of the death, and forwarding the same report to the Board of State and Community Corrections within the same time frame (15 CCR 1046).
- (h) A medical and operational review of deaths and suicide attempts pursuant to 15 CCR 1046.
- (i) Evidence preservation.

### **324.13 INTERVIEWING OR INTERROGATING JUVENILE SUSPECTS**

No interview or interrogation of a juvenile should occur unless the juvenile has the apparent capacity to consent, and does consent to an interview or interrogation.

Prior to conducting a custodial interrogation, including the waiver of *Miranda* rights, a deputy shall permit a juvenile 15 years of age or younger to consult with legal counsel in person, by telephone or by video conference. The consultation may not be waived by the juvenile. The requirement to consult with legal counsel does not apply when (Welfare and Institutions Code § 625.6):

- (a) Information is necessary to protect life or property from an imminent threat.
- (b) The questions are limited to what is reasonably necessary to obtain the information relating to the threat.

#### **324.13.1 MANDATORY RECORDINGS OF JUVENILES**

Any interrogation of an individual under 18 years of age who is in custody and suspected of committing murder shall be audio and video recorded when the interview takes place at

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a [department/office] facility, jail, detention facility or other fixed place of detention. The recording shall include the entire interview and a Miranda advisement preceding the interrogation (Penal Code § 859.5).

This recording is not mandatory when (Penal Code § 859.5):

- (a) Recording is not feasible because of exigent circumstances that are later documented in a report.
- (b) The individual refuses to have the interrogation recorded, including a refusal any time during the interrogation, and the refusal is documented in a report. If feasible, the refusal shall be electronically recorded.
- (c) The custodial interrogation occurred in another state by law enforcement officers of that state, unless the interrogation was conducted with the intent to avoid the requirements of Penal Code § 859.5.
- (d) The interrogation occurs when no member conducting the interrogation has a reason to believe that the individual may have committed murder. Continued custodial interrogation concerning that offense shall be electronically recorded if the interrogating member develops a reason to believe the individual committed murder.
- (e) The interrogation would disclose the identity of a confidential informant or would jeopardize the safety of a deputy, the individual being interrogated or another individual. Such circumstances shall be documented in a report.
- (f) A recording device fails despite reasonable maintenance and the timely repair or replacement is not feasible.
- (g) The questions are part of a routine processing or booking, and are not an interrogation.
- (h) The suspect is in custody for murder and the interrogation is unrelated to a murder. However, if any information concerning a murder is mentioned during the interrogation, the remainder of the interrogation shall be recorded.

These recordings shall be retained until a conviction is final and all direct and habeas corpus appeals are exhausted, a court no longer has any jurisdiction over the individual or the prosecution for that offense is barred (Penal Code § 859.5; Welfare and Institutions Code § 626.8).

### **324.14 FORMAL BOOKING**

No juvenile offender shall be formally booked without the authorization of the arresting deputy's supervisor, or in his/her absence, the Watch Commander.

Any juvenile, 14 years of age or older, who is taken into custody for a felony, or any juvenile whose acts amount to a sex crime, shall be booked, fingerprinted and photographed.

For all other acts defined as crimes, juveniles may be booked, fingerprinted or photographed upon the approval from the Watch Commander or Investigations supervisor, giving due consideration to the following:

- (a) The gravity of the offense
- (b) The past record of the offender

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- (c) The age of the offender

### **324.15 RELEASE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING JUVENILES**

Court decisions and legislation have combined to carefully specify situations in which information may be given out or exchanged when a case involves a juvenile. Members of this [department/office] shall not divulge any information regarding juveniles unless they are certain of the legal authority to do so.

A copy of the current policy of the juvenile court concerning authorized release of information and appropriate acknowledgment forms shall be kept with copies of this procedure in the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Policy Manual. Such releases are authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.

Welfare and Institutions Code § 828 authorizes the release of certain information to other agencies. It shall be the responsibility of the Records Manager and the appropriate Investigations supervisors to ensure that personnel of those bureaus act within legal guidelines.

### **324.16 BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS CERTIFICATION**

The Operations Division Commander shall coordinate the procedures related to the custody of juveniles held at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and ensure any required certification is maintained (Welfare and Institution Code § 210.2).

### **324.17 RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION**

Juveniles have the right to the same religious accommodation as adults in temporary custody (see the Temporary Custody of Adults Policy).

## Adult Abuse

### 326.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides members of this department with direction and understanding of their role in the prevention, detection and intervention in incidents of adult abuse. It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to treat reports of adult abuse as high priority criminal activity that is to be fully investigated regardless of the relationship between the victim and the suspects.

### 326.2 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Adult Abuse** - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect of adults over the age of 65 or any offense or attempted offense involving a dependent adult victim committed by a caregiver. This also includes any other act that would mandate notification to a social service/licensing agency or law enforcement related to the abuse of an adult (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.07; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.27; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.23).

**Dependent Adult** - Any person residing in this state, between 18 and 64 years of age, who has physical or mental limitations that restrict his/her ability to carry out normal activities or to protect his/her rights including, but not limited to, persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age. This includes any person between 18 and 64 years of age who is admitted as an inpatient to a 24-hour health facility, as defined in state law (Health and Safety Code § 1250; Health and Safety Code § 1250.2; Health and Safety Code § 1250.3).

### 326.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

Any member who has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be adult abuse, is told by an elder or dependent adult that he/she has experienced abuse or who reasonably suspects abuse, shall report to the county adult protective services agency as soon as practicable as provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630.

For purposes of notification, abuse is physical abuse, abandonment, abduction, isolation, financial abuse or neglect. Physical abuse includes any assault or sex crime (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.63). Financial abuse includes taking personal or real property by undue influence or intent to defraud (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.30). Notification is also made in cases of abandonment, abduction, isolation and neglect (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.05; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.06; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.43; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.57).

Notification should also be made to the following agencies as soon as practicable or as provided below (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630):

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- (a) If the abuse is physical abuse and occurred in a long-term care facility (not a state mental health hospital or a state developmental center) notification shall be made as follows (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)(1)):
  - 1. If there is serious bodily injury, notification shall be made by telephone and, within two hours, a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman and the corresponding licensing agency.
  - 2. If there is physical abuse and no serious bodily injury, notification shall be made by telephone and, within 24 hours, a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman and the corresponding licensing agency.
  - 3. If the abuse is allegedly caused by a resident with dementia and there is no serious bodily injury, notification shall be made by telephone and a written report to the local ombudsman within 24 hours.
- (b) If the abuse is in a long-term care facility (not a state mental health or a state developmental center) and is other than physical abuse, a telephone report and a written report shall be made to the local ombudsman.
- (c) The State Department of Public Health shall be notified of all known or suspected abuse occurring in a long-term facility.
- (d) The Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse shall be notified of all abuse that constitutes criminal activity in a long-term care facility.
- (e) The District Attorney's office shall be notified of all cases of physical abuse and financial abuse in a long-term care facility.
- (f) If the abuse occurred at a state mental hospital or a state developmental center, notification shall be made to the designated investigators of the State Department of State Hospitals or the State Department of Developmental Services as soon as practicable but no later than two hours after law enforcement becomes aware of the abuse.
- (g) If the abuse occurred at a residential care facility for the elderly or adult day program, the State Department of Social Services shall be notified.
- (h) If the abuse occurred in an adult day health care center, the State Department of Public Health and the California Department of Aging shall be notified.

Failure to make a report within two working days or as provided is a misdemeanor (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(h)).

The Investigations supervisor is responsible for ensuring that proper notifications have occurred to the District Attorney's Office and any other regulatory agency that may be applicable based upon where the abuse took place (e.g., care facility, hospital) per Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b).

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### 326.3.1 RECORDS RESPONSIBILITY

The Records Bureau is responsible for the following:

- (a) Provide a copy of the elder/dependent abuse report to Adult Protective Services. This requirement is applicable even if the initial call was received from Adult Protective Services.
- (b) Retain the original elder/dependent abuse report with the initial case file.

### 326.4 DEPUTY'S RESPONSE

All incidents involving actual or suspected adult abuse shall be fully investigated and appropriately documented.

#### 326.4.1 INITIAL RESPONSE

Deputies may be called upon to effect a forced entry as the first responder to the scene of suspected adult abuse. Entry should be immediate when it appears reasonably necessary to protect life or property. When the need for an emergency entry is not evident, deputies should seek supervisory approval. Deputies must be prepared to provide emergency care pending the arrival of medical personnel, if not already present.

#### 326.4.2 STABILIZE THE SITUATION

Deputies must quickly assess the situation in an effort to ensure the immediate safety of all persons. Deputies shall also consider taking the following actions:

- (a) Attempt to identify the victim, suspect and witnesses as well as the roles and relationships of all parties. Parties should be interviewed separately when possible.
- (b) Preserve the crime scene where evidence may be present. All persons should be removed from the scene until it has been photographed and processed. Any evidence that may change in appearance (e.g., injuries) should be photographed as soon as practicable.
- (c) Assess and define the nature of the problem. Deputies should assess the available information to determine the type of abuse that may have taken place or the potential for abuse in the future that may be eliminated by intervention.
- (d) Make on-scene arrests when appropriate. Deputies may arrest a person without a warrant when probable cause exists to believe that the person has committed an assault or battery, whether or not the assault or battery has in fact been committed, upon an adult to whom the suspect is related by blood or legal guardianship, provided the arrest is made at the time probable cause arises (Penal Code § 836).

If an arrest is not otherwise required by law, deputies should consider the consequences that the immediate arrest of a sole supporting family caretaker might have on the victim. The decision to arrest should be based on the best interests and caretaking needs of the elderly or dependent adult victim. The present and future safety of the victim is of utmost importance.

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### 326.4.3 SUPPORT PERSONNEL

The following persons should be considered for notification if it appears an in-depth investigation is appropriate:

- Patrol supervisor
- Detective personnel
- Evidence collection personnel
- Protective Services Agency personnel
- Ombudsman shall be called if the abuse is in a long-term care facility, to coordinate efforts to provide the most immediate and appropriate response (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).
- Investigation efforts shall be coordinated with the designated investigators of the State Department of State Hospitals or the State Department of Developmental Services if the abuse occurred in a state mental hospital or state developmental center (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630(b)).

### 326.4.4 EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDERS

In any situation which a deputy reasonably believes that an elder or dependent adult is in immediate and present danger of abuse based on an allegation of a recent incident of abuse or threat of abuse (other than financial abuse alone), the deputy may seek an emergency protective order against the person alleged to have committed or threatened such abuse (Family Code § 6250(d)).

### 326.5 ADULT ABUSE REPORTING

Every allegation of adult abuse shall be documented in a report. When documenting elder/dependent abuse cases the following information should also be included in the report:

- Current location of the victim
- Victim's condition/nature and extent of injuries, neglect or loss
- Names of agencies and personnel requested and on scene

Reporting cases of adult abuse is confidential and will only be released in accordance with the Release of Records and Information Policy.

Deputies investigating adult abuse shall complete a State of California form SOC 341 (Report of Suspected Dependent Adult/Elder Abuse).

### 326.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY

Before taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody when facts indicate the adult may not be able to care for him/herself, the deputy should make reasonable attempts to contact APS. Generally, removal of an adult abuse victim from his/her family, guardian or other responsible

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adult should be left to the welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this department should remove an adult abuse victim from his/her family or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the victim. Prior to taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody, the deputy should take reasonable steps to deliver the adult to another qualified legal guardian, unless it reasonably appears that the release would endanger the victim or result in abduction. If this is not a reasonable option, the deputy shall ensure that the adult is delivered to APS.

Whenever practicable, the deputy should inform a supervisor of the circumstances prior to taking an adult abuse victim into protective custody. If prior notification is not practicable, deputies should contact a supervisor promptly after taking the adult into protective custody.

When adult abuse victims are under state control, have a state-appointed guardian or there are other legal holdings for guardianship, it may be necessary or reasonable to seek a court order on behalf of the adult victim to either remove the adult from a dangerous environment (protective custody) or restrain a person from contact with the adult.

### **326.6.1 EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE ORDERS**

In any situation which a deputy reasonably believes that an elder or dependent adult is in immediate and present danger of abuse based on an allegation of a recent incident of abuse or threat of abuse (other than financial abuse alone), the deputy may seek an emergency protective order against the person alleged to have committed or threatened such abuse (Family Code § 6250(d)).

### **326.7 DRUG-ENDANGERED VICTIMS**

A coordinated response by law enforcement and social services agencies is appropriate to meet the immediate and longer-term medical and safety needs of an adult abuse victim who has been exposed to the manufacturing, trafficking or use of narcotics.

#### **326.7.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Investigations supervisor should:

- (a) Work with professionals from the appropriate agencies, including APS, other law enforcement agencies, medical service providers and local prosecutors, to develop community specific procedures for responding to situations where there are adult abuse victims endangered by exposure to methamphetamine labs or the manufacture and trafficking of other drugs.
- (b) Activate any available interagency response when a deputy notifies the Investigations supervisor that he/she has responded to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where an adult abuse victim is present or where evidence indicates that an adult abuse victim lives.



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- (c) Develop a report format or checklist for use when deputies respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help deputies document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions that may affect the adult.

### **326.8 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Records Bureau is responsible for:

- (a) Providing a copy of the adult abuse report to the APS, ombudsman or other agency as applicable within two working days or as required by law (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15630; Welfare and Institutions Code § 15640(c)).
- (b) Retaining the original adult abuse report with the initial case file.

### **326.9 JURISDICTION**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department has concurrent jurisdiction with state law enforcement agencies when investigating elder and dependent adult abuse and all other crimes against elder victims and victims with disabilities (Penal Code § 368.5).

Adult protective services agencies and local long-term care ombudsman programs also have jurisdiction within their statutory authority to investigate elder and dependent adult abuse and criminal neglect and may assist in criminal investigations upon request in such cases. However, this [department/office] will retain responsibility for the criminal investigations (Penal Code § 368.5).

### **326.10 RELEVANT STATUTES**

#### **Penal Code § 368 (c)**

Any person who knows or reasonably should know that a person is an elder or dependent adult and who, under circumstances or conditions other than those likely to produce great bodily harm or death, willfully causes or permits any elder or dependent adult to suffer, or inflicts thereon unjustifiable physical pain or mental suffering, or having the care or custody of any elder or dependent adult, willfully causes or permits the person or health of the elder or dependent adult to be injured or willfully causes or permits the elder or dependent adult to be placed in a situation in which his or her person or health may be endangered, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

#### **Penal Code § 368 (f)**

(f) A person who commits the false imprisonment of an elder or a dependent adult by the use of violence, menace, fraud, or deceit is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 1170 for two, three, or four years.

#### **Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.05**

“Abandonment” means the desertion or willful forsaking of an elder or a dependent adult by anyone having care or custody of that person under circumstances in which a reasonable person would continue to provide care and custody.

#### **Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.06**

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“Abduction” means the removal from this state and the restraint from returning to this state, or the restraint from returning to this state, of any elder or dependent adult who does not have the capacity to consent to the removal from this state and the restraint from returning to this state, or the restraint from returning to this state, as well as the removal from this state or the restraint from returning to this state, of any conservatee without the consent of the conservator or the court.

### **Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.30**

(a) “Financial abuse” of an elder or dependent adult occurs when a person or entity does any of the following:

- (1) Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both.
- (2) Assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both.
- (3) Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains, or assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining, real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult by undue influence, as defined in Section 15610.70.

(b) A person or entity shall be deemed to have taken, secreted, appropriated, obtained, or retained property for a wrongful use if, among other things, the person or entity takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains the property and the person or entity knew or should have known that this conduct is likely to be harmful to the elder or dependent adult.

(c) For purposes of this section, a person or entity takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property when an elder or dependent adult is deprived of any property right, including by means of an agreement, donative transfer, or testamentary bequest, regardless of whether the property is held directly or by a representative of an elder or dependent adult.

(d) For purposes of this section, “representative” means a person or entity that is either of the following:

- (1) A conservator, trustee, or other representative of the estate of an elder or dependent adult.
- (2) An attorney-in-fact of an elder or dependent adult who acts within the authority of the power of attorney.

### **Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.43**

(a) “Isolation” means any of the following:

- (1) Acts intentionally committed for the purpose of preventing, and that do serve to prevent, an elder or dependent adult from receiving his or her mail or telephone calls.
- (2) Telling a caller or prospective visitor that an elder or dependent adult is not present, or does not wish to talk with the caller, or does not wish to meet with the visitor where the statement is false, is contrary to the express wishes of the elder or the dependent adult,

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whether he or she is competent or not, and is made for the purpose of preventing the elder or dependent adult from having contact with family, friends, or concerned persons.

(3) False imprisonment, as defined in Section 236 of the Penal Code.

(4) Physical restraint of an elder or dependent adult, for the purpose of preventing the elder or dependent adult from meeting with visitors.

(b) The acts set forth in subdivision (a) shall be subject to a rebuttable presumption that they do not constitute isolation if they are performed pursuant to the instructions of a physician and surgeon licensed to practice medicine in the state, who is caring for the elder or dependent adult at the time the instructions are given, and who gives the instructions as part of his or her medical care.

(c) The acts set forth in subdivision (a) shall not constitute isolation if they are performed in response to a reasonably perceived threat of danger to property or physical safe

### **Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.57**

(a) "Neglect" means either of the following:

(1) The negligent failure of any person having the care or custody of an elder or a dependent adult to exercise that degree of care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise.

(2) The negligent failure of an elder or dependent adult to exercise that degree of self care that a reasonable person in a like position would exercise.

(b) Neglect includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Failure to assist in personal hygiene, or in the provision of food, clothing, or shelter.

(2) Failure to provide medical care for physical and mental health needs. No person shall be deemed neglected or abused for the sole reason that he or she voluntarily relies on treatment by spiritual means through prayer alone in lieu of medical treatment.

(3) Failure to protect from health and safety hazards.

(4) Failure to prevent malnutrition or dehydration.

(5) Failure of an elder or dependent adult to satisfy the needs specified in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, for himself or herself as a result of poor cognitive functioning, mental limitation, substance abuse, or chronic poor health.

### **Welfare and Institutions Code § 15610.63**

15610.63. "Physical abuse" means any of the following:

(a) Assault, as defined in Section 240 of the Penal Code.

(b) Battery, as defined in Section 242 of the Penal Code.

(c) Assault with a deadly weapon or force likely to produce great bodily injury, as defined in Section 245 of the Penal Code.

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(d) Unreasonable physical constraint, or prolonged or continual deprivation of food or water.

(e) Sexual assault, that means any of the following:

(1) Sexual battery, as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.

(2) Rape, as defined in Section 261 of the Penal Code.

(3) Rape in concert, as described in Section 264.1 of the Penal Code.

(4) Spousal rape, as defined in Section 262 of the Penal Code.

(5) Incest, as defined in Section 285 of the Penal Code.

(6) Sodomy, as defined in Section 286 of the Penal Code.

(7) Oral copulation, as defined in Section 287 or former Section 288a of the Penal Code.

(8) Sexual penetration, as defined in Section 289 of the Penal Code.

(9) Lewd or lascivious acts as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 288 of the Penal Code.

(f) Use of a physical or chemical restraint or psychotropic medication under any of the following conditions:

(1) For punishment.

(2) For a period beyond that for which the medication was ordered pursuant to the instructions of a physician and surgeon licensed in the State of California, who is providing medical care to the elder or dependent adult at the time the instructions are given.

(3) For any purpose not authorized by the physician and surgeon.

## **Discriminatory Harassment**

### **328.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Please refer to Stanislaus County Workplace Harassment, Discrimination and Anti-Retaliation Policy and the EEO Grievance Procedure located in the Stanislaus County Personnel Manual Tab 16.

## Child Abuse

### 330.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the investigation of suspected child abuse. This policy also addresses when Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members are required to notify the county Child Protective Services (CPS) of suspected child abuse.

#### 330.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Child** - Unless otherwise specified by a cited statute, a child is any person under the age of 18 years.

**Child abuse** - Any offense or attempted offense involving violence or neglect with a child victim when committed by a person responsible for the child's care or any other act that would mandate notification to a social service agency or law enforcement (Penal Code § 11165.9; Penal Code § 11166).

### 330.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will investigate all reported incidents of alleged criminal child abuse and ensure CPS is notified as required by law.

### 330.3 MANDATORY NOTIFICATION

The child protection agency shall be notified when (Penal Code § 11166):

- (a) There is a known or suspected instance of child abuse or neglect reported, which is alleged to have occurred as a result of the action of a person responsible for the child's welfare, or
- (b) A person responsible for the child's welfare fails to adequately protect the child from abuse when the person knew or reasonably should have known that the child was in danger of abuse.

The District Attorney's office shall be notified in all instances of known or suspected child abuse or neglect reported to this department. Reports only involving neglect by a person, who has the care or custody of a child, to provide adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care or supervision where no physical injury to the child has occurred should not be reported to the District Attorney (Penal Code § 11166).

When the abuse or neglect occurs at a licensed facility or is alleged to have resulted from the actions of a person who is required to have a state license (e.g., foster homes, group homes, day care), notification shall also be made to the California Department of Social Services or other applicable licensing authority (Penal Code 11166.1; Penal Code 11166.2).

For purposes of notification, the abuse or neglect includes physical injury or death inflicted by other than accidental means upon a child by another person; sexual abuse (Penal Code § 11165.1);

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neglect (Penal Code § 11165.2); the willful harming or injuring of a child or the endangering of the person or health of a child (Penal Code § 11165.3); and unlawful corporal punishment or injury (Penal Code § 11165.4). Child abuse or neglect does not include a mutual affray between minors, nor does it include an injury caused by the reasonable and necessary force used by a peace officer acting within the course and scope of his/her employment as a peace officer.

### **330.3.1 NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE**

Notification should occur as follows (Penal Code § 11166):

- (a) Notification shall be made immediately, or as soon as practicable, by telephone, fax or electronic transmission.
- (b) A written follow-up report should be forwarded within 36 hours of receiving the information concerning the incident.

### **330.4 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS**

Qualified investigators should be available for child abuse investigations. These investigators should:

- (a) Conduct interviews in child appropriate interview facilities.
- (b) Be familiar with forensic interview techniques specific to child abuse investigations.
- (c) Present all cases of alleged child abuse to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and school administrators as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates, guardians and support for the child and family as appropriate.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with multidisciplinary investigative teams as applicable (Welfare and Institutions Code § 18961.7).

### **330.5 INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING**

In all reported or suspected cases of child abuse, a report will be written. Deputies shall write a report even if the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

Investigations and reports related to suspected cases of child abuse should address, as applicable:

- (a) The overall basis for the contact. This should be done by the investigating deputy in all circumstances where a suspected child abuse victim was contacted.
- (b) The exigent circumstances that existed if deputies interviewed the child victim without the presence of a parent or guardian.
- (c) Any relevant statements the child may have made and to whom he/she made the statements.

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- (d) If a child was taken into protective custody, the reasons, the name and title of the person making the decision, and why other alternatives were not appropriate.
- (e) Documentation of any visible injuries or any injuries identified by the child. This should include photographs of such injuries, if practicable.
- (f) Whether the child victim was transported for medical treatment or a medical examination.
- (g) Whether the victim identified a household member as the alleged perpetrator, and a list of the names of any other children who may reside in the residence.
- (h) Identification of any prior related reports or allegations of child abuse, including other jurisdictions, as reasonably known.
- (i) Previous addresses of the victim and suspect.
- (j) Other potential witnesses who have not yet been interviewed, such as relatives or others close to the victim's environment.

All cases of the unexplained death of a child should be investigated as thoroughly as if it had been a case of suspected child abuse (e.g., a sudden or unexplained death of an infant).

### **330.5.1 EXTRA JURISDICTIONAL REPORTS**

If a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect that is alleged to have occurred outside this jurisdiction is received, department members shall ensure that the caller is immediately transferred to the agency with proper jurisdiction for the investigation of the case. If the caller cannot be successfully transferred to the appropriate agency, a report shall be taken and immediately referred by telephone, fax or electronic transfer to the agency with proper jurisdiction (Penal Code 11165.9).

### **330.6 PROTECTIVE CUSTODY**

Before taking any child into protective custody, the deputy should make reasonable attempts to contact CPS. Generally, removal of a child from his/her family, guardian or other responsible adult should be left to the child welfare authorities when they are present or have become involved in an investigation.

Generally, members of this department should remove a child from his/her parent or guardian without a court order only when no other effective alternative is reasonably available and immediate action reasonably appears necessary to protect the child. Prior to taking a child into protective custody, the deputy should take reasonable steps to deliver the child to another qualified parent or legal guardian, unless it reasonably appears that the release would endanger the child or result in abduction. If this is not a reasonable option, the deputy shall ensure that the child is delivered to CPS.

Whenever practicable, the deputy should inform a supervisor of the circumstances prior to taking a child into protective custody. If prior notification is not practicable, deputies should contact a supervisor promptly after taking a child into protective custody.



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Children may only be removed from a parent or guardian in the following situations when a court order cannot reasonably be obtained in a timely manner (Welfare and Institutions Code § 305):

- (a) The deputy reasonably believes the child is a person described in Welfare and Institutions Code § 300, or a commercially exploited child under Penal Code § 647 and Penal Code § 653.22, and further has good cause to believe that any of the following conditions exist:
  - 1. The child has an immediate need for medical care.
  - 2. The child is in immediate danger of physical or sexual abuse.
  - 3. The physical environment or the fact that the child is left unattended poses an immediate threat to the child's health or safety. In the case of a child left unattended, the deputy shall first attempt to locate and determine if a responsible parent or guardian is available and capable of assuming custody before taking the child into protective custody.
- (b) The deputy reasonably believes the child requires protective custody under the provisions of Penal Code § 279.6, in one of the following circumstances:
  - 1. It reasonably appears to the deputy that a person is likely to conceal the child, flee the jurisdiction with the child or, by flight or concealment, evade the authority of the court.
  - 2. There is no lawful custodian available to take custody of the child.
  - 3. There are conflicting custody orders or conflicting claims to custody and the parties cannot agree which party should take custody of the child.
  - 4. The child is an abducted child.
- (c) The child is in the company of, or under the control of, a person arrested for Penal Code § 278 (Detainment or concealment of child from legal custodian) or Penal Code § 278.5 (Deprivation of custody of a child or right to visitation) (Penal Code § 279.6).

A child taken into protective custody shall be delivered to CPS unless otherwise directed by court order.

### 330.6.1 CALIFORNIA SAFELY SURRENDERED BABY LAW

An individual having lawful custody of an infant less than 72 hours old is not guilty of abandonment if the individual voluntarily surrenders physical custody of the infant to personnel on-duty at a safe-surrender site, such as a hospital or fire department (Penal Code § 271.5). The law requires the surrender site to notify CPS.

### 330.6.2 NEWBORNS TESTING POSITIVE FOR DRUGS

Under certain circumstances, deputies can be prohibited from taking a newborn who is the subject of a proposed adoption into protective custody, even when the newborn has tested positive for illegal drugs or the birth mother tested positive for illegal drugs.

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Deputies shall instead follow the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code § 305.6 to ensure that the newborn is placed with the adoptive parents when it is appropriate.

### **330.7 INTERVIEWS**

#### **330.7.1 PRELIMINARY INTERVIEWS**

Absent extenuating circumstances or impracticality, deputies should record the preliminary interview with suspected child abuse victims. Deputies should avoid multiple interviews with a child victim and should attempt to gather only the information necessary to begin an investigation. When practicable, investigating deputies should defer interviews until a person who is specially trained in such interviews is available. Generally, child victims should not be interviewed in the home or location where the alleged abuse occurred.

#### **330.7.2 DETAINING SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE VICTIMS FOR AN INTERVIEW**

A deputy should not detain a child involuntarily who is suspected of being a victim of child abuse solely for the purpose of an interview or physical exam without the consent of a parent or guardian unless one of the following applies:

- (a) Exigent circumstances exist, such as:
  - 1. A reasonable belief that medical issues of the child need to be addressed immediately.
  - 2. A reasonable belief that the child is or will be in danger of harm if the interview or physical exam is not immediately completed.
  - 3. The alleged offender is the custodial parent or guardian and there is reason to believe the child may be in continued danger.
- (b) A court order or warrant has been issued.

#### **330.7.3 INTERVIEWS AT A SCHOOL**

Any student at school who is a suspected victim of child abuse shall be afforded the option of being interviewed in private or selecting any qualified available adult member of the school staff to be present. The purpose of the staff member's presence is to provide comfort and support. The staff member shall not participate in the interview. The selection of a staff member should be such that it does not burden the school with costs or hardship (Penal Code § 11174.3).

### **330.8 MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

If the child has been the victim of abuse that requires a medical examination, the investigating deputy should obtain consent for such examination from the appropriate parent, guardian or agency having legal custody of the child. The deputy should also arrange for the child's transportation to the appropriate medical facility.

In cases where the alleged offender is the custodial parent or guardian and is refusing consent for the medical examination, deputies should notify a supervisor before proceeding. If exigent circumstances do not exist or if state law does not provide for deputies to take the child for a

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medical examination, the notified supervisor should consider obtaining a court order for such an examination.

### **330.9 DRUG-ENDANGERED CHILDREN**

A coordinated response by law enforcement and social services agencies is appropriate to meet the immediate and longer-term medical and safety needs of children exposed to the manufacturing, trafficking or use of narcotics.

#### **330.9.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Investigations supervisor should:

- (a) Work with professionals from the appropriate agencies, including CPS, other law enforcement agencies, medical service providers and local prosecutors to develop community specific procedures for responding to situations where there are children endangered by exposure to methamphetamine labs or the manufacture and trafficking of other drugs.
- (b) Activate any available interagency response when a deputy notifies the Investigations supervisor that the deputy has responded to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where a child is present or where evidence indicates that a child lives there.
- (c) Develop a report format or checklist for use when deputies respond to drug labs or other narcotics crime scenes. The checklist will help deputies document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions that may affect the child.

#### **330.9.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Deputies responding to a drug lab or other narcotics crime scene where a child is present or where there is evidence that a child lives should:

- (a) Document the environmental, medical, social and other conditions of the child using photography as appropriate and the checklist or form developed for this purpose.
- (b) Notify the Investigations supervisor so an interagency response can begin.

### **330.10 STATE MANDATES AND OTHER RELEVANT LAWS**

California requires or permits the following:

#### **330.10.1 RELEASE OF REPORTS**

Information related to incidents of child abuse or suspected child abuse shall be confidential and may only be disclosed pursuant to state law and the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Penal Code 841.5; Penal Code § 11167.5).

#### **330.10.2 REQUESTS FOR REMOVAL FROM THE CHILD ABUSE CENTRAL INDEX (CACI)**

Any person whose name has been forwarded to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) for placement in California's CACI, as a result of an investigation, may request that his/her name be removed from the CACI list. Requests shall not qualify for consideration if there is an active

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case, ongoing investigation or pending prosecution that precipitated the entry to CACI (Penal Code § 11169). All requests for removal shall be submitted in writing by the requesting person and promptly routed to the CACI hearing officer.

### 330.10.3 CACI HEARING OFFICER

The Investigations supervisor will normally serve as the hearing officer but must not be actively connected with the case that resulted in the person's name being submitted to CACI. Upon receiving a qualified request for removal, the hearing officer shall promptly schedule a hearing to take place during normal business hours and provide written notification of the time and place of the hearing to the requesting party.

### 330.10.4 CACI HEARING PROCEDURES

The hearing is an informal process where the person requesting removal from the CACI list will be permitted to present relevant evidence (e.g., certified copy of an acquittal, factual finding of innocence) as to why his/her name should be removed. The person requesting the hearing may record the hearing at his/her own expense.

Formal rules of evidence will not apply and the hearing officer may consider, in addition to evidence submitted by the person requesting the hearing, any relevant information including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Case reports including any supplemental reports
- (b) Statements by investigators
- (c) Statements from representatives of the District Attorney's Office
- (d) Statements by representatives of a child protective agency who may be familiar with the case

After considering all information presented, the hearing officer shall make a determination as to whether the requesting party's name should be removed from the CACI list. Such determination shall be based on a finding that the allegations in the investigation are not substantiated (Penal Code § 11169).

If, after considering the evidence, the hearing officer finds that the allegations are not substantiated, he/she shall cause a request to be completed and forwarded to the DOJ that the person's name be removed from the CACI list. A copy of the hearing results and the request for removal will be attached to the case reports.

The findings of the hearing officer shall be considered final and binding.

### 330.10.5 CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAM

This department should cooperate with any interagency child death review team investigation. Written and oral information relating to the death of a child that would otherwise be subject to release restrictions may be disclosed to the child death review team upon written request and approval of a supervisor (Penal Code § 11174.32).

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### **330.11 TRAINING**

The Department should provide training on best practices in child abuse investigations to members tasked with investigating these cases. The training should include:

- (a) Participating in multidisciplinary investigations, as appropriate.
- (b) Conducting forensic interviews.
- (c) Availability of therapy services for children and families.
- (d) Availability of specialized forensic medical exams.
- (e) Cultural competence (including interpretive services) related to child abuse investigations.
- (f) Availability of victim advocate or guardian ad litem support.

## Missing Persons

### 332.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for handling missing person investigations.

#### 332.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**At risk** - Includes, but is not limited to (Penal Code § 14215):

- A victim of a crime or foul play.
- A person missing and in need of medical attention.
- A missing person with no pattern of running away or disappearing.
- A missing person who may be the victim of parental abduction.
- A mentally impaired missing person, including cognitively impaired or developmentally disabled.

**Missing person** - Any person who is reported missing to law enforcement when the person's location is unknown. This includes a child who has been taken, detained, concealed, enticed away or kept by a parent in violation of the law (Penal Code § 277 et seq.). It also includes any child who is missing voluntarily, involuntarily or under circumstances that do not conform to his/her ordinary habits or behavior, and who may be in need of assistance (Penal Code § 14215).

**Missing person networks** - Databases or computer networks available to law enforcement and that are suitable for information related to missing persons investigations. These include the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS), Missing Person System (MPS) and the Unidentified Persons System (UPS).

### 332.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department does not consider any report of a missing person to be routine and assumes that the missing person is in need of immediate assistance until the facts reveal otherwise. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department gives missing person cases priority over property-related cases and will not require any time frame to pass before beginning a missing person investigation (Penal Code § 14211).

### 332.3 REQUIRED FORMS AND BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION KITS

The Investigations supervisor should ensure the forms and kits are developed and available in accordance with this policy, state law, federal law and the California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Missing Persons Investigations guidelines, including:

- [Department/Office] report form for use in missing person cases
- Missing person investigation checklist that provides investigation guidelines and resources that could be helpful in the early hours of a missing person investigation (Penal Code § 13519.07)

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- Missing person school notification form
- Medical records release form from the California Department of Justice
- California DOJ missing person forms as appropriate
- Biological sample collection kits

### **332.4 ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS**

Any employee encountering a person who wishes to report a missing person or runaway shall render assistance without delay (Penal Code § 14211). This can be accomplished by accepting the report via telephone or in-person and initiating the investigation. Those employees who do not take such reports or who are unable to render immediate assistance shall promptly dispatch or alert an employee who can take the report.

A report shall be accepted in all cases and regardless of where the person was last seen, where the person resides or any other question of jurisdiction (Penal Code § 14211).

### **332.5 INITIAL INVESTIGATION**

Deputies or other members conducting the initial investigation of a missing person should take the following investigative actions, as applicable:

- (a) Respond to a dispatched call for service as soon as practicable.
- (b) Interview the reporting party and any witnesses to determine whether the person qualifies as a missing person and, if so, whether the person may be at risk.
- (c) Notify a supervisor immediately if there is evidence that a missing person is either at risk or may qualify for a public alert, or both (see the Public Alerts Policy).
- (d) Broadcast a "Be on the Look-Out" (BOLO) bulletin if the person is under 21 years of age or there is evidence that the missing person is at risk. The BOLO should be broadcast as soon as practicable but in no event more than one hour after determining the missing person is under 21 years of age or may be at risk (Penal Code § 14205).
- (e) Ensure that entries are made into the appropriate missing person networks as follows:
  1. Immediately, when the missing person is at risk.
  2. In all other cases, as soon as practicable, but not later than two hours from the time of the initial report.
- (f) Complete the appropriate report forms accurately and completely and initiate a search as applicable under the facts.
- (g) Collect and/or review the following:
  1. A photograph and a fingerprint card of the missing person, if available.
  2. A voluntarily provided biological sample of the missing person, if available (e.g., toothbrush, hairbrush).

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3. Any documents that may assist in the investigation, such as court orders regarding custody.
  4. Any other evidence that may assist in the investigation, including personal electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, computers).
- (h) When circumstances permit and if appropriate, attempt to determine the missing person's location through his/her telecommunications carrier.
- (i) Contact the appropriate agency if the report relates to a previously made missing person report and another agency is actively investigating that report. When this is not practical, the information should be documented in an appropriate report for transmission to the appropriate agency. If the information relates to an at-risk missing person, the member should notify a supervisor and proceed with reasonable steps to locate the missing person.

### **332.6 REPORT PROCEDURES AND ROUTING**

Employees should complete all missing person reports and forms promptly and advise the appropriate supervisor as soon as a missing person report is ready for review.

#### **332.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

The responsibilities of the supervisor shall include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Reviewing and approving missing person reports upon receipt.
  1. The reports should be promptly sent to the Records Bureau.
- (b) Ensuring resources are deployed as appropriate.
- (c) Initiating a command post as needed.
- (d) Ensuring applicable notifications and public alerts are made and documented.
- (e) Ensuring that records have been entered into the appropriate missing persons networks.
- (f) Taking reasonable steps to identify and address any jurisdictional issues to ensure cooperation among agencies.

If the case falls within the jurisdiction of another agency, the supervisor should facilitate transfer of the case to the agency of jurisdiction.

#### **332.6.2 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITIES**

The receiving member shall:

- (a) As soon as reasonable under the circumstances, notify and forward a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the missing person's residence in cases where the missing person is a resident of another jurisdiction (Penal Code § 14211).



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- (b) Notify and forward a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the missing person was last seen (Penal Code § 14211).
- (c) Notify and forward a copy of the report to the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the missing person's intended or possible destination, if known.
- (d) Forward a copy of the report to the Investigations.
- (e) Coordinate with the NCIC Terminal Contractor for California to have the missing person record in the NCIC computer networks updated with additional information obtained from missing person investigations (34 USC § 41308).

### 332.7 INVESTIGATIONS FOLLOW-UP

In addition to completing or continuing any actions listed above, the investigator assigned to a missing person investigation:

- (a) Shall ensure that the missing person's school is notified within 10 days if the missing person is a juvenile.
  - 1. The notice shall be in writing and should also include a photograph (Education Code § 49068.6).
  - 2. The investigator should meet with school officials regarding the notice as appropriate to stress the importance of including the notice in the child's student file, along with contact information if the school receives a call requesting the transfer of the missing child's files to another school.
- (b) Should recontact the reporting person and/or other witnesses within 30 days of the initial report and within 30 days thereafter to determine if any additional information has become available via the reporting party.
- (c) Should consider contacting other agencies involved in the case to determine if any additional information is available.
- (d) Shall verify and update CLETS, NCIC and any other applicable missing person networks within 30 days of the original entry into the networks and every 30 days thereafter until the missing person is located (34 USC § 41308).
- (e) Should continue to make reasonable efforts to locate the missing person and document these efforts at least every 30 days.
- (f) Shall maintain a close liaison with state and local child welfare systems and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children® (NCMEC) if the missing person is under the age of 21 and shall promptly notify NCMEC when the person is missing from a foster care family home or childcare institution (34 USC § 41308).
- (g) Should make appropriate inquiry with the [Medical Examiner/JOP].
- (h) Should obtain and forward medical and dental records, photos, X-rays and biological samples pursuant to Penal Code § 14212 and Penal Code § 14250.
- (i) Shall attempt to obtain the most recent photograph for persons under 18 years of age if it has not previously been obtained and forward the photograph to California DOJ (Penal Code § 14210) and enter the photograph into applicable missing person networks (34 USC § 41308).

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- (j) Should consider making appropriate entries and searches in the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs).
- (k) In the case of an at-risk missing person or a person who has been missing for an extended time, should consult with a supervisor regarding seeking federal assistance from the FBI and the U.S. Marshals Service (28 USC § 586).

### **332.8 WHEN A MISSING PERSON IS FOUND**

When any person reported missing is found, the assigned investigator shall document the location of the missing person in the appropriate report, notify the reporting party and other involved agencies and refer the case for additional investigation if warranted.

The Records Manager shall ensure that, upon receipt of information that a missing person has been located, the following occurs (Penal Code § 14213):

- (a) Notification is made to California DOJ.
- (b) The missing person's school is notified.
- (c) Entries are made in the applicable missing person networks.
- (d) Immediately notify the Attorney General's Office.
- (e) Notification shall be made to any other law enforcement agency that took the initial report or participated in the investigation within 24 hours.

#### **332.8.1 UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS**

Department members investigating a case of an unidentified person who is deceased or a living person who cannot assist in identifying him/herself should:

- (a) Obtain a complete description of the person.
- (b) Enter the unidentified person's description into the NCIC Unidentified Person File.
- (c) Use available resources, such as those related to missing persons, to identify the person.

### **332.9 CASE CLOSURE**

The Investigations supervisor may authorize the closure of a missing person case after considering the following:

- (a) Closure is appropriate when the missing person is confirmed returned or evidence has matched an unidentified person or body.
- (b) If the missing person was a resident of Stanislaus or this department is the lead agency, the case should be kept under active investigation for as long as the person may still be alive. Exhaustion of leads in the investigation should not be a reason for closing a case.

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- (c) If this department is not the lead agency, the case can be made inactive if all investigative leads have been exhausted, the lead agency has been notified and entries are made in the applicable missing person networks as appropriate.
- (d) A missing person case should not be closed or reclassified because the person would have reached a certain age or adulthood or because the person is now the subject of a criminal or civil warrant.

### **332.10 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Training Manager should ensure that members of this department whose duties include missing person investigations and reports receive regular training that includes:

- (a) The initial investigation:
  - 1. Assessments and interviews
  - 2. Use of current resources, such as Mobile Audio Video (MAV)
  - 3. Confirming missing status and custody status of minors
  - 4. Evaluating the need for a heightened response
  - 5. Identifying the zone of safety based on chronological age and developmental stage
- (b) Briefing of department members at the scene.
- (c) Identifying NCIC Missing Person File categories (e.g., disability, endangered, involuntary, juvenile and catastrophe).
- (d) Verifying the accuracy of all descriptive information.
- (e) Initiating a neighborhood investigation.
- (f) Investigating any relevant recent family dynamics.
- (g) Addressing conflicting information.
- (h) Key investigative and coordination steps.
- (i) Managing a missing person case.
- (j) Additional resources and specialized services.
- (k) Update procedures for case information and descriptions.
- (l) Preserving scenes.
- (m) Internet and technology issues (e.g., Internet use, cell phone use).
- (n) Media relations.

## Public Alerts

### 334.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for alerting the public to important information and soliciting public aid when appropriate.

### 334.2 POLICY

Public alerts may be employed using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), local radio, television and press organizations and other groups to notify the public of incidents, or enlist the aid of the public, when the exchange of information may enhance the safety of the community. Various types of alerts may be available based upon each situation and the alert system's individual criteria.

### 334.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

#### 334.3.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employees of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department should notify their supervisor, Watch Commander or Investigations Supervisor as soon as practicable upon learning of a situation where public notification, a warning or enlisting the help of the media and public could assist in locating a missing person, apprehending a dangerous person or gathering information.

#### 334.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor apprised of the need for a public alert is responsible to make the appropriate notifications based upon the circumstances of each situation. The supervisor shall promptly notify the Sheriff, the appropriate Division Commander and the Public Information Officer when any public alert is generated.

The supervisor in charge of the investigation to which the alert relates is responsible for the following:

- (a) Updating alerts
- (b) Canceling alerts
- (c) Ensuring all appropriate reports are completed
- (d) Preparing an after-action evaluation of the investigation to be forwarded to the Division Commander

### 334.4 AMBER ALERTS

The AMBER Alert™ Program is a voluntary partnership between law enforcement agencies, broadcasters, transportation agencies and the wireless industry, to activate urgent bulletins in child abduction cases.

#### 334.4.1 CRITERIA FOR AMBER ALERT

The following conditions must be met before activating an AMBER Alert (Government Code § 8594(a)):

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- (a) A child has been abducted or taken by anyone, including but not limited to a custodial parent or guardian.
- (b) The victim is 17 years of age or younger, or has a proven mental or physical disability.
- (c) The victim is in imminent danger of serious injury or death.
- (d) There is information available that, if provided to the public, could assist in the child's safe recovery.

### **334.4.2 PROCEDURE FOR AMBER ALERT**

The supervisor in charge will ensure the following:

- (a) An initial press release is prepared that includes all available information that might aid in locating the child:
  - 1. The child's identity, age and description
  - 2. Photograph if available
  - 3. The suspect's identity, age and description, if known
  - 4. Pertinent vehicle description
  - 5. Detail regarding location of incident, direction of travel, potential destinations, if known
  - 6. Name and telephone number of the Public Information Officer or other authorized individual to handle media liaison
  - 7. A telephone number for the public to call with leads or information
- (b) The local California Highway Patrol communications center should be contacted to initiate a multi-regional or statewide EAS broadcast, following any policies and procedures developed by CHP (Government Code § 8594).
- (c) The press release information is forwarded to the Sheriff's Department Emergency Communications Bureau so that general broadcasts can be made to local law enforcement agencies.
- (d) Information regarding the missing person should be entered into the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS).
- (e) Information regarding the missing person should be entered into the California Department of Justice Missing and Unidentified Persons System (MUPS)/National Crime Information Center (NCIC).
- (f) The following resources should be considered as circumstances dictate:
  - 1. The local FBI office
  - 2. National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC)

### **334.5 BLUE ALERTS**

Blue Alerts may be issued when a deputy is killed, injured or assaulted and the suspect may pose a threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel.

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### 334.5.1 CRITERIA FOR BLUE ALERTS

All of the following conditions must be met before activating a Blue Alert (Government Code § 8594.5):

- (a) A law enforcement officer has been killed, suffered serious bodily injury or has been assaulted with a deadly weapon, and the suspect has fled the scene of the offense.
- (b) The investigating law enforcement agency has determined that the suspect poses an imminent threat to the public or other law enforcement personnel.
- (c) A detailed description of the suspect's vehicle or license plate is available for broadcast.
- (d) Public dissemination of available information may help avert further harm or accelerate apprehension of the suspect.

### 334.5.2 PROCEDURE FOR BLUE ALERT

The supervisor in charge should ensure the following:

- (a) An initial press release is prepared that includes all available information that might aid in locating the suspect:
  - 1. The license number and/or any other available description or photograph of the vehicle
  - 2. Photograph, description and/or identification of the suspect
  - 3. The suspect's identity, age and description, if known
  - 4. Detail regarding location of incident, direction of travel, potential destinations, if known
  - 5. Name and telephone number of the Public Information Officer or other authorized individual to handle media liaison
  - 6. A telephone number for the public to call with leads or information
- (b) The local California Highway Patrol communications center is contacted to initiate a multi-regional or statewide EAS broadcast.
- (c) The information in the press release is forwarded to the Sheriff's Department Emergency Communications Bureau so that general broadcasts can be made to local law enforcement agencies.
- (d) The following resources should be considered as circumstances dictate:
  - 1. Entry into the California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System (CLETS)
  - 2. The FBI local office

### 334.6 SILVER ALERTS

Silver Alerts® is an emergency notification system for people who are 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired and have been reported missing (Government Code § 8594.10).

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### 334.6.1 CRITERIA FOR SILVER ALERTS

All of the following conditions must be met before activating a Silver Alert (Government Code § 8594.10):

- (a) The missing person is 65 years of age or older, developmentally disabled or cognitively impaired.
- (b) The [department/office] has utilized all available local resources.
- (c) The investigating deputy or supervisor has determined that the person is missing under unexplained or suspicious circumstances.
- (d) The investigating deputy or supervisor believes that 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.
- (e) There is information available that, if disseminated to the public, could assist in the safe recovery of the missing person.

### 334.6.2 PROCEDURE FOR SILVER ALERT

Requests for a Silver Alert shall be made through the California Highway Patrol (Government Code § 8594.10).

### 334.7 MUTUAL AID

The experiences of other law enforcement jurisdictions that have implemented similar plans indicate an AMBER Alert or Blue Alert will generate a high volume of telephone calls to the handling agency.

The Sheriff's Department Emergency Communications Bureau facilities and staff can be made available in the event of a high call volume.

If the Watch Commander or Investigations Supervisor elects to use the services of the Sheriff's Department, the following will apply:

- (a) Notify the Sheriff's Department Watch Commander of the incident and the request for assistance. He/she will provide you with a telephone number for the public to call.
- (b) In the press release, direct the public to the telephone number provided by the Sheriff's Department Watch Commander.
- (c) The Public Information Officer will continue to handle all press releases and media inquiries. Any press inquiries received by the Sheriff's Department will be referred back to this [department/office].

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall assign a minimum of two detectives/deputies to respond to the Sheriff's Department Emergency Communications Bureau to screen and relay information and any clues received from incoming calls. As circumstances dictate, more staff resources from the handling law enforcement agency may be necessary to assist the staff at the Emergency Communications Bureau.

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## Victim and Witness Assistance

### 336.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that crime victims and witnesses receive appropriate assistance, that they are provided with information from government and private resources, and that the agency meets all related legal mandates.

### 336.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is committed to providing guidance and assistance to the victims and witnesses of crime. The members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will show compassion and understanding for victims and witnesses and will make reasonable efforts to provide the support and information identified in this policy.

### 336.3 CRIME VICTIM LIAISON

The Sheriff shall appoint a member of the [Department/Office] to serve as the crime victim liaison (2 CCR 649.36). The crime victim liaison will be the point of contact for individuals requiring further assistance or information from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department regarding benefits from crime victim resources. This person shall also be responsible for maintaining compliance with all legal mandates related to crime victims and/or witnesses.

#### 336.3.1 CRIME VICTIM LIAISON DUTIES

The crime victim liaison is specifically tasked with the following:

- (a) Developing and implementing written procedures for notifying and providing forms for filing with the California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) to crime victims, their dependents, or family. Access to information or an application for victim compensation shall not be denied based on the victim's or derivative victim's designation as a gang member, associate, or affiliate, or on the person's documentation or immigration status (Government Code § 13962; 2 CCR 649.35; 2 CCR 649.36).
- (b) Responding to inquiries concerning the procedures for filing a claim with CalVCB (2 CCR 649.36).
- (c) Providing copies of crime reports requested by CalVCB or victim witness assistance centers. Disclosure of reports must comply with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.
- (d) Annually providing CalVCB with his/her contact information (Government Code § 13962).
- (e) Developing in consultation with sexual assault experts a sexual assault victim card explaining the rights of victims under California law (Penal Code § 680.2).
  1. Ensuring that sufficient copies of the rights of sexual assault victim card are provided to each provider of medical evidentiary examinations or physical examinations arising out of sexual assault in the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department jurisdiction (Penal Code § 680.2).

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## *Victim and Witness Assistance*

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### **336.4 CRIME VICTIMS**

Deputies should provide all victims with the applicable victim information handouts.

Deputies should never guarantee a victim's safety from future harm but may make practical safety suggestions to victims who express fear of future harm or retaliation. Deputies should never guarantee that a person qualifies as a victim for the purpose of compensation or restitution but may direct him/her to the proper written department material or available victim resources.

#### **336.4.1 VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Deputies investigating or receiving a report involving a victim of human trafficking shall inform the victim, or the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor, that upon the request of the victim the names and images of the victim and his/her immediate family members may be withheld from becoming a matter of public record until the conclusion of the investigation or prosecution (Penal Code § 293).

### **336.5 VICTIM INFORMATION**

The Administration Supervisor shall ensure that victim information handouts are available and current. These should include as appropriate:

- (a) Shelters and other community resources for victims of domestic violence.
- (b) Community resources for victims of sexual assault.
- (c) Assurance that sexual assault victims will not incur out-of-pocket expenses for forensic medical exams, and information about evidence collection, storage, and preservation in sexual assault cases (34 USC § 10449; 34 USC § 20109; Penal Code § 13823.95(a)).
- (d) An explanation that victims of sexual assault who seek a standardized medical evidentiary examination shall not be required to participate or agree to participate in the criminal justice system, either prior to the examination or at any other time (Penal Code § 13823.95(b)).
- (e) An advisement that a person who was arrested may be released on bond or some other form of release and that the victim should not rely upon an arrest as a guarantee of safety.
- (f) A clear explanation of relevant court orders and how they can be obtained.
- (g) Information regarding available compensation for qualifying victims of crime (Government Code § 13962).
- (h) VINE® information (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), including the telephone number and whether this free service is available to allow victims to check on an offender's custody status and to register for automatic notification when a person is released from jail.
- (i) Notice regarding U visa and T visa application processes.
- (j) Resources available for victims of identity theft.

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- (k) A place for the deputy's name, badge number, and any applicable case or incident number.
- (l) The "Victims of Domestic Violence" card containing the names, phone numbers, or local county hotlines of local shelters for battered women and rape victim counseling centers within the county and their 24-hour counseling service telephone numbers (Penal Code § 264.2).
- (m) The rights of sexual assault victims card with the required information as provided in Penal Code § 680.2.
- (n) Any additional information required by state law (Penal Code § 13701; Penal Code § 679.02; Penal Code § 679.04; Penal Code § 679.05; Penal Code § 679.026).

### **336.6 WITNESSES**

Deputies should never guarantee a witness' safety from future harm or that his/her identity will always remain confidential. Deputies may make practical safety suggestions to witnesses who express fear of future harm or retaliation.

Deputies should investigate allegations of witness intimidation and take enforcement action when lawful and reasonable.

## Hate Crimes

### 338.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to meet or exceed the provisions of Penal Code § 13519.6(c) and provides members of this [department/office] with guidelines for identifying and investigating incidents and crimes that may be motivated by hatred or other bias.

### 338.2 DEFINITIONS

**Hate crimes** - Penal Code § 422.55(a) defines a hate crime as a criminal act committed in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim:

- (a) Disability
- (b) Sex
- (c) Nationality
- (d) Race or ethnicity
- (e) Religion
- (f) Sexual orientation
- (g) Association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics
- (h) Examples of hate crimes include, but are not limited to:
  - 1. Interfering with, oppressing or threatening any other person in the free exercise or enjoyment of any right or privilege secured by the constitution or laws because of one or more of the actual or perceived characteristics of the victim (Penal Code § 422.6).
  - 2. Defacing a person's property because of one or more of the actual or perceived characteristics of the victim (Penal Code § 422.6(b)).
  - 3. Terrorizing a person with a swastika or burning cross (Penal Code § 11411).
  - 4. Vandalizing a place of worship (Penal Code § 594.3).

The federal Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act expands federal hate crimes to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability (18 USC § 249).

### 338.3 PREVENTING AND PREPARING FOR LIKELY HATE CRIMES

While it is recognized that not all crime can be prevented, this department is committed to taking a proactive approach to preventing and preparing for likely hate crimes by, among other things:

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- (a) Deputies should make an affirmative effort to establish contact with persons and groups within the community, who are likely targets of hate crimes, to form and cooperate with prevention and response networks.
- (b) Accessing assistance by, among other things, activating the California Department of Justice Hate Crime Rapid Response Protocol when necessary.
- (c) Providing victim assistance and follow-up as outlined below, including community follow-up.

### **338.4 INVESTIGATIONS**

Whenever any member of this [department/office] receives a report of a suspected hate crime or other activity that reasonably appears to involve a potential hate crime, the following should occur:

- (a) Assigned deputies should promptly contact the victim, witness or reporting party to investigate the matter further as circumstances may dictate
- (b) A supervisor should be notified of the circumstances as soon as practical.
- (c) Once in-progress aspects of any such situation have been stabilized (e.g., treatment of victims, apprehension of suspects at the scene), the assigned deputies should take all reasonable steps to preserve evidence that establishes a possible hate crime.
- (d) Based upon available information, deputies should take appropriate action to mitigate further injury or damage to potential victims or the community.
  - 1. Deputies should contact the property owner to remove any evidence that cannot be physically removed (i.e., painted words or signs on a wall) by the deputy once the offense is documented.
- (e) The assigned deputies should interview available witnesses, victims and others to determine what circumstances, if any, indicate that the situation may involve a hate crime.
  - 1. No victim of or a witness to a hate crime who is not otherwise charged with or convicted of a crime under state law may be detained for or turned over to federal authorities exclusively for any actual or suspected immigration violation (Penal Code § 422.93(b))
  - 2. Statements of victims and witnesses should be audio or video recorded if practicable (see the Portable Audio/Video Recorders Policy).
- (f) Depending on the situation, the assigned deputies or supervisor may request additional assistance from detectives or other resources.
- (g) The assigned deputies should include all available evidence indicating the likelihood of a hate crime in the relevant reports. All related reports should be clearly marked as "Hate Crimes" and, absent prior approval of a supervisor, should be completed and submitted by the assigned deputies before the end of the shift.
- (h) The assigned deputies will provide the victims of any suspected hate crime with a brochure on hate crimes (Penal Code § 422.92). Such brochures will also be available to members of the general public upon request. The assigned deputies should also

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make reasonable efforts to assist the victims by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations.

- (i) The assigned deputies and supervisor should take reasonable steps to ensure that any such situation does not escalate further and should provide information to the victim regarding legal aid (e.g., Possible Temporary Restraining Order through the District Attorney or County Counsel Penal Code § 136.2 or Civil Code § 52.1 as indicated).

### **338.4.1 INVESTIGATIONS RESPONSIBILITY**

If a hate crime case is assigned to the Investigations, the assigned detective will be responsible for:

- (a) Coordinating further investigation with the District Attorney and other appropriate law enforcement agencies.
- (b) Maintaining contact with the victims and other involved individuals, as needed.
- (c) Maintaining statistical data and tracking on suspected hate crimes as indicated for required reporting to the Attorney General (Penal Code § 13023). See the Records Bureau Policy.
- (d) Make reasonable efforts to identify additional witnesses.
- (e) Utilize available criminal intelligence systems as appropriate (see Criminal Organizations Policy).
- (f) Provide the supervisor and the Public Information Officer ([PIO]) with information that can be responsibly reported to the media.
  - 1. When appropriate, the [PIO] should reiterate that the hate crime will not be tolerated and will be taken seriously.

### **338.5 TRAINING**

All members of this department will receive POST approved training on hate crime recognition and investigation as provided by Penal Code § 13519.6.

## Standards of Conduct

### 340.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes standards of conduct that are consistent with the values and mission of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and are expected of all department members. The standards contained in this policy are not intended to be an exhaustive list of requirements and prohibitions but they do identify many of the important matters concerning conduct. In addition to the provisions of this policy, members are subject to all other provisions contained in this manual, as well as any additional guidance on conduct that may be disseminated by this department or a member's supervisors.

### 340.2 DISCIPLINE POLICY

The continued employment of every employee of this department shall be based on conduct that reasonably conforms to the guidelines set forth herein. Failure of any employee to meet the guidelines set forth in this policy, whether on-duty or off-duty, may be cause for disciplinary action in accordance with the Stanislaus County Personnel Manual Corrective Action and Discipline Ordinances located in Tab 21, applicable MOU provisions and in accordance with Government Code Section 3300.

An employee's off-duty conduct shall be governed by this policy to the extent that it is related to act(s) that may materially affect or arise from the employee's ability to perform official duties or to the extent that it may be indicative of unfitness for his/her position.

### 340.3 CONDUCT WHICH MAY RESULT IN DISCIPLINE

The following list of causes for disciplinary action constitutes a portion of the disciplinary standards of this department. This list is not intended to cover every possible type of misconduct and does not preclude the recommendation of disciplinary action for specific action or inaction that is detrimental to efficient department service:

#### 340.3.1 ATTENDANCE

- (a) Leaving job to which assigned during duty hours without reasonable excuse and proper permission and approval.
- (b) Unexcused or unauthorized absence or tardiness on scheduled day(s) of work.
- (c) Failure to report to work or to place of assignment at time specified and fully prepared to perform duties without reasonable excuse.
- (d) Failure to notify the Department within 5 days of any change in residence address, home phone number, or marital status.
- (e) Excessive absenteeism or abuse of leave privileges.

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### 340.3.2 CONDUCT

- (a) Unauthorized or unlawful fighting, threatening or attempting to inflict unlawful bodily injury on another.
- (b) Initiating any civil action for recovery of any damages or injuries incurred in the course and scope of employment without first notifying the Sheriff of such action.
- (c) Using department resources in association with any portion of an independent civil action. These resources include, but are not limited to, personnel, vehicles, equipment and non-subpoenaed records.
- (d) Engaging in horseplay resulting in injury or property damage or the reasonable possibility thereof.
- (e) Unauthorized possession of, loss of or damage to department property or the property of others, or endangering it through unreasonable carelessness or maliciousness.
- (f) Failure of any employee to promptly and fully report activities on their own part or the part of any other employee where such activities may result in criminal prosecution or discipline under this policy.
- (g) Failure of any employee to promptly and fully report activities that have resulted in official contact by any other law enforcement agency.
- (h) Using or disclosing one's status as an employee with the Department in any way that could reasonably be perceived as an attempt to gain influence or authority for non-department business or activity.
- (i) The use of any information, photograph, video or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment with the Department for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the Sheriff or a designee may result in discipline under this policy.
- (j) Seeking restraining orders against individuals encountered in the line of duty without the express permission of the Sheriff.
- (k) Discourteous, disrespectful or discriminatory treatment of any member of the public or any member of this department.
- (l) Unwelcome solicitation of a personal or sexual relationship while on-duty or through the use of one's official capacity.
- (m) Engaging in on-duty sexual relations including, but not limited to, sexual intercourse, excessive displays of public affection or other sexual contact.
- (n) Criminal, dishonest or disgraceful conduct, whether on- or off- duty, that adversely affects the member's relationship with this department.



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### 340.3.3 DISCRIMINATION, OPPRESSION OR FAVORITISM

- (a) Discriminating against, oppressing or providing favoritism to any person because of age, race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, ancestry, marital status, physical or mental disability, medical condition or other classification protected by law, or intentionally denying or impeding another in the exercise or enjoyment of any right, privilege, power or immunity, knowing the conduct is unlawful.

### 340.3.4 INTOXICANTS

- (a) Reporting for work or being at work following the use of intoxicants where such use may impair the employee's ability to perform assigned duties or where there is an immediate suspicion of ineffectiveness during public contact resulting from the use of intoxicants
- (b) Unauthorized possession or use of, or attempting to bring intoxicants to the work site, except as authorized in the performance of an official assignment. An employee who is authorized to consume intoxicants is not permitted to do so to such a degree that it may impair on-duty performance
- (c) Reporting for work or being at work following the use of a "controlled substance" or any drug (whether legally prescribed or otherwise) where such use may impair the employee's ability to perform assigned duties
- (d) Unauthorized possession, use of, or attempting to bring controlled substance or other illegal drug to any work site

### 340.3.5 PERFORMANCE

- (a) Unauthorized sleeping during on-duty time or assignments.
- (b) Careless workmanship resulting in spoilage or waste of materials or work of an unacceptable nature as applicable to the nature of the work assigned.
- (c) Unsatisfactory work performance including, but not limited to, failure, incompetence, inefficiency or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments or instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.
- (d) Concealing, attempting to conceal, removing or destroying defective or incompetent work.
- (e) Disobedience or insubordination to constituted authorities, including refusal or deliberate failure to carry out or follow lawful directives and orders from any supervisor or person in a position of authority.
- (f) The wrongful or unlawful exercise of authority on the part of any employee for malicious purpose, personal gain, willful deceit or any other improper purpose.

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- (g) Disparaging remarks or conduct concerning duly constituted authority to the extent that such conduct disrupts the efficiency of the Department or subverts the good order, efficiency and discipline of the Department or which would tend to discredit any member thereof.
- (h) Knowingly making false, misleading or malicious statements that are reasonably calculated to harm or destroy the reputation, authority or official standing of the Department or members thereof.
- (i) The falsification of any work-related records, the making of misleading entries or statements with the intent to deceive, or the willful and unauthorized destruction and/or mutilation of any department record, book, paper or document.
- (j) Wrongfully loaning, selling, giving away or appropriating any department property for the personal use of the employee or any unauthorized person.
- (k) The unauthorized use of any badge, uniform, identification card or other department equipment or property for personal gain or any other improper purpose.
- (l) The receipt or acceptance of a reward, fee or gift from any person for service incident to the performance of the employee's duties (lawful subpoena fees and authorized work permits excepted).
- (m) Any knowing or negligent violation of the provisions of the department manual, operating procedures or other written directive of an authorized supervisor. The Department shall make this manual available to all employees. Employees shall familiarize themselves with this manual and be responsible for compliance with each of the policies contained herein.
- (n) Work-related dishonesty, including attempted or actual theft of department property, services or the property of others, or the unauthorized removal or possession of department property or the property of another person.
- (o) Criminal, dishonest, infamous or disgraceful conduct adversely affecting the employee/employer relationship, whether on- or off-duty.
- (p) Failure to disclose or misrepresenting material facts, or the making of any false or misleading statement on any application, examination form, or other official document, report or form or during the course of any work-related investigation.
- (q) Failure to take reasonable action while on-duty and when required by law, statute, resolution or approved department practices or procedures.
- (r) Associating with or joining a criminal gang, organized crime and/or criminal syndicate when a department member knew or reasonably should have known of the criminal nature of the organization. This includes any organization involved in a definable criminal activity or enterprise, except as specifically directed and authorized by the Department.

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- (s) Offer or acceptance of a bribe or gratuity.
- (t) Misappropriation or misuse of public funds.
- (u) Exceeding lawful peace officer powers by unreasonable, unlawful or excessive conduct.
- (v) Unlawful gambling or unlawful betting at any time or any place. Legal gambling or betting under any of the following conditions: while on department premises; at any work site; while on-duty or while in uniform; or while using any department equipment or system. Gambling activity undertaken as part of a deputy's official duties and with the express knowledge and permission of a direct supervisor is exempt from this prohibition.
- (w) All personnel shall not willfully communicate in any manner, directly or indirectly, any information, which might assist persons guilty of criminal acts or arrested for criminal acts to escape the process of the court or punishment, or enable them to dispose of or secrete evidence of unlawful activity, or money, merchandise, or other property unlawfully obtained.
- (x) All personnel shall not knowingly become involved in, or participate in, or continue with any type of social relationship, dating relationship, or cohabit with any person who is of questionable character whose reputation is such that association with this person would have an adverse effect on or bring discredit to the Department; who is an inmate/arrestee in or out of jail, or who is recently released from the custody of the Sheriff, with any person on probation or parole, with any person who has been convicted of a felony (involving a specific intent crime or crime involving malice aforethought), or with any person wanted on any type of warrant of arrest, bench warrant, or want under 836 PC.
  - 1. This specific restriction shall not apply to immediate family members. Upon discovery of a prohibited relationship, sworn members shall verbally notify his/her immediate supervisor without delay upon discovery and shall prepare a written memorandum to the Sheriff without delay via the chain of command of the facts surrounding the relationship. The Sheriff recognizes a person may have an old criminal conviction but has since become a good citizen. In those instances, criminal convictions 15 years or older will not be considered a violation of this policy.
  - 2. For purposes of this rule, recently released from the custody of the Sheriff shall mean either 3 years from the date of release from custody as a sentenced prisoner, convicted prisoners, and persons who have participated in and failed drug rehabilitation, and shall not apply to those persons who were in custody who were not convicted of any crime. A plea of "nolo-contendere" shall mean a conviction for purposes of this section. Operations and Adult Detention uniformed members shall not become socially involved with inmates/arrestees in or out of the custodial premises of any law enforcement jurisdiction. Sworn

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members shall maintain an impartial attitude by not discussing their personal lives and shall not become involved in the personal lives of inmates/arrestees.

3. For purposes of this rule, questionable character shall include those persons who are users of illegal controlled substances, drugs, and narcotics; persons who are required to register as sex offenders, addicts, or arsonists; persons under indictment or criminal investigation for crimes that are felonies (involving a specific intent crime or crime involving malice aforethought) and misdemeanor crimes of moral turpitude, such as theft. This section shall not apply when those associations are required in the performance of official duties.
  - (y) Solicitations, speeches or distribution of campaign literature for or against any political candidate or position while on-duty, use of department facilities or while in any way representing him/herself as a member of this agency. Please refer to the Stanislaus County Policy Personnel Manual - Political Activities Policy located in Tab 16.
  - (z) Engaging in political activities during assigned working hours except as expressly authorized by the Sheriff.
    - (aa) Violating any misdemeanor or felony statute.
    - (ab) Any other on-duty or off-duty conduct which any employee knows or reasonably should know is unbecoming a member of the Department or which is contrary to good order, efficiency or morale, or which tends to reflect unfavorably upon the Department or its members.
    - (ac) Any failure or refusal of an employee to properly perform the function and duties of an assigned position.
    - (ad) Failure to maintain required and current licenses (e.g. driver's license) and certifications (e.g., first aid).
    - (ae) Giving false or misleading statements, or misrepresenting or omitting material information to a supervisor, or other person in a position of authority, in connection with any investigation or in the reporting of any department-related
    - (af) Any act on- or off-duty that brings discredit to this department.

### 340.3.6 SAFETY

- (a) Failure to observe posted rules, signs and written or oral safety instructions while on duty and/or within department facilities or to use required protective clothing or equipment.
- (b) Knowingly failing to report any on-the-job or work-related accident or injury within 24 hours.
- (c) Substantiated employee record of unsafe or improper driving habits or actions in the course of employment.

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- (d) Failure to maintain good physical condition sufficient to adequately and safely perform the essential functions of the job classification.
- (e) Any personal action contributing to involvement in a preventable traffic collision, or other unsafe or improper driving habits or actions in the course of employment.
- (f) Violating departmental safety standards or safe working practices.
- (g) Unsafe firearm or other dangerous weapon handling to include loading or unloading firearms in an unsafe manner, either on- or off- duty.

### 340.3.7 SECURITY

- (a) Unauthorized, intentional release of designated confidential information, materials, data, forms or reports

### 340.3.8 SUPERVISION RESPONSIBILITY

- (a) Failure of a supervisor to take appropriate action to ensure that employees adhere to the policies and procedures of this department and the actions of all personnel comply with all laws
- (b) Failure of a supervisor to timely report known misconduct of an employee to his or her immediate supervisor or to document such misconduct appropriately or as required by policy
- (c) The unequal or disparate exercise of authority on the part of a supervisor toward any employee for malicious or other improper purpose

### 340.3.9 RELATIONSHIPS

- (a) Unwelcome solicitation of a personal or sexual relationship while on-duty or through the use of one's official capacity.
- (b) Engaging in on-duty sexual activity including, but not limited to, sexual intercourse, excessive displays of public affection or other sexual contact.
- (c) Establishing or maintaining an inappropriate personal or financial relationship, as a result of an investigation, with a known victim, witness, suspect or defendant while a case is being investigated or prosecuted, or as a direct result of any official contact.
- (d) Associating with or joining a criminal gang, organized crime and/or criminal syndicate when the member knows or reasonably should know of the criminal nature of the organization. This includes any organization involved in a definable criminal activity or enterprise, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.
- (e) Associating on a personal, rather than official basis with persons who demonstrate recurring involvement in serious violations of state or federal laws after the member knows, or reasonably should know of such criminal activities, except as specifically directed and authorized by this department.

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### 340.3.10 UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS, DISCLOSURE OR USE

- (a) Unauthorized and inappropriate intentional release of confidential or protected information, materials, data, forms or reports obtained as a result of the member's position with this department.
  - 1. Members of this department shall not disclose the name, address or image of any victim of human trafficking except as authorized by law (Penal Code § 293).
- (b) Disclosing to any unauthorized person any active investigation information.
- (c) The use of any information, photograph, video or other recording obtained or accessed as a result of employment or appointment to this department for personal or financial gain or without the express authorization of the [agencyHead] or the authorized designee.
- (d) Loaning, selling, allowing unauthorized use, giving away or appropriating any Sheriff's Office badge, uniform, identification card or department property for personal use, personal gain or any other improper or unauthorized use or purpose.
- (e) Using department resources in association with any portion of an independent civil action. These resources include, but are not limited to, personnel, vehicles, equipment and non-subpoenaed records.

### 340.3.11 EFFICIENCY

- (a) Neglect of duty.
- (b) Unsatisfactory work performance including, but not limited to, failure, incompetence, inefficiency or delay in performing and/or carrying out proper orders, work assignments or the instructions of supervisors without a reasonable and bona fide excuse.
- (c) Concealing, attempting to conceal, removing or destroying defective or incompetent work.
- (d) Unauthorized sleeping during on-duty time or assignments.
- (e) Failure to notify the Department within 5 days of any change in residence address, contact telephone numbers or marital status.

## **340.4 INVESTIGATION OF DISCIPLINARY ALLEGATIONS**

Regardless of the source of an allegation of misconduct, all such matters will be investigated in accordance with Personnel Complaint Procedure Policy Manual § 1020. Pursuant to Government Code §§ 3304(d) and 3508.1, referencing employees covered under POBR, the investigation should be completed within one year of the discovery of the allegation unless such investigation falls within one of the exceptions delineated within those provisions. All investigations for all department employees resulting in alleged misconduct will be presented to the Disciplinary Review Board.

### 340.4.1 WRITTEN REPRIMANDS

Employees covered under POBR wishing to formally appeal a written reprimand must submit a verbal/written request to the Sheriff or his designee within seven days of receipt of the written

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reprimand. Absent a written stipulation to the contrary, the employee will be provided with an evidentiary hearing before the Sheriff or his designee within 30 days. The decision of the Sheriff or designee to sustain, modify or dismiss the written reprimand shall be considered final.

### **340.5 POST INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES**

#### **340.5.1 DIVISION COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any completed personnel investigation, the Disciplinary Review Board shall review the entire investigative file, the employee's personnel file and any other relevant materials.

The Disciplinary Review Board shall make recommendations regarding the disposition of any allegations and the amount of discipline, if any, to be imposed.

- (a) Prior to forwarding recommendations to the Sheriff or designee, the Disciplinary Review Board may return the entire investigation to the assigned detective or supervisor for further investigation or action
- (b) When forwarding any written recommendation to the Sheriff or designee, the Disciplinary Review Board shall include all relevant materials supporting the recommendation. Actual copies of an employee's existing personnel file need not be provided and may be incorporated by reference

#### **340.5.2 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SHERIFF**

In the event disciplinary action is recommended by the DRB, the Department shall provide the employee with written (*Skelly*) notice contained within the Notice of Intended Disciplinary action as provided for in the Stanislaus County Personnel Manual. 3.28.010.

For employees covered under POBR, of the following information must be provided within one year of the date of the discovery of the alleged misconduct (absent an exception set forth in Government Code § 3304(d) or Government Code § 3508.1).

The Notice of Intended Disciplinary Action will include all required documentation and appeal rights as indicated the Stanislaus County Personnel Manual - Corrective Action and Disciplinary Ordinances Tab 21, applicable MOU provisions and in accordance with Government Code Section 3300.

### **340.6 EMPLOYEE RESPONSE**

The pre-discipline process is intended to provide the accused employee with an opportunity to present a written or oral response to the Sheriff or designee after having had an opportunity to review the supporting materials and prior to imposition of any recommended discipline. See County Policy on discipline appeal rights and applicable time limits.

The employee shall consider the following:

- (a) This *Skelly* response is not intended to be an adversarial or formal hearing.

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- (b) Although the employee may be represented by an uninvolved representative or legal counsel, the *Skelly* response is not designed to accommodate the presentation of testimony or witnesses.
- (c) The employee may suggest that further investigation could be conducted or the employee may offer any additional information or mitigating factors for the Sheriff or designee to consider.
- (d) In the event that the Sheriff or designee elects to cause further investigation to be conducted, the employee shall be provided with the results of such subsequent investigation prior to the imposition of any discipline.
- (e) The employee may thereafter have the opportunity to further respond orally or in writing to the Sheriff on the limited issues of information raised in any subsequent materials.
- (f) Once the employee has completed his/her *Skelly* response or, if the employee has elected to waive any such response, the Sheriff or designee shall consider all information received in regard to the recommended discipline. Once the Sheriff or designee determines that discipline will be imposed, a timely written decision shall be provided to the employee within 30 days, imposing, modifying or rejecting the recommended discipline. In the event of a termination, the final notice of discipline shall also inform the employee of the reason for termination.
- (g) Once the Sheriff or designee has issued a written decision, the discipline shall become effective upon service to the employee.

### **340.7 RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS PRIOR TO DISCIPLINE**

In the event that an employee tenders a written retirement or resignation prior to the imposition of discipline, it shall be noted in the file unless other arrangements are agreed upon by both parties.

The tender of a retirement or resignation by itself shall not serve as grounds for the termination of pending discipline.

### **340.8 POST SKELLY PROCEDURE**

In situations resulting in the imposition of a suspension, punitive transfer, demotion, termination of a non-probationary employee, the employee shall have the right to an evidentiary appeal of the Sheriff's imposition of discipline pursuant to the operative Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or collective bargaining agreement and personnel rules.

During any post-Skelly administrative appeal, evidence that a deputy has been placed on a *Brady* list or is otherwise subject to *Brady* restrictions may not be introduced unless the underlying allegations of misconduct have been independently established. Thereafter, such *Brady* evidence shall be limited to determining the appropriateness of penalty. (Government Code § 3305.5).



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### **340.9 DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST PROBATIONARY EMPLOYEES**

In the event that a probationary employee is released from probation, the employee shall have no right to appeal.

At all times during any investigation of allegations of misconduct for an employee covered under POBR involving a probationary deputy, such deputy shall be afforded all procedural rights set forth in Government Code § 3303 and applicable Department policies. Additionally, the deputy will be afforded name clearing hearing if requested, often referred to as a Lube Hearing.

## Information Technology Use

### 342.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This document does not supersede or override any regulations promulgated by State or federal agencies, such as the requirements mandated by the Department of Justice, that are more stringent or impose additional requirements than this policy. This policy does not apply to Internet access, electronic data etc., which is used to collect evidence in a criminal or administrative investigation.

#### 342.1.1 PRIVACY POLICY

An employee who violates this policy will be subject to the appropriate disciplinary action, which may include suspension, demotion or termination from County employment. Any criminal misuse of County computer resources will be investigated for possible legal prosecution. An employee found to have violated this policy may have his/her access to the County or departmental computer system, the Internet, the Intranet or the Email system limited or revoked completely. Any attempts to circumvent County IT Security measures shall themselves be viewed as violations of this policy.

Any employee aware of accidental non-compliance misuse or suspicion of misuse shall report the incident to a supervisor immediately.

Stanislaus County Departments that cannot, for whatever reason, comply with the requirements of this document, shall maintain a document describing the non-complying system or process. This document shall include a mitigation plan with specific budget and timetables identified, if applicable. It is understood that some current Stanislaus County information systems do not comply with certain requirements in this document. Departments shall undertake to correct/replace these systems to improve overall County IT security. Should a Stanislaus County Department need assistance in devising or implementing a mitigation plan for their non-complying system, that Department shall report it to the IT Security Manager and to request from the IT Security Manager such assistance.

Employees will not be held accountable for non-compliance when necessary items or actions to maintain compliance are within the Department's responsibility.

### 342.2 DEFINITIONS

Upon approval of this policy by the Board of Supervisors all County employees will be expected to adhere to this policy as it is written. All employees have a responsibility to read, understand and comply with this policy.

The initial distribution of this policy, to all County employees, shall be through County payroll. It will be each Department's responsibility to ensure that each employee receives and signs the initial policy within thirty (30) days, absent a valid reason (e.g. vacation, leave of absence, etc.).

This policy will apply to all County employees including, but not limited to, regular full-time, part-time, seasonal, temporary, supervisory, management, department heads, volunteers and

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Personal Service Contractors. This policy will also apply to independent contractors who utilize any County computers or the County computer system.

As this policy may be frequently updated as technology and security threats change, a copy of the latest version of this policy shall be given to each employee annually by the Department. The supervisor should consider the employee's compliance with this Policy in evaluating the employee's performance. Any changes to this Policy that are of sufficiently significant nature, as determined by the Stanislaus County Security Special Interest Group and approved by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and Department Heads, shall require all County employees to re-sign this Policy.

It is the Department's responsibility to ensure that all new Department hires have acknowledged receipt and reviewed this policy within 30 days of initial hire date. The Stanislaus County Security Special Interest Group, in conjunction with the CEO's office and SBT, will offer training sessions in regards to this policy. The training classes may be scheduled by contacting SBT and coordinating with the County IT Security Manager.

### **342.3 SYSTEM INSPECTION OR REVIEW**

- (a) Any Internet-related activity, such as web site visits, downloads, chat sessions or web forum postings can and will be tracked and recorded.
- (b) The CEO's office and County Counsel, have the right to review any Internet or email activity of any employee at any time for any reason. The Sheriff or his designee, have the right to review any Internet or email activity of any of their employees at any time for any reason. The County reserves the right to inspect any and all files stored in private areas of the County information systems in order to assure compliance with this policy.
- (c) All electronic data, including email, created or received utilizing County information systems is the property of the County. Subject to applicable legal privileges and confidentiality requirements, all electronic data entered or received on County information systems is public and is subject to disclosure upon the demand of the County at any time.

### **342.4 AGENCY PROPERTY**

- (a) Each employee is responsible for the content of all text, audio or images that they place or send over the County's information systems, or which appear on their computer. Electronic communication may be sent which hides the identity of the sender or represents the sender as someone else unless authorized by the Sheriff.
- (b) All messages communicated on the County's information systems shall contain the employee's name unless authorized by the Sheriff. Any messages or information sent by an employee are statements that reflect on the County.

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- (c) All communications sent by employees via the County's information systems must comply with this and other County policies and shall not disclose any confidential or proprietary County information without proper authorization.

### **342.5 UNAUTHORIZED USE OF SOFTWARE**

- (a) County information systems access or individual computer usage shall not be used for transmitting, retrieving, receiving or storing of any communications of a discriminatory or harassing nature or materials that are perceived as being obscene. Harassment of any kind is prohibited by County policy.
- (b) No messages with derogatory or inflammatory remarks about an individual's race, age, disability, religion, national origin, physical attributes or sexual preference shall be transmitted. No abusive, profane or offensive language shall be transmitted through the County's information systems.
- (c) Electronic media shall not be used for any other purpose that is illegal, against County policy, causes discredit to the employee 's department or the County, or is contrary to the County's best interest.
- (d) County computers and information systems shall be used only for authorized County business. It is unacceptable for employees to use County information systems for personal gain or profit, or for personal reasons that would result in depleting resources, impeding the organization's ability to conduct business, or cause any interruption or delay in service to the public. The occasional limited use by County employees to check home email, or access appropriate internet sites during lunch, break or after hours does not constitute inappropriate use in and of itself. Additionally, employees shall only access information systems with which they have authority to do so.

### **342.6 PROHIBITED AND INAPPROPRIATE USE**

- (a) When an individual department has a business need for staff to utilize portable data, specific departmental procedures shall be used to insure the highest level of security is attained. When transporting or transmitting County information in portable format (i.e. a DVD or USB flash drive) the staff person shall be responsible for its security and shall take all reasonable precautions (keep in personal possession, in locked brief cases, encrypt when possible, et cetera) to insure that it does not fall into unauthorized hands.
- (b) Removing electronic data from the work-site is prohibited without proper written authorization. Staff are discouraged from creating or modifying County documents at home on personal computers.

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### **342.7 PROTECTION OF AGENCY SYSTEMS AND FILES**

- (a) County shall not, as standard practice, purchase computers, software, software licenses, Internet or phone services or office equipment such as printers, fax machines, calculators, or furniture for staff who work from home (in-home telecommuters). Purchase of such items, as well as consumable supplies, must be at the direction and approval of the Sheriff, and shall be in compliance with County budget, purchasing and management information services policies.
- (b) Software may in some instances be provided for use on non-County-owned systems when the Sheriff approves purchase of the necessary licenses. County IT staff shall only install such software on an employee's personal computing device when the Sheriff provides prior written approval. Virus protection software and Operating System patches shall be maintained and up-to-date on any computers or devices that shall connect in any way to the County information systems.
- (c) In addition, the selection, installation, maintenance, repair or replacement of employee- owned equipment and software is the responsibility of the employee. Computer equipment shall have a configuration that is compatible with County's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure.
- (d) County-issued cell phones may contain privileged or confidential information such as contact information or even emails or documents. Some "smart phones" like Blackberry or iPhones may actually connect automatically to County email systems or other information technology systems owned or maintained by the County. Any such devices that store emails and/or connect to County IT systems shall be configured to automatically lock after a period of disuse and require a password to be unlocked. The "timeout" period, after which the phone locks, shall not exceed thirty minutes and shall not exceed sixty minutes for sworn officers. Reasonable care should be taken to use a password that is not easily guessed. Lost or stolen phones in this category must be reported to the department telecom coordinator as soon as possible so that protective measures, such as disabling the phone may be employed. Notification must take place within 24 hours. Phones previously used for storing email or other sensitive County information shall be completely purged of all information before being transferred to another employee, returned to the vendor or discarded. Non-County-owned smart phones may only be used to store emails or connect to County IT systems with the written approval of the Sheriff or their designee and signed by the owner of the phone. Those connecting non-County-owned phones must agree in writing that, should they leave County employment or otherwise have their access revoked by the County, their phone may be reset to factory condition by departmental IT staff).
- (e) In the event any County equipment is stolen, or needs replacement, repair or maintenance, County shall be responsible for its replacement, repair or maintenance if the equipment was approved by the Sheriff and the telecommuter has provided the proper care and safety of the equipment. If County-owned equipment or property

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is stolen it is the responsibility of the telecommuter to call the police and obtain a police report number and provide the police report number to the department. If a telecommuter is moving to a new residence and has an existing business telephone line owned by County, the Department must be notified of the move prior to the telecommuter vacating the residence, to ensure the telephone line is disconnected on a timely basis.

- (f) In the event of equipment malfunction, the telecommuter shall notify his/her supervisor immediately. If repairs will take some time, the telecommuter shall be asked to report to the main office until the equipment is usable.

### 342.8 USER ACCOUNTS

- (a) Business applications should automatically enforce passwords that reflect this policy whenever possible. Passwords shall consist of at least 6 characters for internal systems and at least 8 characters for Internet accessible systems, mix of alpha (upper and/or lower case), numeric and symbols (with at least 3 of the 4 categories satisfied). Passwords must change at least every 90 days and no sooner than every 10 days. Old passwords shall not be reused. A centralized method for password resets shall be deployed.
- (b) Accounts shall be disabled or deleted within 24 hours of staff termination, which includes resignation or retirement. In no event shall accounts remain accessible 72 hours after termination. When staff is reassigned within their department or transfer to another department their information systems privileges shall be modified to reflect their new duties or department. This account modification shall be performed within 24 hours of effective reassignment, and the account modification shall be performed within 72 hours of reassignment. It is recommended that any staff member on an approved leave greater than 30 days have their account disabled until they return.
- (c) Users shall not share accounts and passwords. As those who seek unauthorized access might attempt to mislead a workforce member into divulging their password by claiming that they are County Information Technology staff, passwords shall not be given out to any individual (see exceptions to this rule in section e).
- (d) Users shall not use their account passwords that are currently in use on County systems with non-County systems (e.g. personal email accounts, banking accounts, etc.). The County recognizes that it is unable to track this on a normal basis. However, it is information that may become known through the course of a data or system breach investigation.
- (e) In cases where systems or devices are limited in their ability to provide more than 1 administrator or "privileged" account, that account may be shared with the appropriate staff if determined necessary by the Sheriff or his designee. If a system or device that falls into this category is deemed important, necessary or critical to infrastructure,

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the account and all changes to the password shall be shared with the Sheriff or their designee immediately after the change.

### 342.9 SOFTWARE/HARDWARE INSTALLATION

- (a) Only designated departmental technical support staff, appointed by the Sheriff, may install software. The Sheriff may pre-authorize installation of software by other departmental employees for selected software, such as commonly used Internet browser plug-ins. Under no circumstances shall authorization be given to install unlicensed software on County equipment or allow multiple use of single-user software. Technical support staff shall have the authority to delete unauthorized software (including but not limited to screen savers, toolbars, animated programs, games) when detected. In such cases, supervisor(s) shall be notified.
- (b) County staff working on and/or installing County licensed software on private P.C.s is an exceptional circumstance and shall require the prior written approval of the Sheriff. As there is some risk to the County with staff going to private homes, the P.C. (or laptop/table computer) shall be brought to the Department's I.T. area. If there are any security or virus issues, the latest copy of virus protection software shall be installed on the P.C. (or laptop) prior to it being connected to the County network. The owner of the private P.C. is responsible for the cost of this software. Sheriff authorization of software installation is not authorization for staff to work from home.
- (c) All software acquired by or on behalf of the County or developed by County employees or contract personnel on behalf of the County is and shall be deemed County property. All such software shall be used in compliance with applicable licenses, notices, contracts, and agreements. Employees shall not create, obtain, possess, execute, modify, or distribute any computer programs or material in violation of copyright laws.
- (d) Employees shall not connect any computer hardware, either personally owned or County-owned or network hardware (including, but not limited to, wireless networking hardware) to the Stanislaus County network without approval from the Sheriff.

### 342.10 ACCESS

- (a) Access to Stanislaus County information systems, except for those devoted to public use, shall be authorized only for Stanislaus County workforce members, department approved partners and software programs having a need for specific information in order to accomplish a legitimate task. All such access shall be defined and documented.
- (b) Appropriate Stanislaus County information system owners, the Sheriff, or his chosen delegates shall define and authorize all access to Stanislaus County information systems. Such information system owners/stewards and delegates shall be formally designated and documented.

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- (c) Appropriate Stanislaus County information system owners, the Sheriff, or his designated delegates shall review workforce member and software program access rights to Stanislaus County information systems to ensure that access is granted only to those having a need for specific information in order to accomplish a legitimate task. All access shall be regularly reviewed and revised as necessary.
- (d) As appropriate, Stanislaus information systems shall support one or more of the following types of access control to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of data contained on Stanislaus County information systems:
  - 1. User based: each user is assigned specific privileges based on their individual status
  - 2. Role based: each user is assigned to one or more predefined roles, each of which has been assigned the various privileges needed to perform that role
  - 3. Context based: rights are not assigned to users, but are assigned based on the particular circumstances of a transaction
- (e) As appropriate, security controls or methods that allow access to Stanislaus County information systems shall include, at a minimum:
  - 1. unique user identifiers (user IDs) and a secret identifier (password) that enable persons and entities to be uniquely identified. User IDs shall not give any indication of the user's privilege level. Group identifiers shall not be used to gain access to Stanislaus County information systems,
  - 2. when unique user identifiers are insufficient or inappropriate, group identifiers shall be used to gain access to Stanislaus County information systems upon review by the appropriate owner/controller of the data being accessed,
  - 3. the prompt removal or disabling of access methods for persons and entities that no longer need access to Stanislaus County data and information systems,
  - 4. logging of changes to the configuration of a network using TACACS+ or similar technology for devices that support logging solutions of this type. The solution should uniquely identify who made the change, when the change was made, and "where possible" a reference number linked to documentation describing and authorizing the change by whatever party has oversight of the equipment in question.
- (f) Neither Stanislaus County workforce members nor software programs shall be granted access to Stanislaus County information systems until properly authorized. Only staff formally designated by the Sheriff to work on information systems shall connect, move, tamper with or remove computer or network equipment from the Stanislaus County network.



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- (g) Stanislaus County workforce members shall not provide unauthorized users access to Stanislaus County information systems.
- (h) Special system privileges, such as the ability to bypass normal resource access controls, shall be restricted to those directly responsible for system management and/or security. This access shall be authorized by the Sheriff and documented.
- (i) Access to Stanislaus County information systems shall be managed in order to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of all data. This pertains to any data, code or scripts stored or shared in any form on Stanislaus County owned resources. This includes: electronic information, information on paper and information shared orally or visually (such as telephone and video conferencing). County departments shall have a formal process for granting and reviewing appropriate access to Stanislaus County data and access to other information systems. The process shall include:
  - 1. capability for authorizing appropriate levels of access to Stanislaus County data and information systems,
  - 2. procedure for tracking authorization of access to Stanislaus County data and information systems,
  - 3. procedure for regularly reviewing and revising, as necessary, authorization of access to Stanislaus County data and information systems,
  - 4. procedure for the Sheriff or designee to authorize access to information systems based on both the right and the need to know basis,
- (j) The type and extent of access authorized to Stanislaus County information systems shall be based on risk analysis. At a minimum, the risk analysis shall consider the following factors:
  - 1. the importance of the applications running on the information system,
  - 2. the value or sensitivity of the data on the information system,
  - 3. the extent to which the information system is connected to other information systems
- (k) Where risk analysis shows it is necessary, appropriate encryption shall be used to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of data contained on Stanislaus County information systems.
- (l) The Department Head may determine there is a legitimate business need to provide Independent Contractors with access to County data or services. This shall be permitted only if the following requirements are met:
  - 1. Independent Contractors shall enter into an agreement with Stanislaus County prior to accessing any information on the Stanislaus County information systems,

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2. Independent Contractors shall have the minimum access required to complete the tasks assigned,
  3. Independent Contractors access shall be enabled only for the time period required. Whenever possible, access should be configured to automatically expire,
  4. Independent Contractors shall be given a copy of, and comply with, all applicable Stanislaus County IT policies related to information systems,
  5. accounts shall be terminated within 8 hours of the last day the Independent Contractor has worked,
  6. the standard work contract with any Independent Contractors who will be given network access shall include a copy of the Department and/or County IT Security policy and it shall include specific language about penalties that will be assessed if the policy is violated.
- (m) The Department shall maintain documentation on Independent Contractors who have been given network access, with appropriate detail (IP/MAC address being used, duration and terms of their access). Appropriate background investigations will be conducted on contractors who have access to sensitive information such as the Criminal Justice information systems.
- (n) Departments may have a legitimate business need for department employees and/or Independent Contractors to perform work from their homes or a remote site and may use the Internet as the network medium for providing said access. Remote access shall be permitted only if all of the Access requirements are met as well as the following requirements:
1. Stanislaus County Human Resources Policies regarding employees working from home shall be observed,
  2. encryption standards for Internet communications shall be employed.
  3. remote access implementations shall include suitable encryption and logging of authentication attempts, both success and failures. Such logs shall be stored centrally and reviewed regularly by system administrators,
  4. analog access shall be used with Department Head approval only,
  5. two-factor authentication shall be implemented for all remote access activity when possible. This frequently takes the form of smart card or biometrics systems,
  6. Remote access implementations using VPN's shall prohibit "Split-Tunnels" when connecting from non County owned devices or when County owned devices are connected to non-County owned networks. The Department Head or their

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designee, may authorize "Split-Tunnels on a case by case basis if a critical need for such is determined."

- (o) The Sheriff shall determine that there is a legitimate business need to allow remote control access of County systems from the Internet, either for Departmental IT staff or for Independent Contractors. This shall be permitted only if the following requirements are met:
  - 1. any remote control mechanism shall have logging capabilities, logs shall be stored external from the device being remotely controlled
  - 2. in the situation where a Department has a legitimate business need to allow remote control to be performed by someone other than the local logged in user, that Department shall have a documented procedure for permitting this activity. The procedure, at a minimum, will address who may perform such remote control and under what circumstances. It is understood that there may be legitimate business needs for allowing such remote control, e.g. for system maintenance. However, as allowing such remote control provides significant opportunity for abuse and circumvention of sound security procedures, its use is discouraged
  - 3. when remote control is being performed by someone other than the local logged in user, the session shall be of limited duration, with a County employee monitoring the access and ensuring that it is properly terminated. Auto logins or user account caching for remote access systems is prohibited.

### 342.11 ASSESSMENT/AUDIT

- (a) An annual risk assessment report shall be created for every department and must be stored in a secure manner. The risk assessment shall contain defined categories of risk such as:
  - 1. highly sensitive: areas where large amounts of confidential data is stored and maintained
  - 2. sensitive: areas where terminals are located which can access highly sensitive data,
  - 3. public access: areas where the general public has direct physical access to devices connected to the County data network.
- (b) Self-administered audits shall be performed at least once annually. Self-administered audits will also be performed when events trigger such actions. Events that trigger such actions would include such things as changes in network topology, changes in server software or hardware configurations, or changes in operational procedures.
- (c) Peer and External audits shall be performed at a minimum, biennially. A core peer group made up of internal County personnel will perform peer audits with Sheriff

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approval, knowledge and coordination. External audits shall be performed by an independent non- biased third party vendor external from the County with Sheriff approval, knowledge and coordination.

- (d) Stanislaus County shall provide a standard automated assessment tool to facilitate the auditing process and provide consistency. The Information Technology Security SIG will determine the requirements for such a system and the processes and procedures for its use.
- (e) A County-wide IT Assessment team shall be formed and shall perform penetration testing on a regular basis to determine if existing security controls are effectively protecting the County's information technology systems. No penetration testing shall be performed without Department Head approval, knowledge and coordination. Each member of the team conducting penetration testing shall have previously passed a background check appropriate for the Department and information system being tested.
- (f) All audit results shall be reported to the specific Department. Any results that identify County security issues shall be shared with the IT Security Manager and the Security SIG.
- (g) Departments shall be able to identify departmental expenses related to ongoing security needs, in accordance with guidelines to be developed by the Security SIG.
- (h) Stanislaus County departments shall identify and audit all access controls used to protect information technology systems annually. The audit shall be provided to the Stanislaus County Security Special Interest Group where appropriate. The annual report shall be stored in a secure manner (e.g. appropriate file access permissions are employed).

### **342.12 PERIMETER SECURITY**

The County-Wide Area Network encompasses the data networks of Stanislaus County agencies. Any potential weakness at any County agency, has the ability of compromising every other County data system. There is a recognized need for some County agencies to have external network connections with partners, with the State of California, with the Federal Government and to the Internet. These links create weaknesses that shall be addressed. All perimeter security shall be protected by access controls.

- (a) All network security mechanisms shall at a minimum provide the following safeguards:
  - 1. permit only the traffic required,
  - 2. must be hardened to deter compromise,
  - 3. default configurations, especially in regard to system authentication shall be replaced with reasonable alternatives,

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4. logs of all pertinent traffic permitted through the access controls shall be kept and stored separate from the access controls,
  5. a current detailed network diagram of the connection to the County network, describing its purpose and defining security measures taken shall be provided to the County IT Security Manager unless an exception is approved by the CEO.
- (b) Wireless data networking solutions connected to the Stanislaus County Wide Area Network extend the WAN, sometimes beyond the confines of Stanislaus County properties. Therefore, more stringent security measures shall be employed. At a minimum, wireless data network implementations will:
1. use appropriate encryption
  2. require authentication, such as the IEEE 802.1x specification which deals with enhanced security,
  3. use non-default configurations for Admin account password and Service Set Identifier (SSID). The SSID should be non-descriptive so that a casual user could not identify to whom the network belongs,
  4. not allow administration from the wireless interface. Administration may only be permitted through the wired interface of the device,
  5. adjust power levels such that the radio signal does not extend further than necessary,
  6. log all access, preferably to a device on the wired network.
- (c) Wireless data network components should also:
1. filter traffic such that only required services are supported,
  2. suppress SSID advertisements,
  3. filter devices based on pre-determined MAC addresses.

### **342.13 UPDATES/PATCH MANAGEMENT**

- (a) Operating Systems and mission-critical applications shall be updated on a regular basis. There are several components to Updating/Patch Management:
1. determining when updates are available,
  2. testing updates to determine what benefit/risk is associated with them,
  3. deploying updates in a timely fashion once it has been determined that it is safe to do so,
  4. track which systems the update has been delivered to.

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- (b) Each Department shall have a documented procedure for how updates/patch management is to be performed and monitored.

### **342.14 DATA ENCRYPTION STANDARDS**

- (a) For local traffic that does not leave the Stanislaus County Wide Area network encryption mechanisms that are deemed acceptable include 3DES, AES, and SSL.
- (b) For wireless data networking components such as wireless access points, wireless bridges and wireless peer-to-peer networking, the strongest supported encryption method should be employed. At a minimum Wi-Fi Protected Access 2 (WPA2) shall be used.
- (c) Where Stanislaus County data does or might reasonably traverse a non-Stanislaus County-owned network, such as the Internet, American Encryption Standards (AES) or 256-bit Secure Socket Layer shall be employed.
- (d) Stronger encryption methods shall be employed, but all encryption methods that vary from these Standards must be documented and reported to the Department Head and may be provided to the IT Security Manager and the Security SIG upon request.

## Report Preparation

### 344.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Report preparation is a major part of each deputy's job. The purpose of reports is to document sufficient information to refresh the deputy's memory and to provide sufficient information for follow-up investigation and successful prosecution. Report writing is the subject of substantial formalized training and on-the-job training.

#### 344.1.1 REPORT PREPARATION

Employees should ensure that reports are sufficiently detailed for their purpose and free from errors prior to submission. It is the responsibility of the assigned employee to complete and submit all reports taken during the shift before going off-duty unless permission to hold the report has been approved by a supervisor. Generally, reports requiring prompt follow-up action on active leads, or arrest reports where the suspect remains in custody should not be held.

Handwritten reports must be prepared legibly. If the report is not legible, the submitting employee will be required by the reviewing supervisor to promptly make corrections and resubmit the report. Employees who dictate reports shall use appropriate grammar, as content is not the responsibility of the typist. Employees who generate reports on computers are subject to all requirements of this policy.

All reports shall accurately reflect the identity of the persons involved, all pertinent information seen, heard or assimilated by any other sense, and any actions taken. Employees shall not suppress, conceal or distort the facts of any reported incident, nor shall any employee make a false report orally or in writing. Generally, the reporting employee's opinions should not be included in reports unless specifically identified as such.

### 344.2 REQUIRED REPORTING

Written reports are required in all of the following situations on the appropriate department approved form unless otherwise approved by a supervisor.

#### 344.2.1 CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REPORTING

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to properly assign the correct disposition to each call for service that is entered for accurate reporting to D.O.J.

It remains the responsibility of each deputy sheriff personnel to conduct a thorough investigation on all calls for service with clear and complete reports, containing all necessary and pertinent information.

- (a) General Guidelines Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will document all calls for service using the following:
  1. 1B - An incident not reportable to DOJ and generated on a patrol unit's MDT. The following are approved for 1B disposition:

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- (a) Animals Injured/stray/dead/sick barking/licensing/leash violation
  - (b) Annoying Phone Calls
  - (c) Assist Citizen
  - (d) Bar check
  - (e) Careless Shooter
  - (f) CHP turnover
  - (g) Civil Problem
  - (h) Curfew
  - (i) Disturbing the peace
  - (j) False Alarms (211/459/Panic that are unfounded)
  - (k) Family Disturbance
  - (l) Landlord/Tenant Dispute
  - (m) Loitering (No cite)
  - (n) Loud Party/Noise
  - (o) Message delivery
  - (p) Pandering Parking problems (no citation)
  - (q) Trespassing
  - (r) Truancy
  - (s) Verbal threats (415 PC)
2. 2B - An incident reportable to DOJ generated on a patrol unit's MDT. Additional forms, such as the CHP 180 or a property sheet, may be required. The following are approved for 2B disposition:
- (a) Animals Poisoned/ Cruelty/Stolen (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (b) Any report that is GANG RELATED
  - (c) Arson (No suspect, leads or evidence)
  - (d) Attempt Suicide (w/72 hour Eval Form)
  - (e) Auto Theft/Recovery (w/CHP 180 Form)
  - (f) Bomb Threat (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (g) Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor (No suspect, leads, or evidence)



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- (h) Court Order Violation (Involving Child Custody orders only)
  - (i) Defraud Innkeeper (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (j) Discharging Firearm/Brandishing (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (k) Disturbing the Peace
  - (l) 242 P.C. (Complaining person requests no action taken)
  - (m) 415/13700 Domestic Violence Incidents
  - (n) Drunk in Public (with 849(b)(2))
  - (o) Embezzlement of Vehicle (w/CHP 180) (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (p) Fel. And Misd. Property Crimes (No suspect, lead, or evidence)
  - (q) Forged/Altered Prescription (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (r) Forgery/Counterfeiting (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (s) Fraud (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (t) Gambling Graffiti/Tagging (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (u) Identity Theft (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (v) Liquor Laws (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (w) Lost/Found Property
  - (x) Mentally Disabled Person (w/5150 W&I form)
  - (y) Misd. Crimes Against Persons (No suspect, leads, or evidence)
  - (z) Vandalism/Malicious Mischief (no cite/non-gang related)
  - (aa) Warrant Arrests
3. RTF (Report to Follow) - An incident reportable to DOJ or requires additional forms, such as: SQL, property page, victim confidentiality, PC form, etc. The following reports are required to be documented as RTF:
- (a) Arson with suspect, leads, or evidence
  - (b) Auto Theft/Recovery with suspect leads, or evidence
  - (c) Bomb Threat with suspect, leads, or evidence
  - (d) Child Abduction/Molest/Endangerment/Abandonment
  - (e) Court Order Violation (Restraining/Domestic Violence only)
  - (f) Criminal Conspiracy
  - (g) Discharging Firearm/Brandishing with suspect, leads, or evidence

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- (h) Disobey Peace Officer/Resisting or Obstructing an Officer
  - (i) Impersonating an Officer
  - (j) Dissuade Witness
  - (k) Driving Under the Influence
  - (l) Drunk in Public without 849(b)(2)
  - (m) Escapee Reports
  - (n) Extortion
  - (o) False Imprisonment
  - (p) Felony and Misdemeanor ON VIEW arrests
  - (q) Felony and MISDEMEANOR Property Crimes with suspect, leads, or evidence
  - (r) Harboring a Fugitive
  - (s) Hate Crime
  - (t) Hazardous Materials on Roadway
  - (u) Hit and Run
  - (v) Indecent Exposure
  - (w) Misdemeanor Crimes Against Persons with suspect, leads, or evidence
  - (x) Prostitution
  - (y) 11-44 Coroner case or Reportable Deaths
  - (z) Any incident can be documented as RTF if determined necessary by the reporting deputy
4. ATD (Assign to Detectives) - Not for patrol use. A disposition used by records only
  5. CAN (Cancel) - Cancels the reported call with no further action required by deputy. Authorized by Supervisors only
  6. SUP (Supplement) - An incident that has already been assigned a S.O. case number but has been reopened for further investigation or action.

### 344.2.2 NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

The following incidents shall be documented using the appropriate approved report:

- (a) Anytime a deputy points a firearm at any person

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- (b) Any use of force against any person by a member of this department (see the Use of Force Policy)
- (c) Any firearm discharge (see the Firearms and Qualification Policy)
- (d) Anytime a person is reported missing, regardless of jurisdiction (see the Missing Persons Reporting Policy)
- (e) Any found property or found evidence
- (f) Any traffic collisions above the minimum reporting level (see Traffic Collision Reporting Policy)
- (g) Suspicious incidents that may indicate a potential for crimes against children or that a child's safety is in jeopardy
- (h) All protective custody detentions
- (i) Suspicious incidents that may place the public or others at risk
- (j) Whenever the employee believes the circumstances should be documented or at the direction of a supervisor

### 344.2.3 DEATH CASES

Death investigations require specific investigation methods depending on circumstances and should be handled in accordance with Policy § 360 Death Investigations. The handling deputy should notify and apprise a supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the incident to determine how to proceed. The following cases shall be appropriately investigated and documented using the approved report:

- (a) Sudden or accidental deaths.
- (b) Suicides.
- (c) Homicide or suspected homicide.
- (d) Unattended deaths (No physician or qualified hospice care in the 20 days preceding death).
- (e) Found dead bodies or body parts.

### 344.2.4 INJURY OR DAMAGE BY COUNTY PERSONNEL

Reports shall be taken if an injury occurs that is a result of an act of a County employee. Additionally, reports shall be taken involving damage to County property or County equipment.

### 344.2.5 MISCELLANEOUS INJURIES

Any injury that is reported to this department shall require a report when:

- (a) The injury is a result of drug overdose
- (b) Attempted suicide

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- (c) The injury is major/serious, whereas death could result
- (d) The circumstances surrounding the incident are suspicious in nature and it is desirable to record the event

The above reporting requirements are not intended to be all-inclusive. A supervisor may direct an employee to document any incident he/she deems necessary.

### 344.2.6 MANDATORY REPORTING OF JUVENILE GUNSHOT INJURIES

A report shall be taken when any incident in which a child 18 years or younger suffered an unintentional or self-inflicted gunshot wound. The Records Bureau shall notify the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) of the incident, on a form provided by the state. Forms may be obtained from the CDPH website (Penal Code § 23685).

### 344.2.7 ALTERNATE REPORTING FOR VICTIMS

Reports that may be submitted by the public via online or other self-completed reporting processes include:

- (a) Lost property.
- (b) Misdemeanor thefts of property, other than firearms or materials that threaten public safety, when there is no suspect information, serial number or ability to trace the item.
  - 1. Misdemeanor thefts of cellular telephones may be reported even though they have a serial number.
- (c) Misdemeanor vandalism with no suspect information and no hate crime implications.
- (d) Vehicle burglaries with no suspect information or evidence.
- (e) Stolen vehicle attempts with no suspect information or evidence.
- (f) Annoying telephone calls with no suspect information.
- (g) Identity theft without an identifiable suspect.
- (h) Online or email fraud solicitations without an identifiable suspect and if the financial loss classifies the crime as a misdemeanor.
- (i) Hit-and-run vehicle collisions with no suspect or suspect vehicle.
- (j) Supplemental property lists.

Members at the scene of one of the above incidents should not refer the reporting party to an alternate means of reporting without authorization from a supervisor. Members may refer victims to online victim assistance programs (e.g., Federal Communications Commission (FCC) website for identity theft, Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) website for computer crimes).

### 344.3 GENERAL POLICY OF EXPEDITIOUS REPORTING

In general, all deputies and supervisors shall act with promptness and efficiency in the preparation and processing of all reports. An incomplete report, unorganized reports or reports delayed without supervisory approval are not acceptable. Reports shall be processed according to established priorities or according to special priority necessary under exceptional circumstances.

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### **344.3.1 GENERAL POLICY OF HANDWRITTEN REPORTS**

Some incidents and report forms lend themselves to block print rather than typing. In general, the narrative portion of those reports where an arrest is made or when there is a long narrative should be typed or dictated.

Supervisors may require, with the foregoing general policy in mind, block printing or typing of reports of any nature for departmental consistency.

### **344.3.2 GENERAL USE OF OTHER HANDWRITTEN FORMS**

County, state and federal agency forms may be block printed as appropriate. In general, the form itself may make the requirement for typing apparent.

### **344.4 REPORT CORRECTIONS**

Supervisors shall review reports for content and accuracy. If a correction is necessary, the reviewing supervisor should note the reasons for rejection. The original report should be returned to the reporting employee for correction as soon as practical. It shall be the responsibility of the originating deputy to ensure that any report returned for correction is processed in a timely manner.

### **344.5 REPORT CHANGES OR ALTERATIONS**

Reports that have been approved by a supervisor and submitted to the Records Bureau for filing and distribution shall not be modified or altered except by way of a supplemental report. Reviewed reports that have not yet been submitted to Records Bureau may be corrected or modified by the authoring deputy only with the knowledge and authorization of the reviewing supervisor.

## Media Relations

### 346.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for media releases and media access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities.

### 346.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The ultimate authority and responsibility for the release of information to the media shall remain with the Sheriff, however, in situations not warranting immediate notice to the Sheriff and in situations where the Sheriff has given prior approval, Division Commanders, Watch Commanders and designated Public Information Officer(s) may prepare and release information to the media in accordance with this policy and the applicable law.

#### 346.2.1 MEDIA REQUEST

Any media request for information or access to a law enforcement situation shall be referred to the designated department media representative, or if unavailable, to the first available supervisor. Prior to releasing any information to the media, employees shall consider the following:

- (a) At no time shall any employee of this department make any comment or release any official information to the media without prior approval from a supervisor or the designated department media representative;
- (b) In situations involving multiple law enforcement agencies, every reasonable effort should be made to coordinate media releases with the authorized representative of each involved agency prior to the release of any information by this department;
- (c) Under no circumstance should any member of this department make any comment(s) to the media regarding any law enforcement incident not involving this department without prior approval of the Sheriff.

### 346.3 MEDIA ACCESS

Authorized members of the media shall be provided access to scenes of disasters, criminal investigations, emergencies and other law enforcement activities subject to the following conditions (Penal Code § 409.5(d)):

- (a) The media representative shall produce valid press credentials that shall be prominently displayed at all times while in areas otherwise closed to the public.
- (b) Media representatives may be prevented from interfering with emergency operations and criminal investigations.
  - 1. Reasonable effort should be made to provide a safe staging area for the media that is near the incident and that will not interfere with emergency or criminal investigation operations. All information released to the media should

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be coordinated through the department Public Information Officer or other designated spokesperson.

2. Whenever the presence of media or other aircraft pose a threat to public or officer safety or significantly hampers incident operations, the field supervisor should consider requesting a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR). All requests for a TFR should be routed through the Watch Commander. The TFR request should include specific information regarding the perimeter and altitude necessary for the incident and should be requested through the appropriate control tower. If the control tower is not known, the Federal Aviation Administration should be contacted (14 CFR 91.137).
- (c) No member of this department who is under investigation shall be subjected to media visits or interviews without the consent of the involved employee (Government Code § 3303(e)).
- (d) Media interviews with individuals who are in custody should not be permitted without the approval of the Sheriff and the express consent of the person in custody.

A tactical operation should be handled in the same manner as a crime scene, except the news media shall be permitted within the outer perimeter of the scene, subject to any restrictions as determined by the supervisor in charge. Department members shall not jeopardize a tactical operation in order to accommodate the news media. All comments to the media shall be coordinated through a supervisor or the Public Information Officer.

### 346.3.1 PROVIDING ADVANCE INFORMATION

To protect the safety and rights of deputies and other persons, advance information about planned actions by law enforcement personnel, such as movement of persons in custody or the execution of an arrest or search warrant, should not be disclosed to the news media, nor should media representatives be invited to be present at such actions except with the prior approval of the Sheriff.

Any exceptions to the above should only be considered for the furtherance of legitimate law enforcement purposes. Prior to approving any exception the Sheriff will consider, at minimum, whether the release of information or presence of the media would unreasonably endanger any individual, prejudice the rights of any person or is otherwise prohibited by law.

### 346.4 SCOPE OF INFORMATION SUBJECT TO RELEASE

The Department will maintain a daily information log of significant law enforcement activities that shall be made available, upon request, to media representatives through the Watch Commander. This log will generally contain the following information:

- (a) The date, time, location, case number, type of crime, extent of injury or loss, and names of individuals (except confidential informants) involved in crimes occurring within this jurisdiction unless the release of such information would endanger the safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation

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- (b) The date, time, location, case number, name, birth date and charges for each person arrested by this department unless the release of such information would endanger the safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation
- (c) The time and location of other significant law enforcement activities or requests for service with a brief summary of the incident subject to the restrictions of this policy and applicable law

At no time shall identifying information pertaining to a juvenile arrestee (13 years of age and under), victim or witness be publicly released without prior approval of a competent court. The identity of a minor 14 years of age or older shall not be publicly disclosed unless the minor has been arrested for a serious felony and the release of such information has been approved by the Watch Commander (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.5).

Information concerning incidents involving certain sex crimes and other offenses set forth in Government Code § 6254(f) shall be restricted in accordance with applicable statutory provisions.

Identifying information concerning deceased individuals shall not be released to the media until notification of next of kin or otherwise cleared through the Coroner's Office.

Any requests for copies of related reports or additional information not contained in this log shall be referred to the designated department media representative, the custodian of records, or if unavailable, to the Watch Commander. Such requests will generally be processed in accordance with the provisions of the Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250, et seq.).

### 346.4.1 RESTRICTED INFORMATION

It shall be the responsibility of the authorized employee dealing with media requests to ensure that restricted information is not inappropriately released to the media by this department. When in doubt, authorized and available legal counsel should be obtained. Examples of such restricted information include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Confidential peace officer personnel information (See the Personnel Files Policy)
  - 1. The identities of deputies involved in shootings or other major incidents may only be released to the media pursuant to consent of the involved deputy or upon a formal request filed and processed in accordance with the Public Records Act.
- (b) Copies of traffic collision reports (except to the involved parties and their authorized representatives) (Vehicle Code § 20012)
- (c) Criminal history information
- (d) Information that would tend to endanger the safety of any individual or jeopardize the successful completion of any ongoing investigation
- (e) Information pertaining to pending litigation involving this department



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- (f) Information obtained in confidence
- (g) Any information that is otherwise privileged or restricted under state or federal law. (Government Code § 6254(k)).

## Subpoenas and Court Appearances

### 348.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for department members who must appear in court. It will allow the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to cover any related work absences and keep the Department informed about relevant legal matters.

#### 348.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**On-Call** - When an employee has appeared in court, or is at the time on-duty, and has been told by a member of the court that he/she is free to leave the court or return to duty, subject to being available by phone or pager if called back.

**Standby** - When an employee receives a subpoena of a type which allows him or her to not appear in court, but remain available by phone or pager so that he or she may be directed to appear in court within a reasonable amount of time.

**Trailing Status** - When an employee remains on standby status for additional court sessions until notified otherwise.

**Mandatory Appearance** - Subpoenas marked as mandatory appearance require an employee's physical appearance in the specified court. Failure to timely appear in the specified court, either intentionally or by negligence, may result in disciplinary action.

### 348.2 POLICY

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members will respond appropriately to all subpoenas and any other court-ordered appearances.

#### 348.2.1 SERVICE OF SUBPOENA

Service of a subpoena requiring the appearance of any department employee in connection with a matter arising out of the employee's course and scope of official duties may be accomplished by personal service on the employee or by delivery of two copies of the subpoena on the employee's supervisor or other authorized departmental agent (Government Code § 68097.1; Penal Code § 1328(c)). Subpoena service is also acceptable by courier or court liaison from the court to this department.

#### 348.2.2 VALID SUBPOENAS

No subpoena shall be accepted for an employee of this department unless it has been properly served and verified to have originated from a recognized legal authority.

#### 348.2.3 ACCEPTANCE OF SUBPOENA

- (a) Only the employee named in a subpoena, his/her immediate supervisor or the department subpoena clerk shall be authorized to accept service of a subpoena. (Penal Code § 1328(c)). Any authorized employee accepting a subpoena shall immediately provide a copy of the subpoena to the department subpoena clerk. The

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subpoena clerk shall maintain a chronological log of all department subpoenas and provide a copy of the subpoena to each involved employee.

- (b) Any supervisor or other authorized individual accepting a subpoena on behalf of another employee shall immediately check available schedules to determine the availability of the named employee for the date listed on the subpoena.
- (c) Once a subpoena has been received by a supervisor or other authorized individual, a copy of the subpoena shall be promptly provided to the subpoena clerk as well as a copy to the individually named employee.

### 348.2.4 REFUSAL OF SUBPOENA

Except where previous arrangements with the issuing court exist, training, vacations and regularly scheduled days off are not valid reasons for refusing a subpoena or missing court. If, due to illness or injury, the named employee is unable to appear in court as directed by a previously served subpoena, he/she shall, at least one hour before the appointed date and time, inform the subpoena clerk or the Watch Commander of his/her absence. It shall then be the responsibility of the subpoena clerk to notify the issuing authority of the employee's unavailability to appear.

If the immediate supervisor or other authorized individual knows that he/she will be unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the named employee within sufficient time for the named employee to comply with the subpoena, the supervisor or other authorized individual may refuse to accept service (Penal Code § 1328(d)).

If a subpoena is presented for service to an immediate supervisor or other authorized individual less than five working days prior to the date listed for an appearance and the supervisor or other authorized individual is not reasonably certain that the service can be completed, he/she may refuse to accept service (Penal Code § 1328(e)).

If, after initially accepting service of a subpoena, a supervisor or other authorized individual determines that he/she will be unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the individually named employee within sufficient time for the named employee to comply with the subpoena, the supervisor or the subpoena clerk shall notify the server or the attorney named on the subpoena of such not less than 48 hours prior to the date listed for the appearance (Penal Code § 1328(f)).

### 348.2.5 COURT STANDBY

To facilitate court standby agreements with the courts, employees are required to provide and maintain current information on their address and phone number with the Department. Employees are required to notify the Department of any change in residence address or home phone number, and to provide accurate and reasonably reliable means or methods for contact.

If an employee on standby changes his/her location during the day, the employee shall notify the subpoena clerk of how he/she can be reached by telephone. Employees are required to remain on standby each day the case is trailing. In a criminal case the Deputy District Attorney handling the case is the only person authorized to excuse an employee from standby status.

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### 348.2.6 OFF-DUTY RELATED SUBPOENAS

Employees receiving valid subpoenas for actions taken off-duty not related to their employment with Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall comply with the requirements of the subpoena. Employees receiving these subpoenas are not compensated for their appearance and arrangements for time off shall be coordinated through their immediate supervisor.

### 348.2.7 FAILURE TO APPEAR

Any employee who fails to comply with the terms of any valid and properly served subpoena may be subject to discipline as well as court imposed civil and/or criminal sanctions.

### **348.3 SUBPOENAS**

Only department members authorized to receive a subpoena on behalf of this department or any of its members may do so. This may be accomplished by personal service to the deputy or by delivery of two copies of the subpoena to the deputy's supervisor or other authorized departmental agent (Government Code § 68097.1; Penal Code § 1328(c)).

The party that issues a civil subpoena to a deputy to testify as a witness must tender the statutory fee of \$275 with the subpoena for each day that an appearance is required before service is accepted of the subpoena (Government Code § 68097.2).

An immediate supervisor or authorized individual may refuse to accept service for a criminal subpoena if (Penal Code § 1328(d)(e)):

- (a) He/she knows that he/she will be unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the named deputy within sufficient time for the named deputy to comply with the subpoena.
- (b) It is less than five working days prior to the date listed for an appearance and he/she is not reasonably certain that service can be completed.

If, after initially accepting service of a criminal subpoena, a supervisor or other authorized individual determines that he/she is unable to deliver a copy of the subpoena to the named deputy within sufficient time for the named deputy to comply with the subpoena, the supervisor or the subpoena clerk shall notify the server or the attorney named on the subpoena of such not less than 48 hours prior to the date listed for the appearance (Penal Code § 1328(f)).

Employees subpoenaed to appear in court shall call the Sheriff's Department Records Division the day prior of a required court appearance in order to determine whether the subpoena has been canceled.

Should the employee fail to call the Sheriff's Department Records Division during the designated time period and appear at court for a case which has been canceled, court pay shall not be paid to the employee and the employee may be subject to disciplinary actions.

The time frame for a call-in to the Sheriff's Department Records Division shall be 5:00 p.m. (1700 hours) to 12:00 a.m. (midnight) of the day preceding the required court appearance. The employee shall be paid court pay if he or she calls within the required time period, is told to appear, appears at court, and then the case is canceled.

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### **348.3.1 SPECIAL NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

Any member who is subpoenaed to testify, agrees to testify or provides information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than the County Counsel or the prosecutor shall notify his/her immediate supervisor without delay regarding:

- (a) Any civil case where the County or one of its members, as a result of his/her official capacity, is a party.
- (b) Any civil case where any other city, county, state or federal unit of government or a member of any such unit of government, as a result of his/her official capacity, is a party.
- (c) Any criminal proceeding where the member is called to testify or provide information on behalf of the defense.
- (d) Any civil action stemming from the member's on-duty activity or because of his/her association with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.
- (e) Any personnel or disciplinary matter when called to testify or to provide information by a government entity other than the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

The supervisor will then notify the Sheriff and the appropriate prosecuting attorney as may be indicated by the case. The Sheriff should determine if additional legal support is necessary.

No member shall be retaliated against for testifying in any matter.

### **348.3.2 CIVIL SUBPOENA**

The Department will compensate members who appear in their official capacities on civil matters arising out of their official duties, as directed by the current memorandum of understanding or collective bargaining agreement.

The Department should seek reimbursement for the member's compensation through the civil attorney of record who subpoenaed the member.

### **348.3.3 OFF-DUTY RELATED SUBPOENAS**

Members receiving valid subpoenas for off-duty actions not related to their employment or appointment will not be compensated for their appearance. Arrangements for time off shall be coordinated through their immediate supervisors.

### **348.4 FAILURE TO APPEAR**

Any member who fails to comply with the terms of any properly served subpoena or court-ordered appearance may be subject to discipline. This includes properly served orders to appear that were issued by a state administrative agency.

### **348.5 STANDBY**

To facilitate standby agreements, members are required to provide and maintain current information on their addresses and contact telephone numbers with the Department.

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If a member on standby changes his/her location during the day, the member shall notify the designated department member of how he/she can be reached. Members are required to remain on standby until released by the court or the party that issued the subpoena.

### **348.5.1 PREPARATION FOR TESTIMONY**

Before the date of testifying, the subpoenaed deputy shall request a copy of relevant reports and become familiar with their content in order to be prepared for court.

### **348.5.2 COURTROOM ATTIRE**

Employees shall dress in uniform or business attire. Suitable business attire for men would consist of a coat, tie, and dress pants. Suitable business attire for female employees would consist of a dress jacket, dress blouse, and skirt or slacks.

## **348.6 COURTROOM PROTOCOL**

When appearing in court, members shall:

- (a) Be punctual and prepared to proceed immediately with the case for which they are scheduled to appear.
- (b) Dress in the department uniform or business attire.
- (c) Observe all rules of the court in which they are appearing and remain alert to changes in the assigned courtroom where their matter is to be heard.

### **348.6.1 PROHIBITION ON FIREARMS IN COURTHOUSE**

Pursuant to Section 171(b)(2)(B) of the California Penal Code, Sheriff's personnel are prohibited from bringing any firearm or deadly weapon into any court building if he/she is a party to an action pending before the court and the court appearance is not directly related to the member's official duties as a member of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. This includes any action where employees who are involved in domestic situations such as a divorce actions, child custody dispute, mediation, lawsuits, or other judicial disputes in which the employee is a party. Violation of this section may be charged as a felony.

### **348.6.2 TESTIMONY**

Before the date of testifying, the subpoenaed member shall request a copy of relevant reports and become familiar with the content in order to be prepared for court.

## **348.7 TESTIFYING AGAINST THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE**

Any member or employee who is subpoenaed to testify, who has agreed to testify, or who anticipates testifying or providing information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than the People of the State of California, any county, any city, or any of their officers and employees in which any of those entities are parties, will notify their immediate supervisor without delay. The supervisor will then notify the Sheriff, District Attorney's Office in criminal cases, County Counsel or City Attorney, as may be indicated by the case.

This includes, but is not limited to the following situations:

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- (a) Providing testimony or information for the defense in any criminal trial or proceeding;
- (b) Providing testimony or information for the plaintiff in a civil proceeding against any county, any city, or their officers and employees; or
- (c) Providing testimony or information on behalf of or at the request of any party other than any County, city, or any county or city official in any administrative proceeding, including but not limited to personnel and/or disciplinary matter.

## Outside Agency Assistance

### 352.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to deputies in the request of or answering the request for assistance involving another law enforcement agency.

It is the policy of this department to provide assistance whenever possible, consistent with the applicable laws of arrest and detention policies of this department, when another law enforcement agency requests assistance with an arrest or detention of any person. This department may also request an outside agency to provide assistance.

#### 352.1.1 ASSISTING OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, calls for assistance from other agencies are routed to the Watch Commander's office for approval. When an authorized employee of an outside agency requests the assistance of this department in taking a person into custody, available deputies shall respond and assist in making a lawful arrest. If a deputy receives a request in the field for assistance, that deputy shall notify a supervisor. Arrestees may be temporarily detained by our agency until arrangements for transportation are made by the outside agency. Only in exceptional circumstances will this department provide transportation of arrestees to other county facilities.

When such assistance is rendered, a case number will be issued to report action taken by Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Personnel. Probation violators temporarily detained by this department will not ordinarily be booked at this department.

#### 352.1.2 REQUESTING ASSISTANCE FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES

If assistance is needed from another agency, the employee requesting assistance should first notify a supervisor of his/her intentions. The handling deputy or supervisor should direct assisting personnel to where they are needed and to whom they should report when they arrive.

The requesting deputy should secure radio frequencies for use by all involved agencies so that communication can be coordinated as needed. If necessary, reasonable effort should be taken to provide radio equipment capable of communicating on the assigned frequency to any personnel who do not have compatible radios.



## Registered Offender Information

### 356.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines by which the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will address issues associated with certain offenders who are residing in the jurisdiction and how the [Department/Office] will disseminate information and respond to public inquiries for information about registered sex, arson and drug offenders.

### 356.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to identify and monitor registered offenders living within this jurisdiction and to take reasonable steps to address the risks those persons may pose.

### 356.3 REGISTRATION

The Investigations supervisor shall establish a process to reasonably accommodate registration of certain offenders. The process should rebut any allegation on the part of the offender that the registration process was too confusing, burdensome, or difficult for compliance. If it is reasonable to do so, an investigator assigned to related investigations should conduct the registration in order to best evaluate any threat the person may pose to the community. Those assigned to register offenders should receive appropriate training regarding the registration process.

Upon conclusion of the registration process, the investigator shall ensure that the registration information is provided to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) in accordance with applicable law (Penal Code § 457.1; Penal Code § 290 et seq.).

The refusal of a registrant to provide any of the required information or complete the process should initiate a criminal investigation for failure to register.

#### 356.3.1 CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION

The information collected from the registering offenders shall include a signed statement as required by the California DOJ, fingerprints and a photograph, and any other information required by applicable law (Penal Code § 457.1; Penal Code § 290 et seq.).

### 356.4 MONITORING OF REGISTERED OFFENDERS

The Investigations supervisor should establish a system to periodically, and at least once annually, verify that a registrant remains in compliance with his/her registration requirements after the initial registration. This verification should include:

- (a) Efforts to confirm residence using an unobtrusive method, such as an internet search or drive-by of the declared residence.
- (b) Review of information on the California DOJ website for sex offenders.
- (c) Contact with a registrant's parole or probation officer.

Any discrepancies should be reported to the California DOJ.

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The Investigations supervisor should also establish a procedure to routinely disseminate information regarding registered offenders to Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department personnel, including timely updates regarding new or relocated registrants.

### **356.5 DISSEMINATION OF PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Members will not unilaterally make a public notification advising the community of a particular registrant's presence in the community. Members who identify a significant risk or other public safety issue associated with a registrant should promptly advise their supervisor. The supervisor should evaluate the request and forward the information to the Sheriff if warranted. A determination will be made by the Sheriff, with the assistance of legal counsel as necessary, whether such a public alert should be made.

Members of the public requesting information on sex registrants should be provided the Megan's Law website or the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's website. Information on sex registrants placed on the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's website shall comply with the requirements of Penal Code § 290.46.

The Records Manager may release local registered offender information to residents only in accordance with applicable law (Penal Code § 290.45; Penal Code § 290.46; Penal Code § 457.1), and in compliance with a California Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250-6276.48) request.

#### **356.5.1 LIMITED RELEASE WITHIN COLLEGE CAMPUS COMMUNITY**

California law allows the following additional information regarding a registered sex offender on campus, whose information is not available to the public via the internet website, to be released to a campus community (Penal Code § 290.01(d)):

- (a) The offender's full name
- (b) The offender's known aliases
- (c) The offender's sex
- (d) The offender's race
- (e) The offender's physical description
- (f) The offender's photograph
- (g) The offender's date of birth
- (h) Crimes resulting in the registration of the offender under Penal Code § 290
- (i) The date of last registration

For purposes of this section, campus community shall be defined as those persons present at or regularly frequenting any place constituting campus property, satellite facilities, laboratories, public areas contiguous to the campus and other areas set forth in Penal Code § 290.01(d).

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### 356.5.2 RELEASE NOTIFICATIONS

Registrant information that is released should include notification that:

- (a) The offender registry includes only those persons who have been required by law to register and who are in compliance with the offender registration laws.
- (b) The information is provided as a public service and may not be current or accurate.
- (c) Persons should not rely solely on the offender registry as a safeguard against offenses in their communities.
- (d) The crime for which a person is convicted may not accurately reflect the level of risk.
- (e) Anyone who uses information contained in the registry to harass registrants or commit any crime may be subject to criminal prosecution.
- (f) The purpose of the release of information is to allow members of the public to protect themselves and their children from sex offenders (Penal Code 290.45).

## Major Incident Notification

### 358.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of this department in determining when, how and to whom notification of major incidents should be made.

### 358.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department recognizes that certain incidents should be brought to the attention of supervisors or other specified personnel of this department to facilitate the coordination of activities and ensure that inquiries from the media and the public may be properly addressed.

### 358.3 MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR NOTIFICATION

Most situations where the media show a strong interest are also of interest to the Sheriff and the affected Division Commander. The following list of incident types is provided as a guide for notification and is not intended to be all inclusive:

- Homicides
- Traffic accidents with fatalities
- Officer-involved shooting - on or off duty (see Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy for special notifications)
- Significant injury or death to employee - on or off duty
- Death of a prominent Stanislaus official
- Arrest of a department employee or prominent Stanislaus official
- Aircraft crash with major damage and/or injury or death
- In-custody deaths

### 358.4 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITY

The Watch Commander is responsible for making the appropriate notifications. The Watch Commander shall make reasonable attempts to obtain as much information on the incident as possible before notification. The Watch Commander shall attempt to make the notifications as soon as practicable. Notification should be made by calling the home telephone number first and then by any other available contact numbers.

#### 358.4.1 STAFF NOTIFICATION

In the event an incident occurs described in the Major Incident Notification Policy, the Sheriff shall be notified along with the affected Division Commander and the Detective Lieutenant if that division is affected.

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### 358.4.2 DETECTIVE NOTIFICATION

If the incident requires that a detective respond from home, the immediate supervisor of the appropriate detail shall be contacted who will then contact the appropriate detective.

### 358.4.3 TRAFFIC BUREAU NOTIFICATION

In the event of a traffic fatality or major injury, the Watch Commander shall be notified who will then contact the appropriate accident investigator. The Watch Commander will notify the respective Chief of Police.

### 358.4.4 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER (PIO)

The Public Information Officer shall be called after members of staff have been notified that it appears the media may have a significant interest in the incident.

## Death Investigation

### 360.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The investigations of cases involving death include those ranging from natural cause to homicide. Some causes of death may not be readily apparent and some cases differ substantially from what they appeared to be initially. The thoroughness of death investigations cannot be emphasized enough.

#### 360.1.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this section, "Deputy Coroner" shall also include "Deputy Sheriff-Coroner"

### 360.2 INVESTIGATION CONSIDERATIONS

Death investigation cases require certain actions be taken. Paramedics shall be called in all suspected death cases unless the death is obvious (decapitation/separation of brain from the body, incineration/burned beyond recognition, decomposition, rigor mortis and post-mortem lividity). A supervisor shall be notified in all death investigations.

#### 360.2.1 CORONER REQUEST

Government Code § 27491 and Health & Safety Code § 102850 direct the Coroner to inquire into and determine the circumstances, manner and cause of certain deaths. The Coroner shall be called in any of the following cases:

- (a) Unattended deaths (No physician in attendance or during the continued absence of the attending physician. Also, includes all deaths outside hospitals and nursing care facilities).
- (b) Deaths where the deceased has not been attended by either a physician or a registered nurse, who is a member of a hospice care interdisciplinary team, as defined by Health and Safety Code § 1746 in the 20 days prior to death.
- (c) Physician unable to state the cause of death. Unwillingness does not apply. Includes all sudden, unexpected and unusual deaths and fetal deaths when the underlying cause is unknown.
- (d) Known or suspected homicide.
- (e) Known or suspected suicide.
- (f) Involving any criminal action or suspicion of a criminal act. Includes child and dependent adult negligence and abuse.
- (g) Related to or following known or suspected self-induced or criminal abortion.
- (h) Associated with a known or alleged rape or crime against nature.
- (i) Following an accident or injury (primary or contributory). Deaths known or suspected as resulting (in whole or in part) from or related to accident or injury, either old or recent.

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- (j) Drowning, fire, hanging, gunshot, stabbing, cutting, starvation, exposure, alcoholism, drug addiction, strangulation or aspiration.
- (k) Accidental poisoning (food, chemical, drug, therapeutic agents).
- (l) Occupational diseases or occupational hazards.
- (m) Known or suspected contagious disease and constituting a public hazard.
- (n) All deaths in operating rooms and all deaths where a patient has not fully recovered from an anesthetic, whether in surgery, recovery room or elsewhere.
- (o) In prison or while under sentence. Includes all in-custody and sheriff's involved deaths.
- (p) All deaths of unidentified persons.
- (q) All deaths of state hospital patients.
- (r) Suspected Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) deaths.
- (s) All deaths where the patient is comatose throughout the period of the physician's attendance. Includes patients admitted to hospitals unresponsive and expire without regaining consciousness.

The body shall not be disturbed or moved from the position or place of death without permission of the coroner.

### 360.2.2 SEARCHING DEAD BODIES

The Coroner or Deputy Coroner is generally the only person permitted to search a body known to be dead from any of the circumstances set forth in Government Code § 27491. The only exception is that a deputy is permitted to search the body of a person killed in a traffic collision for the limited purpose of locating an anatomical donor card (Government Code § 27491.3). If such a donor card is located, the Coroner or a designee shall be promptly notified. Should exigent circumstances indicate to a deputy that any search of a known dead body is warranted prior to the arrival of the Coroner or a designee; the investigating deputy shall first obtain verbal consent from the Coroner or a designee (Government Code § 27491.2).

Whenever possible, a witness, preferably a relative to the deceased or a member of the household, should be requested to remain at the scene with the deputy pending the arrival of the Coroner or a designee. The name and address of this person shall be included in the narrative of the death report. Whenever personal effects are removed from the body of the deceased by the Coroner or a designee, a receipt shall be obtained. This receipt shall be attached to the death report.

### 360.2.3 DEATH NOTIFICATION

When practical, and if not handled by the Coroner's Office, notification to the next-of-kin of the deceased person shall be made, in person, by the deputy assigned to the incident. If the next-of-kin lives in another jurisdiction, a law enforcement official from that jurisdiction shall be requested to make the personal notification. If the relatives live outside this county, the Coroner may be

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requested to make the notification. The Coroner needs to know if notification has been made. Assigned detectives may need to talk to the next-of-kin.

### 360.2.4 UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODIES

If the identity of a dead body cannot be established after the Coroner arrives, the Coroner's office will issue a "John Doe" or "Jane Doe" number for the report.

### 360.2.5 DEATH INVESTIGATION REPORTING

All incidents involving a death shall be documented on the appropriate form.

### 360.2.6 SUSPECTED HOMICIDE

If the initially assigned deputy suspects that the death involves a homicide or other suspicious circumstances, the deputy will notify the supervisor/watch commander who will notify the Investigations Division to determine the need for a detective to respond to the scene for further immediate investigation.

### 360.2.7 EMPLOYMENT RELATED DEATHS OR INJURIES

Any member of this agency who responds to and determines that a death, serious illness, or serious injury has occurred as a result of an accident at or in connection with the victim's employment shall ensure that the nearest office of Cal-OSHA is notified by telephone immediately or as soon as practicable with all pertinent information (8 CCR 342(b)).



## Identity Theft

### 362.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Identity theft is a growing trend that frequently involves related crimes in multiple jurisdictions. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for the reporting and investigation of such crimes.

### 362.2 REPORTING

- (a) In an effort to maintain uniformity in reporting, deputies presented with the crime of identity theft (Penal Code § 530.6) shall initiate a report for victims residing within the jurisdiction of this department when the crime occurred. For incidents of identity theft occurring outside this jurisdiction, deputies should observe the following:
  1. For any victim not residing within this jurisdiction, the deputy may either take a courtesy report to be forwarded to the victim's residence agency or the victim should be encouraged to promptly report the identity theft to the law enforcement agency where he or she resides.
- (b) While the crime of identity theft should be reported to the law enforcement agency where the victim resides, deputies of this department should investigate and report crimes occurring within this jurisdiction which have resulted from the original identity theft (e.g., the identity theft occurred elsewhere, but the credit card fraud occurred and is reported in this jurisdiction).
- (c) Deputies should include all known incidents of fraudulent activity (e.g., credit card number applied for in victim's name when the victim has never made such an application).
- (d) Deputies should also cross-reference all known reports made by the victim (e.g., U.S. Secret Service, credit reporting bureaus, U.S. Postal Service and DMV) with all known report numbers.
- (e) The reporting deputy should inform victims of identity theft that the California Identity Theft Registry is available to help those who are wrongly linked to crimes. The registry can be checked by law enforcement and other authorized persons to investigate whether a criminal history or want was created in the victim's name (Penal Code § 530.7). Information regarding the California Identity Theft Registry can be obtained by calling toll free (888) 880-0240.
- (f) Following supervisory review and departmental processing, the initial report should be forwarded to the appropriate detective for follow up investigation, coordination with other agencies and prosecution as circumstances dictate.
- (g) On-line reporting and Internet Crime Complaint Center, [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov)

## Private Persons Arrests

### 364.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the handling of private person's arrests made pursuant to Penal Code § 837.

### 364.2 ADVISING PRIVATE PERSONS OF THE ARREST PROCESS

Penal Code § 836(b) expressly mandates that all deputies shall advise victims of domestic violence of the right to make a private person's arrest, including advice on how to safely execute such an arrest. In all other situations, deputies should use sound discretion in determining whether or not to advise an individual of the arrest process.

- (a) When advising any individual regarding the right to make a private person's arrest, deputies should refrain from encouraging or dissuading any individual from making such an arrest and should instead limit advice to the legal requirements for such an arrest as listed below.
- (b) Private individuals should be discouraged from using force to effect a private person's arrest, and absent immediate threat to their own safety or the safety of others, private individuals should be encouraged to refer matters to law enforcement officials for further investigation or arrest.

### 364.3 ARRESTS BY PRIVATE PERSONS

Penal Code § 837 provides that a private person may arrest another:

- (a) For a public offense committed or attempted in his or her presence;
- (b) When the person arrested has committed a felony, although not in his or her presence;
- (c) When a felony has been in fact committed, and he or she has reasonable cause for believing the person arrested has committed it.

Unlike peace officers, private persons may not make an arrest on suspicion that a felony has been committed - the felony must in fact have taken place.

### 364.4 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Any deputy presented with a private person wishing to make an arrest must determine whether or not there is reasonable cause to believe that such an arrest would be lawful (Penal Code § 847).

- (a) Should any deputy determine that there is no reasonable cause to believe that a private person's arrest is lawful, the deputy should take no action to further detain or restrain the individual beyond that which reasonably appears necessary to investigate the matter, determine the lawfulness of the arrest and protect the public safety.
  - 1. Any deputy who determines that a private person's arrest appears to be unlawful should promptly release the arrested individual pursuant to Penal Code § 849(b)

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- (1). The deputy must include the basis of such a determination in a related report.
2. Absent reasonable cause to support a private person's arrest or other lawful grounds to support an independent arrest by the deputy, the deputy should advise the parties that no arrest will be made and that the circumstances will be documented in a related report.
- (b) Whenever a deputy determines that there is reasonable cause to believe that a private person's arrest is lawful, the deputy may exercise any of the following options:
  1. Take the individual into physical custody for booking
  2. Release the individual pursuant to a Notice to Appear
  3. Release the individual pursuant to Penal Code § 849

### **364.5 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

In all circumstances in which a private person is claiming to have made an arrest, the individual must complete and sign a department Private Person's Arrest form under penalty of perjury.

In addition to the Private Person's Arrest Form (and any other related documents such as citations, booking forms, etc.), deputies shall complete a narrative report regarding the circumstances and disposition of the incident.

## Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes Reporting

### 366.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy shall establish a procedure for the mandated reporting of Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes (ARRC) to the Attorney General pursuant to the Reproductive Rights Law Enforcement Act (Penal Code § 13775 et seq.).

### 366.2 DEFINITIONS

Penal Code § 423.2 provides that the following acts shall be considered Anti-Reproductive Rights Crimes (ARRC) when committed by any person, except a parent or guardian acting towards his or her minor child or ward:

- (a) By force, threat of force, or physical obstruction that is a crime of violence, intentionally injures, intimidates, interferes with, or attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with any person or entity because that person or entity is a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant, or in order to intimidate any person or entity, or any class of persons or entities, from becoming or remaining a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant
- (b) By non-violent physical obstruction, intentionally injures, intimidates, or interferes with, or attempts to injure, intimidate, or interfere with, any person or entity because that person or entity is a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant, or in order to intimidate any person or entity, or any class of persons or entities, from becoming or remaining a reproductive health services client, provider or assistant
- (c) Intentionally damages or destroys the property of a person, entity, or facility, or attempts to do so, because the person, entity, or facility is a reproductive health services client, provider, assistant, or facility

### 366.3 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

- (a) Upon the receipt of the report of an ARRC, it shall be the responsibility of the employee taking such a report to also complete an ARRC Data Collection Worksheet (BCIA 8371) in accordance with the instructions contained on such forms.
- (b) The ARRC Data Collection Worksheet shall be processed with all related reports and forwarded to the Investigation Division Commander.
- (c) By the tenth day of each month, it shall be the responsibility of the Investigation Division Commander to ensure that a Summary Worksheet (BCIA 8370) is submitted to the Department of Justice Criminal Justice Statistics Center.
  1. In the event that no ARRC(s) were reported during the previous month, a Summary Worksheet shall be submitted to Department of Justice with an indication that no such crimes were reported.

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2. Any ARRC(s) reported in the Summary Worksheet shall be accompanied by a copy of the related Data Collection Worksheet(s).

## Limited English Proficiency Services

### 368.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP) (42 USC § 2000d).

#### 368.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Authorized interpreter** - A person who has been screened and authorized by the Department to act as an interpreter and/or translator for others.

**Interpret or interpretation** - The act of listening to a communication in one language (source language) and orally converting it to another language (target language), while retaining the same meaning.

**Limited English proficient (LEP)** - Any individual whose primary language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak or understand English. These individuals may be competent in certain types of communication (e.g., speaking or understanding) but still be LEP for other purposes (e.g., reading or writing). Similarly, LEP designations are context-specific; an individual may possess sufficient English language skills to function in one setting but these skills may be insufficient in other situations.

**Qualified bilingual member** - A member of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, designated by the Department, who has the ability to communicate fluently, directly and accurately in both English and another language. Bilingual members may be fluent enough to communicate in a non-English language but may not be sufficiently fluent to interpret or translate from one language into another.

**Translate or translation** - The replacement of written text from one language (source language) into an equivalent written text (target language).

### 368.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to reasonably ensure that LEP individuals have meaningful access to law enforcement services, programs and activities, while not imposing undue burdens on its members.

The Department will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights or programs based upon national origin or any other protected interest or right.

### 368.3 LEP COORDINATOR

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to an LEP Coordinator. The LEP Coordinator shall be appointed by, and directly responsible to, the Operations Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the LEP Coordinator include, but are not limited to:

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- (a) Coordinating and implementing all aspects of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's LEP services to LEP individuals.
- (b) Developing procedures that will enable members to access LEP services, including telephonic interpreters, and ensuring the procedures are available to all members.
- (c) Ensuring that a list of all qualified bilingual members and authorized interpreters is maintained and available to each Watch Commander and Communications Manager. The list should include information regarding the following:
  - 1. Languages spoken
  - 2. Contact information
  - 3. Availability
- (d) Ensuring signage stating that interpreters are available free of charge to LEP individuals is posted in appropriate areas and in the most commonly spoken languages.
- (e) Reviewing existing and newly developed documents to determine which are vital documents and should be translated, and into which languages the documents should be translated.
- (f) Annually assessing demographic data and other resources, including contracted language services utilization data and community-based organizations, to determine if there are additional documents or languages that are appropriate for translation.
- (g) Identifying standards and assessments to be used by the Department to qualify individuals as qualified bilingual members or authorized interpreters.
- (h) Periodically reviewing efforts of the Department in providing meaningful access to LEP individuals, and, as appropriate, developing reports, new procedures or recommending modifications to this policy.
- (i) Receiving and responding to complaints regarding department LEP services.
- (j) Ensuring appropriate processes are in place to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to department services, programs and activities.

### **368.4 FOUR-FACTOR ANALYSIS**

Since there are many different languages that members could encounter, the Department will utilize the four-factor analysis outlined in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients, available at the DOJ website, to determine which measures will provide meaningful access to its services and programs. It is recognized that law enforcement contacts and circumstances will vary considerably. This analysis, therefore, must remain flexible and will require an ongoing balance of four factors, which are:

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- (a) The number or proportion of LEP individuals eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by department members, or who may benefit from programs or services within the jurisdiction of the Department or a particular geographic area.
- (b) The frequency with which LEP individuals are likely to come in contact with department members, programs or services.
- (c) The nature and importance of the contact, program, information or service provided.
- (d) The cost of providing LEP assistance and the resources available.

### **368.5 TYPES OF LEP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members should never refuse service to an LEP individual who is requesting assistance, nor should they require an LEP individual to furnish an interpreter as a condition for receiving assistance. The Department will make every reasonable effort to provide meaningful and timely assistance to LEP individuals through a variety of services.

The Department will utilize all reasonably available tools, such as language identification cards, when attempting to determine an LEP individual's primary language.

LEP individuals may choose to accept department-provided LEP services at no cost or they may choose to provide their own.

Department-provided LEP services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

### **368.6 WRITTEN FORMS AND GUIDELINES**

Vital documents or those that are frequently used should be translated into languages most likely to be encountered. The LEP Coordinator will arrange to make these translated documents available to members and other appropriate individuals, as necessary.

### **368.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS**

The Department may develop audio recordings of important or frequently requested information in a language most likely to be understood by those LEP individuals who are representative of the community being served.

### **368.8 QUALIFIED BILINGUAL MEMBERS**

Bilingual members may be qualified to provide LEP services when they have demonstrated through established department procedures a sufficient level of skill and competence to fluently communicate in both English and a non-English language. Members utilized for LEP services must demonstrate knowledge of the functions of an interpreter/translator and the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit. Additionally, bilingual members must be able to communicate technical and law enforcement terminology, and be sufficiently proficient in the non-English language to perform complicated tasks, such as conducting interrogations, taking statements, collecting evidence or conveying rights or responsibilities.



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When a qualified bilingual member from this department is not available, personnel from other County departments, who have been identified by the Department as having the requisite skills and competence, may be requested.

### **368.9 AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

Any person designated by the Department to act as an authorized interpreter and/or translator must have demonstrated competence in both English and the involved non-English language, must have an understanding of the functions of an interpreter that allows for correct and effective translation, and should not be a person with an interest in the department case or investigation involving the LEP individual. A person providing interpretation or translation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation or translation in a court proceeding.

Authorized interpreters must pass a screening process established by the LEP Coordinator which demonstrates that their skills and abilities include:

- (a) The competence and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language.
- (b) Knowledge, in both languages, of any specialized terms or concepts peculiar to this department and of any particularized vocabulary or phraseology used by the LEP individual.
- (c) The ability to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (d) Knowledge of the ethical issues involved when acting as a language conduit.

#### **368.9.1 SOURCES OF AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS**

The Department may contract with authorized interpreters who are available over the telephone. Members may use these services with the approval of a supervisor and in compliance with established procedures.

Other sources may include:

- Qualified bilingual members of this department or personnel from other County departments.
- Individuals employed exclusively to perform interpretation services.
- Contracted in-person interpreters, such as state or federal court interpreters, among others.
- Interpreters from other agencies who have been qualified as interpreters by this department, and with whom the Department has a resource-sharing or other arrangement that they will interpret according to department guidelines.

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### **368.9.2 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND OTHER SOURCES OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE**

Language assistance may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in either monolingual (direct) communication and/or in interpretation or translation (as noted in above), and have been approved by the Department to communicate with LEP individuals.

Where qualified bilingual members or other authorized interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the LEP individual and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

While family or friends of an LEP individual may offer to assist with communication or interpretation, members should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. For example, children should not be relied upon except in exigent or very informal and non-confrontational situations.

### **368.10 CONTACT AND REPORTING**

While all law enforcement contacts, services and individual rights are important, this department will utilize the four-factor analysis to prioritize service to LEP individuals so that such services may be targeted where they are most needed, according to the nature and importance of the particular law enforcement activity involved.

Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation, and interpretation services are provided to any involved LEP individual, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of interpretation services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source.

### **368.11 RECEIVING AND RESPONDING TO REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will take reasonable steps and will work with the Personnel Department to develop in-house language capacity by hiring or appointing qualified members proficient in languages representative of the community being served.

#### **368.11.1 EMERGENCY CALLS TO 9-1-1**

Department members will make every reasonable effort to promptly accommodate LEP individuals utilizing 9-1-1 lines. When a 9-1-1 call-taker receives a call and determines that the caller is an LEP individual, the call-taker shall quickly determine whether sufficient information can be obtained to initiate an appropriate emergency response. If language assistance is still needed, the language is known and a qualified bilingual member is available in the Communications Center, the call shall immediately be handled by the qualified bilingual member.

If a qualified bilingual member is not available or the call-taker is unable to identify the caller's language, the call-taker will contact the contracted telephone interpretation service and establish a three-way call between the call-taker, the LEP individual and the interpreter.

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Dispatchers will make every reasonable effort to dispatch a qualified bilingual member to the assignment, if available and appropriate.

While 9-1-1 calls shall receive top priority, reasonable efforts should also be made to accommodate LEP individuals seeking routine access to services and information by utilizing the resources listed in this policy.

### **368.12 FIELD ENFORCEMENT**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve LEP individuals. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation to determine the need and availability of language assistance to all involved LEP individuals and utilize the methods outlined in this policy to provide such assistance.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to request consent to search if the deputy is unable to effectively communicate with an LEP individual.

If available, deputies should obtain the assistance of a qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter before placing an LEP individual under arrest.

### **368.13 INVESTIGATIVE FIELD INTERVIEWS**

In any situation where an interview may reveal information that could be used as the basis for arrest or prosecution of an LEP individual and a qualified bilingual member is unavailable or lacks the skills to directly communicate with the LEP individual, an authorized interpreter should be used. This includes interviews conducted during an investigation with victims, witnesses and suspects. In such situations, audio recordings of the interviews should be made when reasonably possible. Identification and contact information for the interpreter (e.g., name, address) should be documented so that the person can be subpoenaed for trial if necessary.

If an authorized interpreter is needed, deputies should consider calling for an authorized interpreter in the following order:

- An authorized department member or allied agency interpreter
- An authorized telephone interpreter
- Any other authorized interpreter

Any *Miranda* warnings should be provided to suspects in their primary language by an authorized interpreter or, if the suspect is literate, by providing a translated *Miranda* warning card.

The use of an LEP individual's bilingual friends, family members, children, neighbors or bystanders may be used only when a qualified bilingual member or authorized interpreter is unavailable and there is an immediate need to interview an LEP individual.

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### **368.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**

Miscommunication during custodial interrogations may have a substantial impact on the evidence presented in a criminal prosecution. Only qualified bilingual members or, if none is available or appropriate, authorized interpreters shall be used during custodial interrogations. *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects in their primary language by the qualified bilingual member or an authorized interpreter.

In order to ensure that translations during custodial interrogations are accurately documented and are admissible as evidence, interrogations should be recorded whenever reasonably possible. See guidance on recording custodial interrogations in the Investigation and Prosecution Policy.

### **368.15 BOOKINGS**

When gathering information during the booking process, members should remain alert to the impediments that language barriers can create. In the interest of the arrestee's health and welfare, the safety and security of the facility, and to protect individual rights, it is important that accurate medical screening and booking information be obtained. Members should seek the assistance of a qualified bilingual member whenever there is concern that accurate information cannot be obtained or that booking instructions may not be properly understood by an LEP individual.

### **368.16 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure that LEP individuals who wish to file a complaint regarding members of this department are able to do so. The Department may provide an authorized interpreter or translated forms, as appropriate. Complaints will be referred to the LEP Coordinator.

Investigations into such complaints shall be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy. Authorized interpreters used for any interview with an LEP individual during an investigation should not be members of this department.

Any notice required to be sent to an LEP individual as a complaining party pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy should be translated or otherwise communicated in a language-accessible manner.

### **368.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

### **368.18 TRAINING**

To ensure that all members who may have contact with LEP individuals are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training on this policy and related procedures, including how to access department-authorized telephonic and in-person interpreters and other available resources.

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The Training Manager shall be responsible for ensuring new members receive LEP training. Those who may have contact with LEP individuals should receive refresher training at least once every two years thereafter. The Training Manager shall maintain records of all LEP training provided, and will retain a copy in each member's training file in accordance with established records retention schedules.

### 368.18.1 TRAINING FOR AUTHORIZED INTERPRETERS

All members on the authorized interpreter list must successfully complete prescribed interpreter training. To complete interpreter training successfully, an interpreter must demonstrate proficiency in and ability to communicate information accurately in both English and in the target language, demonstrate knowledge in both languages of any specialized terms or phraseology, and understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.

Members on the authorized interpreter list must receive refresher training annually or they will be removed from the authorized interpreter list. This annual training should include language skills competency (including specialized terminology) and ethical considerations.

The Training Manager shall be responsible for coordinating the annual refresher training and will maintain a record of all training the interpreters have received.

## Communications with Persons with Disabilities

### 370.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to members when communicating with individuals with disabilities, including those who are deaf or hard of hearing, have impaired speech or vision, or are blind.

#### 370.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Auxiliary aids** - Tools used to communicate with people who have a disability or impairment. They include, but are not limited to, the use of gestures or visual aids to supplement oral communication; a notepad and pen or pencil to exchange written notes; a computer or typewriter; an assistive listening system or device to amplify sound; a teletypewriter (TTY) or videophones (video relay service or VRS); taped text; qualified readers; or a qualified interpreter.

**Disability or impairment** - A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity, including hearing or seeing, regardless of whether the disabled person uses assistive or adaptive devices or auxiliary aids. Individuals who wear ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses are not considered to have a disability (42 USC § 12102).

**Qualified interpreter** - A person who is able to interpret effectively, accurately and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary. Qualified interpreters include oral interpreters, translators, sign language interpreters and intermediary interpreters.

### 370.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to reasonably ensure that people with disabilities, including victims, witnesses, suspects and arrestees have equal access to law enforcement services, programs and activities. Members must make efforts to communicate effectively with individuals with disabilities.

The Department will not discriminate against or deny any individual access to services, rights or programs based upon disabilities.

### 370.3 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES (ADA) COORDINATOR

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to an ADA Coordinator (28 CFR 35.107). The ADA Coordinator (Human Resource Manager) shall be appointed by, and directly responsible, to the Undersheriff or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the ADA Coordinator shall include, but not be limited to:

- (a) Working with the County ADA coordinator regarding the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's efforts to ensure equal access to services, programs and activities.
- (b) Developing reports, new procedures, or recommending modifications to this policy.

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- (c) Acting as a liaison with local disability advocacy groups or other disability groups regarding access to department services, programs and activities.
- (d) Ensuring that a list of qualified interpreter services is maintained and available to each Watch Commander and Communications Manager. The list should include information regarding the following:
  - 1. Contact information
  - 2. Availability
- (e) Developing procedures that will enable members to access auxiliary aids or services, including qualified interpreters, and ensure the procedures are available to all members.
- (f) Ensuring signage is posted in appropriate areas, indicating that auxiliary aids are available free of charge to people with disabilities.
- (g) Ensuring appropriate processes are in place to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints and inquiries regarding discrimination in access to department services, programs and activities.

### **370.4 FACTORS TO CONSIDER**

Because the nature of any law enforcement contact may vary substantially from one situation to the next, members of this department should consider all information reasonably available to them when determining how to communicate with an individual with a disability. Members should carefully balance all known factors in an effort to reasonably ensure people who are disabled have equal access to services, programs and activities. These factors may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Members should not always assume that effective communication is being achieved. The fact that an individual appears to be nodding in agreement does not always mean he/she completely understands the message. When there is any doubt, members should ask the individual to communicate back or otherwise demonstrate their understanding.
- (b) The nature of the disability (e.g., deafness or blindness vs. hard of hearing or low vision).
- (c) The nature of the law enforcement contact (e.g., emergency vs. non-emergency, custodial vs. consensual contact).
- (d) The availability of auxiliary aids. The fact that a particular aid is not available does not eliminate the obligation to reasonably ensure access. However, in an emergency, availability may factor into the type of aid used.

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### **370.5 INITIAL AND IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS**

Recognizing that various law enforcement encounters may be potentially volatile and/or emotionally charged, members should remain alert to the possibility of communication problems.

Members should exercise special care in the use of all gestures, and verbal and written communication to minimize initial confusion and misunderstanding when dealing with any individual with known or suspected disabilities.

In a non-emergency situation, when a member knows or suspects an individual requires assistance to effectively communicate, the member shall identify the individual's choice of auxiliary aid or service.

The individual's preferred communication method must be honored unless another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances (28 CFR 35.160).

Factors to consider when determining whether an alternative method is effective include:

- (a) The methods of communication usually used by the individual.
- (b) The nature, length and complexity of the communication involved.
- (c) The context of the communication.

In emergency situations involving an imminent threat to the safety or welfare of any person, members may use whatever auxiliary aids and services that reasonably appear effective under the circumstances. This may include, for example, exchanging written notes or using the services of a person who knows sign language but is not a qualified interpreter, even if the person who is deaf or hard of hearing would prefer a qualified sign language interpreter or another appropriate auxiliary aid or service. Once the emergency has ended, the continued method of communication should be reconsidered. The member should inquire as to the individual's preference and give primary consideration to that preference.

If an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing or has impaired speech must be handcuffed while in the custody of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, consideration should be given, safety permitting, to placing the handcuffs in the front of the body to facilitate communication using sign language or writing.

### **370.6 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members shall never refuse to assist an individual with disabilities who is requesting assistance. The Department will not charge anyone to receive auxiliary aids, nor shall they require anyone to furnish their own auxiliary aid or service as a condition for receiving assistance. The Department will make every reasonable effort to provide equal access and timely assistance to individuals who are disabled through a variety of services.

A person who is disabled may choose to accept department-provided auxiliary aids or services or they may choose to provide their own.



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Department-provided auxiliary aids or services may include, but are not limited to, the assistance methods described in this policy.

### **370.7 AUDIO RECORDINGS AND ENLARGED PRINT**

The Department may develop audio recordings to assist people who are blind or have a visual impairment with accessing important information. If such a recording is not available, members may read aloud from the appropriate form, for example a personnel complaint form, or provide forms with enlarged print.

### **370.8 QUALIFIED INTERPRETERS**

A qualified interpreter may be needed in lengthy or complex transactions (e.g., interviewing a victim, witness, suspect or arrestee), if the individual to be interviewed normally relies on sign language or speechreading (lip-reading) to understand what others are saying. The qualified interpreter should not be a person with an interest in the case or investigation involving the disabled individual. A person providing interpretation services may be required to establish the accuracy and trustworthiness of the interpretation in a court proceeding.

Qualified interpreters should be:

- (a) Available within a reasonable amount of time but in no event longer than one hour if requested.
- (b) Experienced in providing interpretation services related to law enforcement matters.
- (c) Familiar with the use of VRS and/or video remote interpreting services.
- (d) Certified in either American Sign Language (ASL) or Signed English (SE).
- (e) Able to understand and adhere to the interpreter role without deviating into other roles, such as counselor or legal adviser.
- (f) Knowledgeable of the ethical issues involved when providing interpreter services.

Members should use department-approved procedures to request a qualified interpreter at the earliest reasonable opportunity, and generally not more than 15 minutes after a request for an interpreter has been made or it is reasonably apparent that an interpreter is needed. No individual who is disabled shall be required to provide his/her own interpreter (28 CFR 35.160).

### **370.9 TTY AND RELAY SERVICES**

In situations where an individual without a disability would have access to a telephone (e.g., booking or attorney contacts), members must also provide those who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech the opportunity to place calls using an available TTY (also known as a telecommunications device for deaf people, or TDD). Members shall provide additional time, as needed, for effective communication due to the slower nature of TTY and TDD communications.

The Department will accept all TTY or TDD calls placed by those who are deaf or hard of hearing and received via a telecommunications relay service (28 CFR 35.162).

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Note that relay services translate verbatim, so the conversation must be conducted as if speaking directly to the caller.

### **370.10 COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS**

Interpreter services may be available from community volunteers who have demonstrated competence in communication services, such as ASL or SE, and have been approved by the Department to provide interpreter services.

Where qualified interpreters are unavailable to assist, approved community volunteers who have demonstrated competence may be called upon when appropriate. However, department members must carefully consider the nature of the contact and the relationship between the individual with the disability and the volunteer to ensure that the volunteer can provide neutral and unbiased assistance.

### **370.11 FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

While family or friends may offer to assist with interpretation, members should carefully consider the circumstances before relying on such individuals. The nature of the contact and relationship between the individual with the disability and the person offering services must be carefully considered (e.g., victim/suspect).

Children shall not be relied upon except in emergency or critical situations when there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.

Adults may be relied upon when (28 CFR 35.160):

- (a) There is an emergency or critical situation and there is no qualified interpreter reasonably available.
- (b) The person with the disability requests that the adult interpret or facilitate communication and the adult agrees to provide such assistance, and reliance on that adult for such assistance is reasonable under the circumstances.

### **370.12 REPORTING**

Whenever any member of this department is required to complete a report or other documentation, and communication assistance has been provided, such services should be noted in the related report. Members should document the type of communication services utilized and whether the individual elected to use services provided by the Department or some other identified source. If the individual's express preference is not honored, the member must document why another method of communication was used.

All written communications exchanged in a criminal case shall be attached to the report or placed into evidence.

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### **370.13 FIELD ENFORCEMENT**

Field enforcement will generally include such contacts as traffic stops, pedestrian stops, serving warrants and restraining orders, crowd/traffic control and other routine field contacts that may involve individuals with disabilities. The scope and nature of these activities and contacts will inevitably vary.

The Department recognizes that it would be virtually impossible to provide immediate access to complete communication services to every member of this department. Members and/or supervisors must assess each situation and consider the length, complexity and importance of the communication, as well as the individual's preferred method of communication, when determining the type of resources to use and whether a qualified interpreter is needed.

Although not every situation can be addressed in this policy, it is important that members are able to effectively communicate the reason for a contact, the need for information and the meaning or consequences of any enforcement action. For example, it would be meaningless to verbally request consent to search if the deputy is unable to effectively communicate with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing and requires communications assistance.

If available, deputies should obtain the assistance of a qualified interpreter before placing an individual with a disability under arrest. Individuals who are arrested and are assisted by service animals should be permitted to make arrangements for the care of such animals prior to transport.

#### **370.13.1 FIELD RESOURCES**

Examples of methods that may be sufficient for transactions, such as checking a license or giving directions to a location or for urgent situations such as responding to a violent crime in progress, may, depending on the circumstances, include such simple things as:

- (a) Hand gestures or visual aids with an individual who is deaf, hard of hearing or has impaired speech.
- (b) Exchange of written notes or communications.
- (c) Verbal communication with an individual who can speechread by facing the individual and speaking slowly and clearly.
- (d) Use of computer, word processing, personal communication device or similar device to exchange texts or notes.
- (e) Slowly and clearly speaking or reading simple terms to individuals who have a visual or mental impairment.

Members should be aware that these techniques may not provide effective communication as required by law and this policy depending on the circumstances.

### **370.14 CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS**

In an effort to ensure that the rights of individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech impairment are protected during a custodial interrogation, this department will provide interpreter services before beginning an interrogation, unless exigent circumstances exist or the individual

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has made a clear indication that he/she understands the process and desires to proceed without an interpreter. The use of a video remote interpreting service should be considered, where appropriate, if a live interpreter is not available. *Miranda* warnings shall be provided to suspects who are deaf or hard of hearing by a qualified interpreter or by providing a written *Miranda* warning card.

In order to ensure that communications during custodial investigations are accurately documented and are admissible as evidence, interrogations should be recorded whenever reasonably possible. See guidance on recording custodial interrogations in the Investigation and Prosecution Policy.

### **370.15 ARREST AND BOOKINGS**

If an individual with speech or hearing disabilities is arrested, the arresting deputy shall use department-approved procedures to provide a qualified interpreter at the place of arrest or booking as soon as reasonably practicable, unless the individual indicates that he/she prefers a different auxiliary aid or service or the deputy reasonably determines another effective method of communication exists under the circumstances.

When gathering information during the booking process, members should remain alert to the impediments that often exist when communicating with those who are deaf, hard of hearing, who have impaired speech or vision, are blind, or have other disabilities. In the interest of the arrestee's health and welfare, the safety and security of the facility and to protect individual rights, it is important that accurate medical screening and booking information be obtained. If necessary, members should seek the assistance of a qualified interpreter whenever there is concern that accurate information cannot be obtained or that booking instructions may not be properly understood by the individual.

Individuals who require and possess personally owned communication aids (e.g., hearing aids, cochlear processors) should be permitted to retain them while in custody.

### **370.16 COMPLAINTS**

The Department shall ensure that individuals with disabilities who wish to file a complaint regarding members of this department are able to do so. The Department may provide a qualified interpreter or forms in enlarged print, as appropriate. Complaints will be referred to the department ADA Coordinator.

Investigations into such complaints shall be handled in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy. Qualified interpreters used during the investigation of a complaint should not be members of this Department.

### **370.17 COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach programs and other such services offered by this department are important to the ultimate success of more traditional law enforcement duties. This department will continue to work with community groups, local businesses and neighborhoods to provide equal access to such programs and services.

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### **370.18 TRAINING**

To ensure that all members who may have contact with individuals who are disabled are properly trained, the Department will provide periodic training that should include:

- (a) Awareness and understanding of this policy and related procedures, related forms and available resources.
- (b) Procedures for accessing qualified interpreters and other available resources.
- (c) Working with in-person and telephone interpreters and related equipment.

The Training Manager shall be responsible for ensuring new members receive training related to interacting with individuals who have disabilities, including individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, who have impaired speech or vision, or are blind. Those who may have contact with such individuals should receive refresher training at least once every two years thereafter. The Training Manager shall maintain records of all training provided, and will retain a copy in each member's training file in accordance with established records retention schedules.

#### **370.18.1 CALL-TAKER TRAINING**

Emergency call-takers shall be trained in the use of TTY equipment protocols for communicating with individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or who have speech impairments. Such training and information should include:

- (a) The requirements of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act for telephone emergency service providers.
- (b) ASL syntax and accepted abbreviations.
- (c) Practical instruction on identifying and processing TTY or TDD calls, including the importance of recognizing silent TTY or TDD calls, using proper syntax, abbreviations and protocol when responding to TTY or TDD calls.
- (d) Hands-on experience in TTY and TDD communications, including identification of TTY or TDD tones.

Training should be mandatory for all the Communications Center members who may have contact with individuals from the public who are deaf, hard of hearing or have impaired speech. Refresher training should occur every six months.

## Mandatory Employer Notification

### 372.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to describe the requirements and procedures to follow when a public or private school employee (teacher and non-teacher) has been arrested under certain circumstances.

### 372.2 MANDATORY SCHOOL EMPLOYEE ARREST REPORTING

In the event a school employee is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health & Safety Code § 11590, 11364, in so far as that section relates to paragraph (12) of subdivision (d) of Health and Safety Code § 11054, or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290 or in subdivision 1 of Penal Code § 291 or Education Code § 44010, the Sheriff or his/her designee is required to immediately report the arrest as follows:

#### 372.2.1 ARREST OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER

In the event a public school teacher is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11591 or Health and Safety Code § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(12), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290, Penal Code § 261(a), or Education Code § 44010, the Sheriff or his/her designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the superintendent of the school district employing the teacher and to immediately give written notice of the arrest to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and to the superintendent of schools in the county where the person is employed (Health and Safety Code § 11591; Penal Code § 291).

#### 372.2.2 ARREST OF PUBLIC SCHOOL NON-TEACHER EMPLOYEE

In the event a public school non-teacher employee is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11591 or Health and Safety Code § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(12), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290, Penal Code § 261(a), or Education Code § 44010, the Sheriff or his/her designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the superintendent of the school district employing the non-teacher and to immediately give written notice of the arrest to the governing board of the school district employing the person (Health and Safety Code § 11591; Penal Code § 291).

#### 372.2.3 ARREST OF PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHER

In the event a private school teacher is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11591 or Health and Safety Code § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(12), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290 or Education Code § 44010, the Sheriff or his/her designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the private school authority employing the teacher and to immediately give written notice of the arrest to the private school authority employing the teacher (Health and Safety Code § 11591; Penal Code § 291.1).

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### **372.2.4 ARREST OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE INSTRUCTOR**

In the event a teacher or instructor employed in a community college district school is arrested for any controlled substance offense enumerated in Health and Safety Code § 11591.5 or Health and Safety § 11364, in so far as that section relates to Health and Safety Code § 11054(d)(9), or for any of the offenses enumerated in Penal Code § 290 or in Penal Code § 261(a)(1), the Sheriff or the authorized designee is mandated to immediately notify by telephone the superintendent of the community college district employing the person, and shall immediately give written notice of the arrest to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (Health and Safety Code § 11591.5; Penal Code § 291.5).

### **372.3 ARREST OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN COMMUNITY CARE FACILITIES**

In the event an employee of a community treatment facility, a day treatment facility, a group home, a short-term residential therapeutic program or a foster family agency is arrested for child abuse (as defined in Penal Code § 11165.6) and the employee is free to return to work where children are present, the investigating member shall notify the licensee of the charge of abuse (Health and Safety Code § 1522.2).

## Biological Samples

### 374.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the collection of biological samples from those individuals required to provide samples upon conviction or arrest for certain offenses. This policy does not apply to biological samples collected at a crime scene or taken from a person in conjunction with a criminal investigation. Nor does it apply to biological samples from those required to register, for example, sex offenders.

### 374.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will assist in the expeditious collection of required biological samples from offenders in accordance with the laws of this state and with as little reliance on force as practicable.

### 374.3 PERSONS SUBJECT TO DNA COLLECTION

Those who must submit a biological sample include (Penal Code § 296):

- (a) A person, including a juvenile, upon conviction or other adjudication of any felony offense.
- (b) A person, including a juvenile, upon conviction or other adjudication of any offense if the person has a prior felony on record.
- (c) An adult arrested or charged with any felony.

### 374.4 PROCEDURE

When an individual is required to provide a biological sample, a trained employee shall obtain the sample in accordance with this policy.

#### 374.4.1 COLLECTION

The following steps should be taken to collect a sample:

- (a) Verify that the individual is required to provide a sample pursuant to Penal Code § 296; Penal Code § 296.1.
- (b) Verify that a biological sample has not been previously collected from the offender by querying the individual's criminal history record for a DNA collection flag or, during regular business hours, calling the California Department of Justice (DOJ) designated DNA laboratory. There is no need to obtain a biological sample if one has been previously obtained.
- (c) Use a DNA buccal swab collection kit provided by the California DOJ to perform the collection and take steps to avoid cross contamination.



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## *Biological Samples*

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### **374.5 USE OF FORCE TO OBTAIN SAMPLES**

If a person refuses to cooperate with the sample collection process, deputies should attempt to identify the reason for refusal and seek voluntary compliance without resorting to using force. Force will not be used in the collection of samples except as authorized by court order and only with the approval of a supervisor. Methods to consider when seeking voluntary compliance include contacting:

- (a) The person's parole or probation officer when applicable.
- (b) The prosecuting attorney to seek additional charges against the person for failure to comply or to otherwise bring the refusal before a judge.
- (c) The judge at the person's next court appearance.
- (d) The person's attorney.
- (e) A chaplain.
- (f) Another custody facility with additional resources, where an arrestee can be transferred to better facilitate sample collection.
- (g) A supervisor who may be able to authorize custodial disciplinary actions to compel compliance, if any are available.

The supervisor shall review and approve any plan to use force and be present to document the process.

#### **374.5.1 VIDEO RECORDING**

A video recording should be made anytime force is used to obtain a biological sample. The recording should document all staff participating in the process, in addition to the methods and all force used during the collection. The recording should be part of the investigation file, if any, or otherwise retained in accordance with the department's records retention schedule (15 CCR 1059).

#### **374.5.2 CELL EXTRACTIONS**

If the use of force includes a cell extraction, the extraction shall be video recorded, including audio. Video shall be directed at the cell extraction event. The video recording shall be retained by the Department for the length of time required by statute. Notwithstanding the use of the video as evidence in a criminal proceeding, the tape shall be retained administratively (15 CCR 1059).

### **374.6 LEGAL MANDATES AND RELEVANT LAWS**

California law provides for the following:

#### **374.6.1 DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO FORCE**

The Watch Commander shall prepare prior written authorization for the use of any force (15 CCR 1059). The written authorization shall include information that the subject was asked to provide the requisite specimen, sample or impression and refused, as well as the related court order authorizing the force.

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### 374.6.2 BLOOD SAMPLES

A blood sample should only be obtained under this policy when:

- (a) The California DOJ requests a blood sample and the subject consents, or
- (b) A court orders a blood sample following a refusal.

The withdrawal of blood may only be performed in a medically approved manner by health care providers trained and qualified to draw blood. A California DOJ collection kit shall be used for this purpose (Penal Code § 298(a); Penal Code § 298(b)(2)).

### 374.6.3 LITIGATION

The Sheriff or authorized designee should notify the California DOJ's DNA Legal Unit in the event this department is named in a lawsuit involving the DNA Data Bank sample collection, sample use or any aspect of the state's DNA Data Bank Program.

## Chaplains

### 376.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department Chaplain Program is a volunteer program and is established for the purposes of providing spiritual and emotional support to all members of the Department, their families and members of the public.

### 376.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall ensure that department chaplains are properly appointed, trained and supervised to carry out their responsibilities without financial compensation.

### 376.3 ELIGIBILITY

Requirements for participation as a chaplain for the Department may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Being above reproach, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, be free from addiction to alcohol or other drugs, and excessive debt.
- (b) Managing their households, families and personal affairs well.
- (c) Having a good reputation in the community.
- (d) Successful completion of an appropriate-level background investigation.
- (e) A minimum of five years of successful counseling experience.
- (f) Possession of a valid driver license.

The Sheriff may apply exceptions for eligibility based on organizational needs and the qualifications of the individual.

### 376.4 RECRUITMENT, SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall endeavor to recruit and appoint only those applicants who meet the high ethical, moral and professional standards set forth by this department.

All applicants shall be required to meet and pass the same pre-employment procedures as department personnel before appointment.

#### 376.4.1 SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

Chaplain candidates shall successfully complete the following process prior to appointment as a chaplain:

- (a) Submit the appropriate written application.
- (b) Include a recommendation from employers or volunteer programs.
- (c) Interview with the Sheriff and the chaplain coordinator.
- (d) Successfully complete an appropriate-level background investigation.

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- (e) Complete an appropriate probationary period as designated by the Sheriff.

Chaplains are volunteers and serve at the discretion of the Sheriff. Chaplains shall have no property interest in continued appointment. However, if a chaplain is removed for alleged misconduct, the chaplain will be afforded an opportunity solely to clear his/her name through a liberty interest hearing, which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

### **376.5 IDENTIFICATION AND UNIFORMS**

As representatives of the Department, chaplains are responsible for presenting a professional image to the community. Chaplains shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties. Uniforms and necessary safety equipment will be provided for each chaplain. Identification symbols worn by chaplains shall be different and distinct from those worn by deputies through the inclusion of "Chaplain" on the uniform and not reflect any religious affiliation.

Chaplains will be issued Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department identification cards, which must be carried at all times while on-duty. The identification cards will be the standard Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department identification cards, with the exception that "Chaplain" will be indicated on the cards. Chaplains shall be required to return any issued uniforms or department property at the termination of service.

Chaplains shall conform to all uniform regulations and appearance standards of this department.

### **376.6 CHAPLAIN COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall delegate certain responsibilities to a chaplain coordinator. The coordinator shall be appointed by and directly responsible to the Administration Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The chaplain coordinator shall serve as the liaison between the chaplains and the Sheriff. The function of the coordinator is to provide a central coordinating point for effective chaplain management within the Department, and to direct and assist efforts to jointly provide more productive chaplain services. Under the general direction of the Sheriff or the authorized designee, chaplains shall report to the chaplain coordinator and/or Watch Commander.

The chaplain coordinator may appoint a senior chaplain or other designee to assist in the coordination of chaplains and their activities.

The responsibilities of the coordinator or the authorized designee include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Recruiting, selecting and training qualified chaplains.
- (b) Conducting chaplain meetings.
- (c) Establishing and maintaining a chaplain callout roster.
- (d) Maintaining records for each chaplain.
- (e) Tracking and evaluating the contribution of chaplains.
- (f) Maintaining a record of chaplain schedules and work hours.

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- (g) Completing and disseminating, as appropriate, all necessary paperwork and information.
- (h) Planning periodic recognition events.
- (i) Maintaining liaison with other agency chaplain coordinators.

An evaluation of the overall use of chaplains will be conducted on an annual basis by the coordinator.

### **376.7 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Chaplains assist the Department, its members and the community, as needed. Assignments of chaplains will usually be to augment the Operations Division . Chaplains may be assigned to other areas within the Department as needed. Chaplains should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.

All chaplains will be assigned to duties by the chaplain coordinator or the authorized designee.

Chaplains may not proselytize or attempt to recruit members of the Department or the public into a religious affiliation while representing themselves as chaplains with this department. If there is any question as to the receiving person's intent, chaplains should verify that the person is desirous of spiritual counseling or guidance before engaging in such discussion.

Chaplains may not accept gratuities for any service or any subsequent actions or follow-up contacts that were provided while functioning as a chaplain for the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

#### **376.7.1 COMPLIANCE**

Chaplains are volunteer members of this department, and except as otherwise specified within this policy, are required to comply with the Volunteer Program Policy and other applicable policies.

#### **376.7.2 OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

- (a) Chaplains will be scheduled to be on-call for a period of seven consecutive days during each month, beginning on Monday and ending on the following Sunday.
- (b) Generally, each chaplain will serve with Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department personnel a minimum of eight hours per month.
- (c) At the end of each watch the chaplain will complete a chaplain shift report and submit it to the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (d) Chaplains shall be permitted to ride with deputies during any shift and observe Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department operations, provided the Watch Commander has been notified and has approved the activity.
- (e) Chaplains shall not be evaluators of members of the Department.
- (f) In responding to incidents, a chaplain shall never function as a deputy.

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- (g) When responding to in-progress calls for service, chaplains may be required to stand-by in a secure area until the situation has been deemed safe.
- (h) Chaplains shall serve only within the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department unless otherwise authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (i) Each chaplain shall have access to current department member rosters, addresses, telephone numbers, duty assignments and other information that may assist in his/her duties. Such information will be considered confidential and each chaplain will exercise appropriate security measures to prevent distribution of the data.

### 376.7.3 ASSISTING DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

The responsibilities of a chaplain related to department members include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting in making notification to families of members who have been seriously injured or killed and, after notification, responding to the hospital or home of the member.
- (b) Visiting sick or injured members in the hospital or at home.
- (c) Attending and participating, when requested, in funerals of active or retired members.
- (d) Serving as a resource for members when dealing with the public in incidents, such as accidental deaths, suicides, suicidal subjects, serious accidents, drug and alcohol abuse and other such situations that may arise.
- (e) Providing counseling and support for members and their families.
- (f) Being alert to the needs of members and their families.

### 376.7.4 ASSISTING THE DEPARTMENT

The responsibilities of a chaplain related to this department include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting members in the diffusion of a conflict or incident, when requested.
- (b) Responding to natural and accidental deaths, suicides and attempted suicides, family disturbances and any other incident that in the judgment of the Watch Commander or supervisor aids in accomplishing the mission of the Department.
- (c) Responding to all major disasters, such as natural disasters, bombings and similar critical incidents.
- (d) Being on-call and, if possible, on-duty during major demonstrations or any public function that requires the presence of a large number of department members.
- (e) Attending department and academy graduations, ceremonies and social events and offering invocations and benedictions, as requested.
- (f) Participating in in-service training classes.
- (g) Willingness to train others to enhance the effectiveness of the Department.

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### 376.7.5 ASSISTING THE COMMUNITY

The duties of a chaplain related to the community include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Fostering familiarity with the role of law enforcement in the community.
- (b) Providing an additional link between the community, other chaplain coordinators and the Department.
- (c) Providing liaison with various civic, business and religious organizations.
- (d) Promptly facilitating requests for representatives or leaders of various denominations.
- (e) Assisting the community in any other function as needed or requested.
- (f) Making referrals in cases where specialized attention is needed or in cases that are beyond the chaplain's ability to assist.

### 376.7.6 CHAPLAIN MEETINGS

All chaplains are required to attend scheduled meetings. Any absences must be satisfactorily explained to the chaplain coordinator.

### 376.8 PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS

No person who provides chaplain services to members of the Department may work or volunteer for the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in any capacity other than that of chaplain.

Department chaplains shall be familiar with state evidentiary laws and rules pertaining to the limits of the clergy-penitent, psychotherapist-patient and other potentially applicable privileges and shall inform members when it appears reasonably likely that the member is discussing matters that are not subject to privileged communications. In such cases, the chaplain should consider referring the member to a non-department counseling resource.

No chaplain shall provide counsel to or receive confidential communications from any Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department member concerning an incident personally witnessed by the chaplain or concerning an incident involving the chaplain.

### 376.9 TRAINING

The Department will establish a minimum number of training hours and standards for department chaplains. The training, as approved by the Training Manager, may include:

- Stress management
- Death notifications
- Symptoms of post-traumatic stress
- Burnout for members of law enforcement and chaplains
- Legal liability and confidentiality
- Ethics
- Responding to crisis situations

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- The law enforcement family
- Substance abuse
- Suicide
- Deputy injury or death
- Sensitivity and diversity

### **376.9.1 UNIFORMS AND BADGES**

A distinct uniform, badge and necessary safety equipment will be provided for the Chaplains. This uniform may be similar to that worn by the personnel of this department.

### **376.10 TRAINING**

The Department will establish a minimum number of training hours and standards for department chaplains. The training may include stress management, death notifications, post-traumatic stress syndrome, burnout for officers and chaplains, legal liability and confidentiality, ethics, responding to crisis situations, the law enforcement family, substance abuse, suicide, deputy injury or death, and sensitivity and diversity, as approved by the Training Manager.



## Child and Dependent Adult Safety

### 380.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that children and dependent adults are not left without appropriate care in the event their caregiver or guardian is arrested or otherwise prevented from providing care due to actions taken by members of this department (Penal Code § 833.2(a)).

This policy does not address the actions to be taken during the course of a child abuse or dependent adult investigation. These are covered in the Child Abuse and Adult Abuse policies.

### 380.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to mitigate, to the extent reasonably possible, the stressful experience individuals may have when their parent or caregiver is arrested. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will endeavor to create a strong, cooperative relationship with local, state and community-based social services to ensure an effective, collaborative response that addresses the needs of those affected.

### 380.3 PROCEDURES DURING AN ARREST

When encountering an arrest or prolonged detention situation, deputies should make reasonable attempts to determine if the arrestee is responsible for children or dependent adults. In some cases this may be obvious, such as when children or dependent adults are present. However, deputies should inquire if the arrestee has caregiver responsibilities for any children or dependent adults who are without appropriate supervision. The following steps should be taken (Penal Code § 13517.7(b)(1)):

- (a) Inquire about and confirm the location of any children or dependent adults.
- (b) Look for evidence of children and dependent adults. Deputies should be mindful that some arrestees may conceal the fact that they have a dependent for fear the individual may be taken from them.
- (c) Consider inquiring of witnesses, neighbors, friends and relatives of the arrestee as to whether the person is responsible for a child or dependent adult.

Whenever reasonably possible, deputies should take reasonable steps to accomplish the arrest of a parent, guardian or caregiver out of the presence of his/her child or dependent adult. Removing children or dependent adults from the scene in advance of the arrest will generally ensure the best outcome for the individual.

Whenever it is safe to do so, deputies should allow the parent or caregiver to assure children or dependent adults that they will be provided care. If this is not safe or if the demeanor of the parent or caregiver suggests this conversation would be non-productive, the deputy at the scene should explain the reason for the arrest in age-appropriate language and offer reassurance to the child or dependent adult that he/she will receive appropriate care.

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### 380.3.1 AFTER AN ARREST

Whenever an arrest is made, the deputy should take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of the arrestee's disclosed or discovered children or dependent adults.

Deputies should allow the arrestee reasonable time to arrange for care of children and dependent adults. Temporary placement with family or friends may be appropriate. However, any decision should give priority to a care solution that is in the best interest of the child or dependent adult. In such cases the following guidelines should be followed:

- (a) Allow the person reasonable time to arrange for the care of children and dependent adults with a responsible party, as appropriate.
  1. Unless there is evidence to the contrary (e.g., signs of abuse, drug use, unsafe environment), deputies should respect the parent or caregiver's judgment regarding arrangements for care. It is generally best if the child or dependent adult remains with relatives or family friends that he/she knows and trusts because familiarity with surroundings and consideration for comfort, emotional state and safety are important.
  2. Except when a court order exists limiting contact, the deputy should attempt to locate and place children or dependent adults with the non-arrested parent, guardian or caregiver.
- (b) Provide for the immediate supervision of children or dependent adults until an appropriate caregiver arrives.
- (c) Notify Child Protective Services or the Division of Aging and Adult Services, if appropriate.
- (d) Notify the field supervisor or Watch Commander of the disposition of children or dependent adults.

If children or dependent adults are at school or another known location outside the household at the time of arrest, the arresting deputy should attempt to contact the school or other known location and inform the principal or appropriate responsible adult of the caregiver's arrest and of the arrangements being made for the care of the arrestee's dependent. The result of such actions should be documented in the associated report.

### 380.3.2 DURING THE BOOKING PROCESS

During the booking process the arrestee shall be allowed to make additional telephone calls to relatives or other responsible individuals as is reasonably necessary to arrange for the care of any child or dependent adult. These telephone calls should be given as soon as practicable and are in addition to any other telephone calls allowed by law (Penal Code § 851.5(c)).

If an arrestee is unable to resolve the care of any child or dependent adult through this process, a supervisor should be contacted to determine the appropriate steps to arrange for care. These steps may include additional telephone calls or contacting a local, county or state services agency.

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## *Child and Dependent Adult Safety*

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### 380.3.3 REPORTING

- (a) For all arrests where children are present or living in the household, the reporting employee will document the following information:
  - 1. Name
  - 2. Sex
  - 3. Age
  - 4. How, where and with whom or which agency the child was placed
- (b) For all arrests where dependent adults are present or living in the household, the reporting employee will document the following information:
  - 1. Name
  - 2. Sex
  - 3. Age
  - 4. Whether he/she reasonably appears able to care for him/herself
  - 5. Disposition or placement information if he/she is unable to care for him/herself

### 380.3.4 SUPPORT AND COUNSELING REFERRAL

If, in the judgment of the handling deputies, the child or dependent adult would benefit from additional assistance, such as counseling services, contact with a victim advocate or a crisis telephone number, the appropriate referral information may be provided.

### **380.4 DEPENDENT WELFARE SERVICES**

Whenever an arrestee is unwilling or incapable of arranging for the appropriate care of any child or dependent adult, the handling deputy should consider contacting the appropriate welfare service or other department-approved social service to determine whether protective custody is appropriate (Welfare and Institutions Code § 305).

Only when other reasonable options are exhausted should a child or dependent adult be transported to the sheriff's facility, transported in a marked patrol car or taken into formal protective custody.

Under no circumstances should a child or dependent adult be left unattended or without appropriate care.

### **380.5 TRAINING**

The Training Manager is responsible to ensure that all personnel of this department who may be involved in arrests affecting children or dependent adults receive approved POST-approved training on effective safety measures when a parent, guardian or caregiver is arrested (Penal Code § 13517.7).

## Service Animals

### 382.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide the guidelines necessary to ensure the rights of individuals who use service animals to assist with disabilities are protected in accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).

#### 382.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Service animal** - A dog that is trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability (28 CFR 35.104; Health and Safety Code § 113903).

Service animal also includes a miniature horse if the horse is trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities, provided the horse is housebroken, is under the handler's control, the facility can accommodate the horse's type, size and weight, and the horse's presence will not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the facility (28 CFR 35.136(i)).

### 382.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to provide services and access to persons with service animals in the same manner as those without service animals. Department members shall protect the rights of persons assisted by service animals in accordance with state and federal law.

### 382.3 IDENTIFICATION AND USE OF SERVICE ANIMALS

Some service animals may be readily identifiable. However, many do not have a distinctive symbol, harness or collar.

Service animals may be used in a number of ways to provide assistance, including:

- Guiding people who are blind or have low vision.
- Alerting people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Retrieving or picking up items, opening doors or flipping switches for people who have limited use of their hands, arms or legs.
- Pulling wheelchairs.
- Providing physical support and assisting with stability and balance.
- Doing work or performing tasks for persons with traumatic brain injury, intellectual disabilities or psychiatric disabilities, such as reminding a person with depression to take medication.

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## *Service Animals*

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- Alerting a person with anxiety to the onset of panic attacks, providing tactile stimulation to calm a person with post-traumatic stress disorder, assisting people with schizophrenia to distinguish between hallucinations and reality, and helping people with traumatic brain injury to locate misplaced items or follow daily routines.

### **382.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Service animals that are assisting individuals with disabilities are permitted in all public facilities and areas where the general public is allowed. Department members are expected to treat individuals with service animals with the same courtesy and respect that the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department affords to all members of the public (28 CFR 35.136).

#### **382.4.1 INQUIRY**

If it is apparent or if a member is aware that an animal is a service animal, the individual generally should not be asked any questions as to the status of the animal. If it is unclear whether an animal meets the definition of a service animal, the member should ask the individual only the following questions (28 CFR 35.136(f)):

- Is the animal required because of a disability?
- What task or service has the service animal been trained to perform?

If the individual explains that the animal is required because of a disability and has been trained to work or perform at least one task, the animal meets the definition of a service animal and no further questions as to the animal's status should be asked. The individual should not be questioned about his/her disability nor should the person be asked to provide any license, certification or identification card for the service animal.

#### **382.4.2 CONTACT**

Service animals are not pets. Department members should not interfere with the important work performed by a service animal by talking to, petting or otherwise initiating contact with a service animal.

#### **382.4.3 REMOVAL**

If a service animal is not housebroken or exhibits vicious behavior, poses a direct threat to the health of others, or unreasonably disrupts or interferes with normal business operations, a deputy may direct the handler to remove the animal from the premises. Barking alone is not a threat nor does a direct threat exist if the person takes prompt, effective action to control the service animal (28 CFR 35.136(b)).

Each incident must be considered individually and past incidents alone are not cause for excluding a service animal. Removal of a service animal may not be used as a reason to refuse service to an individual with disabilities. Members of this department are expected to provide all services as are reasonably available to an individual with a disability, with or without a service animal.

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### 382.4.4 COMPLAINTS

When handling calls of a complaint regarding a service animal, members of this department should remain neutral and should be prepared to explain the ADA requirements concerning service animals to the concerned parties. Businesses are required to allow service animals to accompany their handlers into the same areas that other customers or members of the public are allowed (28 CFR 36.302).

Absent a violation of law independent of the ADA, deputies should take no enforcement action beyond keeping the peace. Individuals who believe they have been discriminated against as a result of a disability should be referred to the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

## Volunteer Program

### 384.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of this department to use qualified volunteers for specified tasks and duties in order to create efficiencies for the Department and improve services to the community. Volunteers are intended to supplement and support, rather than supplant, sworn deputies and civilian personnel. Volunteers can be an important part of any organization and are proven to be a valuable asset to law enforcement agencies. Volunteers help to increase departmental responsiveness, delivery of services and information input, and provide new program opportunities. In addition, volunteers bring new skills and expertise to the Department and prompt new enthusiasm.

#### 384.1.1 DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEER

An individual who performs a service for the Department without promise, expectation or receipt of compensation for services rendered. This may include unpaid chaplains, unpaid reserve deputies, interns, persons providing administrative support and youth involved in a law enforcement Explorer Post, among others.

### 384.2 VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

#### 384.2.1 VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

The Volunteer Coordinator shall be appointed by the Administration Division Commander. The function of the Volunteer Coordinator is to provide a central coordinating point for effective volunteer management within the Department, and to direct and assist staff and volunteer efforts to jointly provide more productive services. The Volunteer Coordinator should work with other Department staff on an ongoing basis to assist in the development and implementation of volunteer-staffed positions.

The Volunteer Coordinator, or his/her designee, shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) Recruiting, selecting and training qualified volunteers for various positions.
- (b) Facilitating the implementation of new volunteer activities and assignments.
- (c) Maintaining records for each volunteer.
- (d) Tracking and evaluating the contribution of volunteers.
- (e) Maintaining the volunteer handbook and outlining expectations, policies and responsibilities for all volunteers.
- (f) Maintaining a record of volunteer schedules and work hours.
- (g) Completion and dissemination as appropriate of all necessary paperwork and information.
- (h) Planning periodic recognition events.
- (i) Administering discipline when warranted.

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- (j) Maintaining liaison with other volunteer-utilizing programs in the community and assisting in community-wide efforts to recognize and promote volunteering.

### 384.2.2 RECRUITMENT

Volunteers should be recruited on a continuous and ongoing basis consistent with department policy on equal opportunity nondiscriminatory employment. A primary qualification for participation in the application process should be an interest in, and an ability to assist the Department in serving the public.

Requests for volunteers should be submitted in writing by interested staff to the Volunteer Coordinator through the requester's immediate supervisor. A complete position description and a requested time-frame should be included in the request. All parties should understand that the recruitment of volunteers is enhanced by creative and interesting assignments. The Volunteer Coordinator may withhold assignment of any volunteer until such time as the requesting unit is prepared to make effective use of volunteer resources.

### 384.2.3 SCREENING

All prospective volunteers should complete the volunteer application form. The Volunteer Coordinator or designee should conduct a face-to-face interview with an applicant under consideration.

A documented background investigation shall be completed on each volunteer applicant and shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following:

- (a) Traffic and criminal background check. Fingerprints shall be obtained from all applicants and processed through the California Criminal Information Index.
- (b) Employment
- (c) References
- (d) Credit check

A polygraph exam may be required of each applicant depending on the type of assignment.

### 384.2.4 SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

Service as a volunteer with the Department shall begin with an official notice of acceptance or appointment to a volunteer position. Notice may only be given by an authorized representative of the Department, who will normally be the Volunteer Coordinator. No volunteer should begin any assignment until they have been officially accepted for that position and completed all required screening and paperwork. At the time of final acceptance, each volunteer should complete all required enrollment paperwork and will receive a copy of their position description and agreement of service with the Department. All volunteers shall receive a copy of the volunteer handbook and shall be required to sign a volunteer agreement.

Volunteers should be placed only in assignments or programs that are consistent with their knowledge, skills, abilities and the needs of the Department.



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### 384.2.5 TRAINING

Volunteers will be provided with an orientation program to acquaint them with the Department, personnel, policies and procedures that have a direct impact on their work assignment.

Volunteers should receive position-specific training to ensure they have adequate knowledge and skills to complete tasks required by the position and should receive periodic ongoing training as deemed appropriate by their supervisor or the Volunteer Coordinator.

Training should reinforce to volunteers that they may not intentionally represent themselves as, or by omission infer that they are sworn deputies or other full-time members of the Department. They shall always represent themselves as volunteers.

All volunteers shall comply with the rules of conduct and with all orders and directives, either oral or written, issued by the Department.

### 384.2.6 FITNESS FOR DUTY

No volunteer shall report to work or be on-duty when his/her judgment or physical condition has been impaired by alcohol, medication, other substances, illness or injury.

Volunteers shall report to their supervisor any changes in status that may affect their ability to fulfill their duties. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Driver license
- (b) Medical condition
- (c) Arrests
- (d) Criminal investigations

All volunteers shall adhere to the guidelines set forth by this department regarding drug and alcohol use.

### 384.2.7 DRESS CODE

As representatives of the Department, volunteers are responsible for presenting a professional image to the community. Volunteers shall dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties.

Volunteers shall conform to department-approved dress consistent with their duty assignment. Uniforms authorized for volunteers should be readily distinguishable from those worn by sworn deputies. The uniform or identifiable parts of the uniform shall not be worn while off-duty except volunteers may choose to wear the uniform while in transit to or from official department assignments or functions provided an outer garment is worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the volunteer while he/she is off duty.

Volunteers shall be required to return any issued uniform or department property at the termination of service.

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### **384.3 SUPERVISION OF VOLUNTEERS**

Each volunteer who is accepted to a position with the Department must have a clearly identified supervisor who is responsible for direct management of that volunteer. This supervisor will be responsible for day-to-day management and guidance of the work of the volunteer and should be available to the volunteer for consultation and assistance.

A volunteer may be assigned as and act as a supervisor of other volunteers provided that the supervising volunteer is under the direct supervision of a paid staff member.

Functional supervision of volunteers is the responsibility of the supervisor in charge of the unit where the volunteer is assigned. Following are some considerations to keep in mind while supervising volunteers:

- (a) Take the time to introduce volunteers to employees on all levels.
- (b) Ensure volunteers have work space and necessary office supplies.
- (c) Make sure the work is challenging. Do not hesitate to give them an assignment or task that will tap these valuable resources.

### **384.4 CONFIDENTIALITY**

With appropriate security clearance, volunteers may have access to confidential information such as criminal histories or investigative files. Unless otherwise directed by a supervisor or departmental policy, all information shall be considered confidential. Only that information specifically identified and approved by authorized personnel shall be released. Confidential information shall be given only to persons who have a need and a right to know as determined by departmental policy and supervisory personnel.

Each volunteer will be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement before being given an assignment with the Department. Subsequent unauthorized disclosure of any confidential information, verbally, in writing or by any other means, by the volunteer is grounds for immediate dismissal and possible criminal prosecution.

Volunteers shall not address public gatherings, appear on radio or television, prepare any article for publication, act as correspondents to a newspaper or other periodical, release or divulge any information concerning the activities of the Department, or maintain that they represent the Department in such matters without permission from the proper department personnel.

### **384.5 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

Volunteers will be issued an identification card that must be worn at all times while on-duty. Any fixed and portable equipment issued by the Department shall be for official and authorized use only. Any property or equipment issued to a volunteer shall remain the property of the Department and shall be returned at the termination of service.

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### 384.5.1 VEHICLE USE

Volunteers assigned to duties such as vacation house checks or other assignments that require the use of a vehicle must first complete the following:

- (a) A driving safety briefing and department approved driver safety course.
- (b) Verification that the volunteer possesses a valid California Driver License.
- (c) Verification that the volunteer carries current vehicle insurance.

The Volunteer Coordinator should insure that all volunteers receive safety briefing updates and license and insurance verification at least once a year.

When operating a Department vehicle, volunteers shall obey all rules of the road, including seat belt requirements. Smoking is prohibited in all Department vehicles.

Volunteers should not operate a marked patrol car unless there is a prominently placed sign indicating that it is out of service and are not authorized to operate a Department vehicle Code-3.

### 384.5.2 RADIO AND MDT USAGE

Volunteers shall successfully complete CLETS and radio procedures training prior to using the police radio or MDT and comply with all related provisions. The Volunteer Coordinator should ensure that radio and CLETS training is provided for volunteers whenever necessary.

## **384.6 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES/TERMINATION**

A volunteer may be removed from the volunteer program at the discretion of the Sheriff or the Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteers shall have no property interests in their continued appointment. However, if a volunteer is removed for alleged misconduct, the volunteer will be afforded an opportunity solely to clear his/her name through a liberty interest hearing which shall be limited to a single appearance before the Sheriff or authorized designee.

Volunteers may resign from volunteer service with the Department at any time. It is requested that volunteers who intend to resign provide advance notice of their departure and a reason for their decision.

### 384.6.1 EXIT INTERVIEWS

Exit interviews, where possible, should be conducted with volunteers who are leaving their positions. The interview should ascertain why the volunteer is leaving the position and solicit the volunteer's suggestions on improving the position. When appropriate, the interview should also include a discussion on the possibility of involvement in some other capacity with the Department.

## **384.7 EVALUATION**

An evaluation of the overall volunteer program will be conducted on an annual basis by the Volunteer Coordinator. Regular evaluations should be conducted with volunteers to ensure the best use of human resources available, to ensure personnel problems can be identified and dealt with promptly and fairly, and to ensure optimum satisfaction on the part of volunteers.

## Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions

### 386.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The decision to become involved in a law enforcement action when off-duty can place a deputy as well as others at great risk and must be done with careful consideration. This policy is intended to provide guidelines for deputies of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department with respect to taking law enforcement action while off-duty.

### 386.2 POLICY

Initiating law enforcement action while off-duty is generally discouraged. Deputies should not attempt to initiate enforcement action when witnessing minor crimes, such as suspected intoxicated drivers, reckless driving or minor property crimes. Such incidents should be promptly reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Deputies are not expected to place themselves in unreasonable peril. However, any sworn member of this department who becomes aware of an incident or circumstance that he/she reasonably believes poses an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or death, or significant property damage may take reasonable action to minimize the threat.

When public safety or the prevention of major property damage requires immediate action, deputies should first consider reporting and monitoring the activity and only take direct action as a last resort.

### 386.3 FIREARMS

Deputies of this department may carry firearms while off-duty in accordance with federal regulations and department policy. All firearms and ammunition must meet guidelines as described in the department Firearms and Qualification Policy. When carrying firearms while off-duty deputies shall also carry their department-issued badge and identification.

Deputies should refrain from carrying firearms when the consumption of alcohol is likely or when the need to carry a firearm is outweighed by safety considerations. Firearms shall not be carried by any deputy who has consumed an amount of an alcoholic beverage or taken any drugs that would tend to adversely affect the deputy's senses or judgment.

### 386.4 DECISION TO INTERVENE

There is no legal requirement for off-duty deputies to take law enforcement action. However, should deputies decide to intervene, they must evaluate whether the action is necessary or desirable, and should take into consideration the following:

- (a) The tactical disadvantage of being alone and the fact there may be multiple or hidden suspects.
- (b) The inability to communicate with responding units.
- (c) The lack of equipment, such as handcuffs, OC or baton.

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- (d) The lack of cover.
- (e) The potential for increased risk to bystanders if the off-duty deputy were to intervene.
- (f) Unfamiliarity with the surroundings.
- (g) The potential for the off-duty deputy to be misidentified by other peace officers or members of the public.

Deputies should consider waiting for on-duty uniformed deputies to arrive, and gather as much accurate intelligence as possible instead of immediately intervening.

### 386.4.1 INTERVENTION PROCEDURE

If involvement is reasonably necessary the deputy should attempt to call or have someone else call 9-1-1 to request immediate assistance. The dispatcher should be informed that an off-duty deputy is on-scene and should be provided a description of the officer if possible.

Whenever practicable, the deputy should loudly and repeatedly identify him/herself as an Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department deputy until acknowledged. Official identification should also be displayed.

### 386.4.2 INCIDENTS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

Deputies should refrain from handling incidents of personal interest, (e.g., family or neighbor disputes) and should remain neutral. In such circumstances deputies should call the responsible agency to handle the matter.

### 386.4.3 NON-SWORN RESPONSIBILITIES

Non-sworn personnel should not become involved in any law enforcement actions while off-duty except to notify the local law enforcement authority and remain at the scene, if safe and practicable.

### 386.4.4 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

When encountering a non-uniformed deputy in public, uniformed deputies should wait for acknowledgement by the non-uniformed deputy in case he/she needs to maintain an undercover capability.

## **386.5 REPORTING**

Any off-duty deputy who engages in any law enforcement activity, regardless of jurisdiction, shall notify the Watch Commander as soon as practicable. The Watch Commander shall determine whether a report should be filed by the employee.

Deputies should cooperate fully with the agency having jurisdiction in providing statements or reports as requested or as appropriate.

## Sheriff's Mounted Unit

### 389.1 SHERIFF'S MOUNTED UNIT

To promote an atmosphere of service and safety in the community we serve by providing general and specialized law enforcement patrol through the efficient use of Mounted Unit teams.

- (a) The effective deployment of Mounted Unit teams as deemed necessary.
- (b) To provide an effective psychological deterrent to crime.
- (c) Provide for Mounted Patrol in high crime areas.
- (d) To provide an effective means of crowd and riot control.
- (e) To provide security for special events.
- (f) To provide assistance to the Search & Rescue function of the Sheriff's Department.
- (g) Establish and maintain good public relations by promoting public confidence and support.

#### 389.1.1 STAFFING

**Unit coordination:** The chain of command will be adhered to in designating the unit coordinator. In the absence of a Lieutenant, the most senior Sergeant will be the unit coordinator, in the absence of a Sergeant, the most senior deputy etc.

**Unit supervisor:** The chain of command will be adhered to in designating the unit supervisor in the absence of a Sergeant, the most senior deputy etc.

**Unit staffing:** Personnel assigned to the unit will be responsible to the unit coordinator/supervisor for administrative and training duties. Both the unit coordinator and the unit supervisor will have supervision over the Mounted Unit team.

**Unit deployment:** Subject to the direction of the Unit Coordinator, Watch Commander, or Mounted Unit Supervisor, the Mounted Unit Teams will perform general police work involving patrol duties, Mounted Unit tasks, enforcement of State, County, and applicable Municipal laws and regulations, and the protection of life and property.

**Staffing:** The Mounted Unit will consist of full time and reserve Deputy Sheriff Coroners.

#### 389.1.2 PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) Mounted Unit Coordinator
  - 1. Lieutenant - The Mounted Unit Coordinator will typically hold the rank of Lieutenant. However, in a Lieutenants absence, the most senior Sergeant will function as the Unit Coordinator. The Unit Coordinator will be charged with the administrative responsibilities in connection with the operation of the unit.
    - (a) Responsibilities:

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1. Management of the Mounted Unit Budget.
  2. Handling claims related issues.
  3. Preparing services contracts with private entities or outside agencies.
  4. Coordinating deployment of the Mounted Unit.
  5. Managing of equipment procurement.
  6. Coordinating Mounted Unit trainings and Mounted Unit Schools.
- (b) Mounted Unit Supervisor
1. Sergeant
    - (a) Duties: The Mounted Unit Supervisor is the next in authority to the Unit Coordinator. He/She shall be charged with the supervisory duties in connection with the operation of the Unit.
    - (b) Responsibilities:
      1. The supervisor shall be charged with exacting the proper performance of the police duty of personnel assigned to the Mounted Unit and particularly responsible for the efficiency, discipline, general conduct, and appearance of each member.
      2. To schedule personnel for details.
      3. To prepare and disseminate training and operational information pertinent to the use of horses by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Mounted Unit.
      4. To keep accurate and timely records of the units activities and equipment.
      5. To provide issued equipment (may be delegated to an assigned Mounted Unit Deputy) to all qualified and operational Mounted Unit Deputies.
- (c) Mounted Unit Trainer
1. The Mounted Unit Trainers shall be responsible for the training of the unit and shall have functional supervision over all Mounted Unit Deputies in regards to training.
    - (a) Responsibilities
      1. Prepare and coordinate monthly training itinerary/agenda.
      2. Prepare and complete monthly training sign in sheet/roster.

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3. Prepare and select training aids, equipment, and instructors.
4. Responsible for the execution of training blocks.
5. Establish and maintain accurate Mounted Unit training records.
6. Establish and maintain a record of qualified Mounted Unit Deputies and horses.
7. Provide all appropriate training information to the Mounted Unit Supervisor.

### (d) Mounted Unit Deputy

1. The purpose of this section of the manual is to establish duties and responsibilities of the Mounted Unit Deputy/Member.
  - (a) Duties: It shall be the responsibility of every Mounted Unit Deputy/Member to thoroughly acquaint themselves with and follow the procedures as established by this manual.
  - (b) Responsibilities:
    1. Own/possess a qualified horse, personal tack, and trailer in order to have the ability to transport and ride the horse at scheduled trainings and deployments. For new members, will occur within 6 months of date of assignment to the Mounted Unit, unless an extension is granted by the Mounted Unit Coordinator.
    2. Regularly attend monthly training. A minimum of 9 monthly training days per year shall be attended by all Mounted Unit Deputies/Members (with the only exception being excused absences approved by the Mounted Unit Coordinator or a Mounted Unit Supervisor).
    3. Prepare and file reports consistent with department protocol, pertinent to Mounted Unit activity.
    4. Willingly accept call-out assignments or scheduled assignments for duty. Each Mounted Unit Deputy/Member shall work a minimum of 20% of the Mounted Unit work days/shifts per year (for purposes of subsection d), 'work days/shifts' do not include training days).
    5. Maintain a state of preparedness for assignments (personal and issued gear/tack, mount, transportation, etc.). This includes keeping horse shod at all times for anticipated and unanticipated deployments and training. It also includes participating in an annual vaccination health program and keeping the horse properly groomed and nourished so that the animal is presentable and ready for duty.



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6. Maintain proficiency and pass qualifications (New members have 6 months from date of assignment to the Mounted Unit to demonstrate proficiency and pass qualifications on their own horse, unless an extension is granted by the Mounted Unit Coordinator).
7. Any failure by a Mounted Unit Deputy/Member to meet the above responsibilities may result in their removal from the Mounted Unit.

### 389.1.3 PERSONNEL SELECTION

- (a) Oral Interview: Interested Deputies shall, prior to the oral interview, submit a memo of interest to Recruitment per the Mounted Unit Supervisor. The oral interview will be structured to measure an individual's suitability to the duties of a Mounted Unit Deputy and to the tasks to be performed.
- (b) Qualifications:
  1. Must have completed probationary period or have administrative approval.
  2. Reserve Deputy Sheriffs must possess a POST. level II certificate and be qualified to perform the duties of a level II appointment.
  3. Must be physically fit and meet the department's guidelines established in the Rules and Regulations as well as General Orders.
  4. Must display or demonstrate a strong interest and commitment to; all mounted unit duties, acceptance to constructive criticism, and must have maintained sound job proficiency as a Deputy Sheriff. In addition, unit members must be willing to participate in a physically rigorous and disciplined training program and commit themselves to the proper application of their horse in police service.
  5. May have the recommendation of immediate supervisor and shall minimally have satisfactory evaluations.
  6. Must be willing to personally own a horse which is suitable for use in the Mounted Unit, and personally/privately have the ability to trailer the horse. In addition, the member must be willing to possess the personal tack necessary for training.
  7. Must possess a strong interest in riding and horsemanship and have sound teamwork skills.
  8. The Sheriff has final selection authority.
- (c) Horse selection:
  1. Horses selected must be suitable for use in various law-enforcement situations.
  2. They must be in good health, sound, and be of average height and weight.
  3. They must be a gelding.

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4. They must be predominantly dark colored; sorrel, bay, brown, chestnut, black or dark buckskin. Appaloosa, paint, palomino, grey and other predominately light colors are not acceptable.
5. There are no restrictions as to breed, however full blooded draft type horses or mules are not acceptable.
6. They must not possess traits or habits that would present an obvious danger to the public, other unit members, or other Mounted Unit Horses.
7. They must possess an even temperament, be obedient and readily trainable.
8. Horses must be at least 3 years of age.

### 389.1.4 OPERATIONS

- (a) Deployment: The decision to deploy shall rest, in order, with the Operations Captain, Watch Commander/Lt., Unit Coordinator or Unit Supervisor.
  1. Upon deployment, the mounted unit supervisor shall have functional control of the mounted unit Deputies.
  2. Good judgment dictates that each deployment situation be assessed by each individual Mounted Unit Deputy as to their ability to control their horse.
  3. For safety and optimal performance, all deployments will consist of a minimum of two qualified Mounted Unit Deputies and two qualified horses. All details will be worked by qualified Deputies and qualified horses only.
- (b) Duties: It shall be each Mounted Unit Deputy's responsibility to comply with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Rules and Regulations/General Orders.
  1. In addition to standard crime/incident reports, a report shall be completed regarding all on-duty incidents involving; an injury to a Mounted Unit Deputy/Horse, damage/injury caused by a Mounted Unit Deputy/Horse, or the loss/destruction of Mounted Unit equipment whether on duty or not.

### 389.1.5 EQUIPMENT

- (a) Mounted Unit issued equipment shall be governed by its necessity and uniformity, and shall be brought by members to deployments. Issued equipment consists of the following:
  1. Headstall and reins (with members personal bit)
  2. Halter and lead-rope
  3. Boken (horse baton) and holder
  4. Saddle and blanket

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5. Breast collar
6. Saddle bags
7. Corona
8. Reflectors
9. Spurs
10. Mounted unit radio (and all appropriate duty gear)
11. When appropriate:
  - (a) Hoof over-boots
  - (b) Duster
  - (c) Gas mask
  - (d) Riot helmet with shield and riot shield for the horse's face
12. In addition to the above, all Mounted Unit Deputies should carry a personally owned knife on them at trainings and deployments for safety reasons.

### 389.1.6 UNIFORM

The uniform of the day shall be designated by the Unit Coordinator or Mounted Unit Supervisor prior to deployment and will be consistent with other department uniform standards with the below modifications.

- (a) A "cowboy" hat with 4" brim (natural color straw while in short sleeves or black felt while in long sleeves) will be worn.
- (b) Black heeled riding "cowboy" boots will be worn.
- (c) Black denim "Wrangler" type strait-leg jeans will be worn.
- (d) A Brass Crossed-Sabers pin (signifying a Qualified Mounted Unit member) will be worn ¼" above the name tag on the uniform shirt.

### 389.1.7 HORSE INJURY/ILLNESS

In the event that the horse is injured during an official Unit work detail, monthly training, or while being transported to or from said work detail or monthly training, the Unit Policy shall apply as follows:

- (a) On Duty Illness/Injury: If a Unit horse is unfit for duty because of illness or injury, the Mounted Unit member, or owner of the horse if the horse is not owned by the member, will inform the Unit Supervisor (hereinafter "Supervisor").
  1. Any injury/illness to a Unit horse will require an evaluation to determine its fitness for duty.

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2. In the event of an on-duty injury or illness that requires medical attention, it shall be the responsibility of the Member to select a veterinarian and transport the horse as necessary. A Supervisor shall be notified as soon as possible. The Unit member shall complete a report indicating the circumstances regarding the injury or illness, the need for medical attention, and the treatment needed or received. Documentation may include photos, medical records, etc.
  3. Veterinary expenses incurred from a horse's on-duty injury or illness shall be paid for by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.
- (b) Off Duty Illness/Injury: In the event of an off-duty injury or illness to a horse, it will be the Member's, or Owner's, responsibility to evaluate the situation and take the appropriate course of action. All responsibilities (financial or otherwise) associated with an off-duty injury or illness to a horse are solely those of the horse's owner whether it is owned by a Member or non-member.

### 389.1.8 REIMBURSEMENT

#### Reimbursement:

- (a) In the event that a Unit horse is killed, injured, or becomes ill while on-duty to such a degree that it can no longer perform its assigned task and must be destroyed, or retired from service, the owner of the horse, whether it is owned by a Member or non-Member, can submit a claim to the County of Stanislaus within the specified legal requirements pursuant to the laws governing the State of California.

### 389.1.9 TRAINING

- (a) Attendance: Attendance at training days is necessary to ensure both unit and individual proficiency. With the exception of excused absences cleared prior to training by the Mounted Unit Coordinator or Supervisor, failure to attend a minimum of nine training days per year may result in the Mounted Unit Member losing operational status and being removed from the unit. Excused absences will be directly communicated by Mounted Unit Members to the Mounted Unit Coordinator or Mounted Unit Supervisor prior to the training to be missed. Any un-excused absence from training may result in the immediate loss of operational status.
- (b) Qualification/Operational Status:
1. All members/horses of the Mounted Unit shall qualify annually, horse and rider as a team, and shall successfully pass all tests listed on the qualification (the minimum qualification test adapted for the special demands of Mounted Patrol) prior to being considered "Qualified." All riders/horses must be currently qualified prior to field deployment.
  2. In addition to the annual qualification, the horse and rider team will be observed/evaluated by trainers/supervisors at the monthly training days regarding traits

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and general equitation skills, as well as their ability to consistently show overall proficiency regarding; mounted arrest and control, crowd control, boken, mounted weapons training and all other training blocks.

3. If a qualified/operational rider or horse show deficiency, it shall be documented by a trainer or supervisor and will be grounds for assigning a non-operational status to the horse and/or rider. This horse and/or rider will not be deployed (or regain operational status) until the deficiency has been corrected.
  4. The controlled maneuvers annual qualification test will consist of the following:
    - (a) Equipment check mount up (left side)
    - (b) Forward three steps
    - (c) Backward three steps
    - (d) Side-pass right
    - (e) Side-pass left
    - (f) 360 on the front (right)
    - (g) 360 on the front (left)
    - (h) 360 on the rear (right)
    - (i) 360 on the rear (left)
    - (j) Dismount (left side)
    - (k) Mount up (right side)
    - (l) Figure 8 (forward)
    - (m) Figure 8 (backward)
    - (n) "L" configuration (forward)
    - (o) "L" configuration (backward)
    - (p) Side-pass over cones
    - (q) Flare exposure
    - (r) Rattling cans exposure
- (c) Training tack:
- (a) Training tack and equipment shall be provided by the rider. The tack and equipment should be similar to that used on duty. Issued tack and equipment shall not be used during training unless there is a specific training aspect that can only be accomplished by the issued equipment (example: radio or boken).
  - (b) Scheduling:

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- (a) All training days are to be scheduled in advance and cleared by the Operations Capt. Training days will not be scheduled at the expense of patrol operations.
- (b) Recognizing the reality that some details are more demanding than others, the final discretion regarding rider/horse detail assignment will be left up to the Unit Coordinator or the Unit Supervisor.

## Department Use of Social Media

### 390.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that any use of social media on behalf of the Department is consistent with the department mission.

This policy does not address all aspects of social media use. Specifically, it does not address:

- Personal use of social media by department members (see the Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking Policy).
- Use of social media in personnel processes (see the Recruitment and Selection Policy).
- Use of social media as part of a criminal investigation, other than disseminating information to the public on behalf of this department (see the Investigation and Prosecution Policy).

#### 390.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Social media** - Any of a wide array of Internet-based tools and platforms that allow for the sharing of information, such as the department website or social networking services

### 390.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department may use social media as a method of effectively informing the public about department services, issues, investigations and other relevant events.

Department members shall ensure that the use or access of social media is done in a manner that protects the constitutional rights of all.

### 390.3 AUTHORIZED USERS

Only members authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee may utilize social media on behalf of the Department. Authorized members shall use only department-approved equipment during the normal course of duties to post and monitor department-related social media, unless they are specifically authorized to do otherwise by their supervisors.

The Sheriff may develop specific guidelines identifying the type of content that may be posted. Any content that does not strictly conform to the guidelines should be approved by a supervisor prior to posting.

Requests to post information over department social media by members who are not authorized to post should be made through the member's chain of command.

### 390.4 AUTHORIZED CONTENT

Only content that is appropriate for public release, that supports the department mission and conforms to all department policies regarding the release of information may be posted.

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## *Department Use of Social Media*

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Examples of appropriate content include:

- (a) Announcements.
- (b) Tips and information related to crime prevention.
- (c) Investigative requests for information.
- (d) Requests that ask the community to engage in projects that are relevant to the department mission.
- (e) Real-time safety information that is related to in-progress crimes, geographical warnings or disaster information.
- (f) Traffic information.
- (g) Press releases.
- (h) Recruitment of personnel.

### **390.4.1 INCIDENT-SPECIFIC USE**

In instances of active incidents where speed, accuracy and frequent updates are paramount (e.g., crime alerts, public safety information, traffic issues), the Public Information Officer or the authorized designee will be responsible for the compilation of information to be released, subject to the approval of the Incident Commander.

### **390.5 PROHIBITED CONTENT**

Content that is prohibited from posting includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Content that is abusive, discriminatory, inflammatory or sexually explicit.
- (b) Any information that violates individual rights, including confidentiality and/or privacy rights and those provided under state, federal or local laws.
- (c) Any information that could compromise an ongoing investigation.
- (d) Any information that could tend to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or its members.
- (e) Any information that could compromise the safety and security of department operations, members of the Department, victims, suspects or the public.
- (f) Any content posted for personal use.
- (g) Any content that has not been properly authorized by this policy or a supervisor.

Any member who becomes aware of content on this department's social media site that he/she believes is unauthorized or inappropriate should promptly report such content to a supervisor. The supervisor will ensure its removal from public view and investigate the cause of the entry.

#### **390.5.1 PUBLIC POSTING PROHIBITED**

The Sheriff's Department endorses the use of social media to strengthen our relationship with the residents of Stanislaus County. Our goal is to foster communication, engage the community and allow the community to directly communicate with department designated social media personnel.



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We welcome debate and discussion, and seek to maintain an environment that is civil and appropriate for all ages. As an agency we cannot allow the use of ethnic and racial slurs, hateful speech, personal attacks, abusive language, nudity, or pornography. The Department reserves the right to remove comments, such as those that:

- (a) Are unrelated to the subject of the Sheriff's Department post.
- (b) Contain demonstrably false statements of fact.
- (c) Promote or advertise a business, or propose a commercial transaction.
- (d) Support or oppose candidates for elective office or ballot measures.
- (e) Contain content that violates a legal ownership interest of any party, such as trademarked or copyrighted material.
- (f) Communicate private personal information (whether the commenter's or someone else's), including home address, home or cell phone number, personal e-mail address, or personal identification numbers.
- (g) Are likely to incite imminent lawless action.
- (h) Constitute criminal threats, or constitute an element of any crime.
- (i) Promote or support criminal gangs, Outlaw Motorcycle clubs and/or their support groups

People who violate this policy on our Facebook/Twitter/Instagram or any other department social media page may be subject to being blocked from the social media page.

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is not responsible for, and neither endorses nor opposes, comments placed on these sites by visitors to the site. Any comments submitted to these pages are public records subject to disclosure, as are their lists of followers.

### **390.6 MONITORING CONTENT**

The Sheriff will appoint a supervisor to review, at least annually, the use of department social media and report back on, at a minimum, the resources being used, the effectiveness of the content, any unauthorized or inappropriate content and the resolution of any issues. As part of the monitoring process of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office social media pages it will be the responsibility of the Sheriff or his assigned designee to review the social media sites for inappropriate or offensive content that has been posted.

The opinions expressed by visitors on any social media page of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office do not reflect the opinions of the office. Comments are monitored and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office reserves the right to remove inappropriate or offensive content. Any content posted or submitted for posting is subject to public disclosure and there is no expectation of privacy in comments posted to this site.

### **390.7 INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

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## *Department Use of Social Media*

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### **390.8 TRAINING**

Authorized members should receive training that, at a minimum, addresses legal issues concerning the appropriate use of social media sites, as well as privacy, civil rights, dissemination and retention of information posted on department sites.

# Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation

## 391.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended ensure the protection and security of ancient or historic grave sites, including notification of personnel responsible for cultural items, in compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) (25 USC § 3001 et seq.).

### 391.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include (43 CFR 10.2):

**Funerary objects and associated funerary objects** - Objects that, as part of the death rite or ceremony of a culture, are reasonably believed to have been placed intentionally at the time of death or later with or near individual human remains, or that were made exclusively for burial purposes or to contain human remains.

**Native American human remains** - The physical remains of the body of a person of Native American ancestry.

**Objects of cultural patrimony** - Objects having ongoing historical, traditional or cultural importance that is central to the Native American group or culture itself and therefore cannot be appropriated or conveyed by any individual, including members of the Native American group or Native Hawaiian organization. Such objects must have been considered inalienable by the Native American group at the time the object was separated from the group.

**Sacred objects** - Specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions.

## 391.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that the protection of Native American human remains, funerary objects, associated funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony is the responsibility of all members. Such protection includes minimizing destruction, contamination, inadvertent disruption or complicated custody transfer processes.

## 391.3 COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATION ACT

Upon discovery or arrival upon a scene where it reasonably appears that a Native American grave, human remains, funerary objects, associated funerary objects, sacred objects or objects of cultural patrimony are exposed or otherwise unsecured, members shall secure the site in the same manner as a crime scene. All activity at the scene other than scene preservation activity must cease (43 CFR 10.4).

No photography or video recording may be permitted by the media or any group or individual who may wish to exhibit the remains.

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## *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation*

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Without delay, the appropriate agency or group shall be notified to respond and take control of the scene. These include the following (43 CFR 10.4):

- Federal land - Appropriate agency at the U.S. Department of the Interior or U.S. Department of Agriculture
- State land/Private land - [Medical Examiner/JOP], when appropriate (Health and Safety Code § 7050.5)
- Tribal land - Responsible Indian tribal official

### **391.4 EVIDENCE AND PROPERTY**

If the location has been investigated as a possible homicide scene prior to identification as a NAGPRA site, investigators shall work with other appropriate agencies and individuals to ensure the proper transfer and repatriation of any material collected. Members shall ensure that any remains or artifacts located at the site are expediently processed (43 CFR 10.6).

## Gun Violence Restraining Orders

### 392.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for petitioning and serving gun violence restraining orders and accounting for the firearms obtained pursuant to those orders (Penal Code § 18108).

#### 392.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Gun violence restraining order** - Civil restraining order prohibiting a named person from controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of any firearms or ammunition, including an ammunition magazine (Penal Code § 18100).

### 392.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to petition and serve gun violence restraining orders in compliance with state law and to properly account for firearms and ammunition obtained by the [Department/Office] pursuant to such orders.

### 392.3 GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

A deputy who reasonably believes a person is a present danger to him/herself or another person by controlling, owning, purchasing, possessing, receiving, or otherwise having custody of a firearm may request permission from his/her supervisor to petition the court for a gun violence restraining order.

Deputies petitioning the court should use the forms established by the Judicial Council (Penal Code § 18105). The petition should describe the number, types, and locations of any firearms and ammunition that the deputy believes to be possessed or controlled by the person (Penal Code § 18107). The petition should also describe why less-restrictive alternatives are ineffective or inadequate for the circumstances (Penal Code § 18125; Penal Code § 18150; Penal Code § 18175).

If it is not practical under the circumstances to submit a written petition, a deputy may orally request an order, and then prepare and sign a declaration under penalty of perjury that recites the oral statements provided to the judicial officer and memorialize the order of the court on the appropriate Judicial Council form (Penal Code § 18140).

### 392.4 SERVICE OF GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS

A deputy serving any gun violence restraining order shall:

- (a) Verbally ask the subject of the order if he/she has any firearm, ammunition, or magazine in his/her possession or under his/her custody or control (Penal Code § 18160).

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- (b) Request that any firearms or ammunition be immediately surrendered and issue a receipt for the surrendered items (Penal Code § 18120).
- (c) Take into temporary custody any firearm or other deadly weapon discovered in plain view or pursuant to consent or other lawful search (Penal Code § 18250).
- (d) Inform the restrained person of any scheduled hearing regarding the order (Penal Code § 18160).
- (e) Transmit the original proof of service form to the issuing court as soon as practicable but within one business day (Penal Code § 18115).
- (f) As soon as practicable, but by the end of his/her shift, submit proof of service to the Records Manager for prompt entry into the California Restraining and Protective Order System (Penal Code § 18115).

The deputy should also inform the restrained person that he/she is required, within 24 hours, to surrender to a law enforcement agency any other firearms and ammunition he/she owns or that are in his/her custody or control or sell them to a firearms dealer. This notification should be documented.

All firearms and ammunition collected shall be handled and booked in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

### **392.4.1 SERVICE OF ORAL GUN VIOLENCE RESTRAINING ORDERS**

If a gun violence restraining order is obtained orally, the deputy shall (Penal Code § 18140):

- (a) Serve the order on the restrained person in the manner outlined above, if the restrained person can reasonably be located.
- (b) File a copy of the order with the court as soon as practicable after issuance.
- (c) Ensure the order is provided to the Records Bureau for entry into the computer database system for protective and restraining orders maintained by the Department of Justice.

### **392.5 SEARCH WARRANTS**

If a person who has been served with a gun violence restraining order refuses to surrender any firearm or ammunition, the deputy should consider whether to seek a search warrant. If a search warrant is to be obtained, the preparation and service of the search warrant shall be done in accordance with the Warrant Service Policy. Additionally, (Penal Code § 1542.5):

- (a) The deputy serving the warrant shall take custody of any firearm or ammunition that is controlled, possessed or owned by the person who is the subject of the gun violence restraining order, including any discovered pursuant to the warrant, a consensual search or other lawful search.
- (b) If the location being searched is jointly occupied and the firearm or ammunition is owned by a person other than the restrained person, the firearm or ammunition should not be seized if the following conditions are met:

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1. The firearm or ammunition can be stored in a manner that does not allow the restrained person to have control or access.
  2. There is no evidence that the owner unlawfully possesses the firearm or ammunition.
- (c) If a locked gun safe belonging to someone other than the subject of a gun violence restraining order is discovered, the deputy shall not search the contents of the safe unless the owner consents or there is a valid search warrant for the safe. Any search of the safe must be done in the owner's presence.

### **392.6 RECORDS MANAGER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Records Manager is responsible for ensuring:

- (a) Proof of service of any gun violence restraining order served by a deputy or received from the clerk of the court is entered in the computer database system for protective and restraining orders maintained by the Department of Justice within one business day of service if served by a deputy, or within one business day of receipt of proof of service if served by a person other than a law enforcement officer (Penal Code § 18115).
- (b) Oral orders are entered into the California Restraining and Protective Order System (Penal Code § 18140).
- (c) Copies of receipts of surrendered firearms or ammunition issued by other agencies for gun violence restraining orders issued by the [Department/Office] are properly maintained (Penal Code § 18120).
- (d) Any relinquishment of firearm rights form received from the court is entered into the California Restraining and Protective Order System within one business day of receipt (Penal Code § 18115).

### **392.7 COURT-ORDERED FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SURRENDERS**

Authorized members shall accept firearms and ammunition from any individual who is the subject of a gun violence restraining order. The member receiving any firearm or ammunition shall:

- (a) Record the individual's name, address and telephone number.
- (b) Record the serial number of the firearm.
- (c) Prepare an incident report and property report.
- (d) Provide a property receipt to the individual who surrendered the firearms and ammunition.
- (e) Package and submit the firearms and ammunition in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

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### **392.8 RELEASE OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION**

Firearms and ammunition that were taken into temporary custody or surrendered pursuant to a gun violence restraining order shall be returned to the restrained person upon the expiration of the order and in accordance with Penal Code § 18120 and the Property and Evidence Policy.



## Chapter 4 - Patrol Operations

## Patrol Function

### 400.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to define the functions of the patrol unit of the Department to ensure intra-department cooperation and information sharing.

### 400.2 INFORMATION SHARING

To the extent feasible, all information relevant to the mission of the [Department/Office] should be shared among all divisions and specialized units on a timely basis. Members should be provided with opportunities on a regular basis to share information during the daily [briefing]s and to attend [briefing]s of other divisions or specialized units.

Additionally, information should be shared with outside agencies and the public in conformance with [department/office] policies and applicable laws. Members are encouraged to share information with other units and divisions.

### 400.3 CROWDS, EVENTS AND GATHERINGS

Deputies may encounter gatherings of people, including but not limited to, civil demonstrations, civic, social and business events, public displays, parades and sporting events. Deputies should monitor such events as time permits in an effort to keep the peace and protect the safety and rights of those present. A patrol supervisor should be notified when it becomes reasonably foreseeable that such an event may require increased monitoring, contact or intervention.

Deputies responding to an event or gathering that warrants law enforcement involvement should carefully balance the speech and association rights of those present with applicable public safety concerns before taking enforcement action. Deputies are encouraged to contact organizers or responsible persons to seek voluntary compliance that may address relevant public safety/order concerns.

Deputies should consider enforcement of applicable state and local laws, such as Penal Code 602.1 (obstructing or intimidating business operators), when the activity blocks the entrance or egress of a facility or location and when voluntary compliance with the law is not achieved.

### 400.4 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department provides patrol services 24 hours a day, seven days a week and will prioritize responses to requests for emergency services using available resources to enhance the safety of the public and [department/office] members.

### 400.5 FUNCTION

Patrol will generally be conducted by uniformed deputies in clearly marked law enforcement vehicles in assigned jurisdictional areas of Stanislaus. The function of patrol is to respond to calls for assistance and reports of criminal activity, act as a deterrent to crime, enforce state and local

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## *Patrol Function*

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laws, identify community needs, provide support and assistance to the community and respond to emergencies.

Patrol services include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Responding to emergency calls for service.
- (b) Apprehending criminal offenders.
- (c) Providing mutual aid and assistance to other agencies for emergency and law enforcement-related activities.
- (d) Preventing criminal acts, traffic violations and collisions, maintaining public order and discovering hazardous situations or conditions.
- (e) Responding to reports of criminal and non-criminal acts.
- (f) Responding to routine calls for service, such as public assistance or public safety.
- (g) Carrying out crime prevention activities such as residential inspections, business inspections and community presentations.
- (h) Carrying out community oriented policing and problem-solving activities including the application of resources to improve or resolve specific problems or situations and contacting or assisting members of the public in a positive way.
- (i) Directing and controlling traffic.

## Bias-Based Policing

### 402.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to [department/office] members that affirms the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department's commitment to policing that is fair and objective.

Nothing in this policy prohibits the use of specified characteristics in law enforcement activities designed to strengthen the [department/office]'s relationship with its diverse communities (e.g., cultural and ethnicity awareness training, youth programs, community group outreach, partnerships).

#### 402.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Bias-based policing** - An inappropriate reliance on characteristics such as race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, economic status, age, cultural group, disability or affiliation with any non-criminal group (protected characteristics) as the basis for providing differing law enforcement service or enforcement (Penal Code § 13519.4).

### 402.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is committed to providing law enforcement services to the community with due regard for the racial, cultural or other differences of those served. It is the policy of this [department/office] to provide law enforcement services and to enforce the law equally, fairly, objectively and without discrimination toward any individual or group.

### 402.3 BIAS-BASED POLICING PROHIBITED

Bias-based policing is strictly prohibited.

However, nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit a deputy from considering protected characteristics in combination with credible, timely and distinct information connecting a person or people of a specific characteristic to a specific unlawful incident, or to specific unlawful incidents, specific criminal patterns or specific schemes.

#### 402.3.1 CALIFORNIA RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT

Members shall not collect information from a person based on religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin or ethnicity unless permitted under state or federal law (Government Code § 8310.3).

Members shall not assist federal government authorities (Government Code § 8310.3):

- (a) In compiling personal information about a person's religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin or ethnicity.

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## *Bias-Based Policing*

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- (b) By investigating, enforcing or assisting with the investigation or enforcement of any requirement that a person register with the federal government based on religious belief, practice, or affiliation, or national origin or ethnicity.

### **402.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Every member of this [department/office] shall perform his/her duties in a fair and objective manner and is responsible for promptly reporting any suspected or known instances of bias-based policing to a supervisor. Members should, when reasonable to do so, intervene to prevent any biased-based actions by another member.

#### **402.4.1 REASON FOR CONTACT**

Deputies contacting a person shall be prepared to articulate sufficient reason for the contact, independent of the protected characteristics of the individual.

To the extent that written documentation would otherwise be completed (e.g., arrest report, field interview (FI) card), the involved deputy should include those facts giving rise to the contact, as applicable.

Except for required data-collection forms or methods, nothing in this policy shall require any deputy to document a contact that would not otherwise require reporting.

#### **402.4.2 REPORTING OF STOPS**

Unless an exception applies under 11 CCR 999.227 or Government Code § 12525.5, a deputy conducting a stop of a person shall collect the data elements required by 11 CCR 999.226 for every person stopped and prepare a stop data report. When multiple deputies conduct a stop, the deputy with the highest level of engagement with the person shall collect the data elements and prepare the report (11 CCR 999.227).

If multiple agencies are involved in a stop and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is the primary agency, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department deputy shall collect the data elements and prepare the stop data report (11 CCR 999.227).

The stop data report should be completed by the end of the deputy's shift or as soon as practicable (11 CCR 999.227).

### **402.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors should monitor those individuals under their command for compliance with this policy and shall handle any alleged or observed violations in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

- (a) Supervisors should discuss any issues with the involved deputy and his/her supervisor in a timely manner.
  - 1. Supervisors should document these discussions, in the prescribed manner.
- (b) Supervisors should periodically review MAV recordings, portable audio/video recordings, Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) data and any other available resource used

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## *Bias-Based Policing*

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to document contact between deputies and the public to ensure compliance with the policy.

1. Supervisors should document these periodic reviews.
  2. Recordings or data that capture a potential instance of bias-based policing should be appropriately retained for administrative investigation purposes.
- (c) Supervisors shall initiate investigations of any actual or alleged violations of this policy.
- (d) Supervisors should take prompt and reasonable steps to address any retaliatory action taken against any member of this [department/office] who discloses information concerning bias-based policing.

### **402.6 ADMINISTRATION**

Each year, the Operations Division Commander shall review the efforts of the Department to prevent racial- or bias-based profiling and submit an overview, including public concerns and complaints, to the Sheriff.

This report should not contain any identifying information regarding any specific complaint, member of the public or deputies. It should be reviewed by the Sheriff to identify any changes in training or operations that should be made to improve service.

Supervisors shall review the annual report and discuss the results with those they are assigned to supervise.

### **402.7 TRAINING**

Training on racial- or bias-based profiling and review of this policy should be conducted as directed by the Training Unit.

- (a) All sworn members of this department will be scheduled to attend Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved training on the subject of racial- or bias-based profiling.
- (b) Pending participation in such POST-approved training and at all times, all members of this department are encouraged to familiarize themselves with and consider racial and cultural differences among members of this community.
- (c) Each sworn member of this department who received initial racial- or bias-based profiling training will thereafter be required to complete an approved refresher course every five years, or sooner if deemed necessary, in order to keep current with changing racial, identity and cultural trends (Penal Code § 13519.4(i)).

### **402.8 REPORTING TO CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

The Internal Affairs Unit Manager shall ensure that all data required by the California Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding complaints of racial bias against deputies is collected and provided to the Records Manager for required reporting to the DOJ (Penal Code § 13012; Penal Code § 13020). See the Records Bureau Policy.

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Supervisors should ensure that data stop reports are provided to the Records Manager for required annual reporting to the DOJ (Government Code § 12525.5) (See Records Bureau Policy).

## Briefing Training

### 404.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Briefing training is generally conducted at the beginning of the deputy's assigned shift. Briefing provides an opportunity for important exchange between employees and supervisors. A supervisor generally will conduct Briefing; however deputies may conduct Briefing for training purposes with supervisor approval.

Briefing should accomplish, at a minimum, the following basic tasks:

- (a) Briefing deputies with information regarding daily patrol activity, with particular attention given to unusual situations and changes in the status of wanted persons, stolen vehicles, and major investigations
- (b) Notifying deputies of changes in schedules and assignments
- (c) Notifying deputies of new Departmental Directives or changes in Departmental Directives
- (d) Reviewing recent incidents for training purposes
- (e) Providing training on a variety of subjects

### 404.2 PREPARATION OF MATERIALS

The supervisor conducting Briefing is responsible for preparation of the materials necessary for a constructive briefing. Supervisors may delegate this responsibility to a subordinate deputy in his or her absence or for training purposes.



## Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity

### 406.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance in handling a major crime or disaster.

### 406.2 CRIME SCENE RESPONSIBILITY

The first deputy at the scene of a crime or major incident is generally responsible for taking reasonable efforts to preserve the scene. Deputies shall also consider officer safety and public safety, including reasonable efforts to render medical aid to any obviously injured parties. Once a deputy has assumed or been assigned to maintain the integrity of the crime/disaster scene, the deputy shall continue to do so until he/she is relieved by a supervisor.

#### 406.2.1 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS

The following list generally describes the functions which the first responder should reasonably attempt to take at a crime or disaster scene. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive, is not necessarily in order and may be altered according to the demands of each situation, the availability of resources, capacity of personnel and totality of each circumstance:

- (a) Ensure no suspects are still in the area.
- (b) Broadcast emergency information, including all requests for additional assistance.
- (c) Provide first aid to injured parties if it can be done safely.
- (d) Evacuate the location as required.
- (e) Secure the inner and outer perimeter if needed.
- (f) Protect items of apparent evidentiary value.
- (g) Identify potential witnesses.
- (h) Start a chronological log noting critical times and personnel allowed access.

#### 406.2.2 EXECUTION OF HEALTH ORDERS

Any sworn member of this department is authorized to enforce all orders of the local health officer that have been issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease (Health and Safety Code § 120155).

### 406.3 SEARCHES AT CRIME OR DISASTER SCENES

Deputies arriving at crime or disaster scenes are often faced with the immediate need to search for and render aid to victims and determine if suspects are present and continue to pose a threat. Once deputies are satisfied that no additional suspects are present and/or there are no injured persons to be treated, those exigent circumstances will likely no longer exist. Deputies should thereafter secure the scene and conduct no further search until proper authority for the search is obtained.

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## *Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity*

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### 406.3.1 CONSENT

Deputies should seek consent to search from authorized individuals where possible. However, in the case of serious crimes or major investigations, it may be prudent to obtain a search warrant. Consent may be sought even in cases where a search warrant has been granted.

### 406.4 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to secure crime or disaster scenes so that evidence is preserved, and to identify and mitigate the dangers associated with a major crime or disaster scene for the safety of the community and those required to enter or work near the scene.

### 406.5 SCENE RESPONSIBILITY

The first deputy at the scene of a crime or major incident is generally responsible for the immediate safety of the public and preservation of the scene. Deputies shall also consider officer safety and the safety of those persons entering or exiting the area, including those rendering medical aid to any injured parties. Once a deputy has assumed or been assigned to maintain the integrity and security of the crime or disaster scene, the deputy shall maintain the crime or disaster scene until he/she is properly relieved by a supervisor or other designated person.

### 406.6 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS

The following list generally describes the first responder's function at a crime or disaster scene. This list is not intended to be all-inclusive, is not necessarily in order and may be altered according to the demands of each situation:

- (a) Broadcast emergency information, including requests for additional assistance and resources.
- (b) Provide for the general safety of those within the immediate area by mitigating, reducing or eliminating threats or dangers.
- (c) Locate or identify suspects and determine whether dangerous suspects are still within the area.
- (d) Provide first aid to injured parties if it can be done safely.
- (e) Evacuate the location safely as required or appropriate.
- (f) Secure the inner perimeter.
- (g) Protect items of apparent evidentiary value.
- (h) Secure an outer perimeter.
- (i) Identify potential witnesses.
- (j) Start a chronological log noting critical times and personnel allowed access.

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## *Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity*

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### **406.7 SEARCHES**

Deputies arriving at crime or disaster scenes are often faced with the immediate need to search for and render aid to victims, and to determine if suspects are present and continue to pose a threat. Once deputies are satisfied that no additional suspects are present and/or there are no injured persons to be treated, those exigent circumstances will likely no longer exist. Deputies should thereafter secure the scene and conduct no further search until additional or alternate authority for the search is obtained, such as consent or a search warrant.

#### **406.7.1 CONSENT**

When possible, deputies should seek written consent to search from authorized individuals. However, in the case of serious crimes or major investigations, it may be prudent to also obtain a search warrant. Consent as an additional authorization may be sought, even in cases where a search warrant has been granted.

### **406.8 EXECUTION OF HEALTH ORDERS**

Any sworn member of this department is authorized to enforce all orders of the local health officer that have been issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease (Health and Safety Code § 120155).

# Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) / Hostage Negotiations Team (HNT)

## 408.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) and Hostage Negotiations Team (HNT) was established to provide specialized support in handling critical field operations where intense negotiations and/or special tactical deployment methods beyond the capacity of field officers appear to be necessary. This policy is written to comply with the guidelines established in the Attorney General's Commission on Special Weapons and Tactics Report (September 2002) and the POST 2005 SWAT Operational Guidelines and Standardized Training Recommendations (Penal Code § 13514.1).

### 408.1.1 OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

The Policy Manual sections pertaining to SWAT and HNT are divided into Administrative and Operational Policy and Procedures. Since situations that necessitate the need for such a police response vary greatly from incident to incident and such events often demand on-the-scene evaluation, the Operational Policy outlined in this manual section serves as a guideline to department personnel allowing for appropriate on scene decision making as required. The Administrative Procedures, however, are more restrictive and few exceptions should be taken.

### 408.1.2 SWAT TEAM DEFINED

A SWAT team is a designated unit of law enforcement officers that is specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are so hazardous, complex, or unusual that they may exceed the capabilities of first responders or investigative units including, but not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts and other high-risk incidents. As a matter of department policy, such a unit may also be used to serve high-risk warrants, both search and arrest, where public and officer safety issues warrant the use of such a unit.

## 408.2 LEVELS OF CAPABILITY/TRAINING

### 408.2.1 LEVEL I

A level I SWAT team is a basic team capable of providing containment and intervention with critical incidents that exceed the training and resources available to line-level deputies. This does not include ad hoc teams of officers that are formed around a specific mission, detail or incident (e.g. active shooter response). Generally 5% of the basic team's on-duty time should be devoted to training.

### 408.2.2 LEVEL II

A level II, Intermediate level SWAT team is capable of providing containment and intervention. Additionally, these teams possess tactical capabilities above the Level I teams. These teams may or may not work together on a daily basis, but are intended to respond to incidents as a team. At

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least 5% of their on-duty time should be devoted to training with supplemental training for tactical capabilities above the Level I team.

### 408.2.3 LEVEL III

A Level III, Advanced level SWAT team is a SWAT team whose personnel function as a full-time unit. Generally 25% of their on-duty time is devoted to training. Level III teams operate in accordance with contemporary best practices. Such units possess both skills and equipment to utilize tactics beyond the capabilities of Level I and Level II teams.

### **408.3 POLICY**

It shall be the policy of this department to maintain a SWAT team and to provide the equipment, manpower, and training necessary to maintain a SWAT team. The SWAT team should develop sufficient resources to perform three basic operational functions:

- (a) Command and Control
- (b) Containment
- (c) Entry/Apprehension/Rescue

It is understood it is difficult to categorize specific capabilities for critical incidents. Training needs may vary based on the experience level of the team personnel, team administrators and potential incident commanders. Nothing in this policy shall prohibit individual teams from responding to a situation that exceeds their training levels due to the exigency of the circumstances. The preservation of innocent human life is paramount.

#### 408.3.1 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A needs assessment should be conducted to determine the type and extent of SWAT missions and operations appropriate to this department. The assessment should consider the team's capabilities and limitations and should be reviewed annually by the SWAT Commander or his/her designee.

#### 408.3.2 ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES

This department shall develop a separate written set of organizational procedures which should address, at minimum, the following:

- (a) Locally identified specific missions the team is capable of performing.
- (b) Team organization and function.
- (c) Personnel selection and retention criteria.
- (d) Training and required competencies.
- (e) Procedures for activation and deployment.
- (f) Command and control issues, including a clearly defined command structure.
- (g) Multi-agency response.
- (h) Out-of-jurisdiction response.

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- (i) Specialized functions and supporting resources.

### 408.3.3 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

This department shall develop a separate written set of operational procedures in accordance with the determination of their level of capability, using sound risk reduction practices. The operational procedures should be patterned after the National Tactical Officers Association Suggested SWAT Best Practices. Because such procedures are specific to SWAT/HNT members and will outline tactical and officer safety issues, they are not included within this policy. The operational procedures should include, at minimum, the following:

- (a) Designated personnel responsible for developing an operational or tactical plan prior to, and/or during SWAT operations (time permitting).
  - 1. All SWAT team members should have an understanding of operational planning.
  - 2. SWAT team training should consider planning for both spontaneous and planned events.
  - 3. SWAT teams should incorporate medical emergency contingency planning as part of the SWAT operational plan.
- (b) Plans for mission briefings conducted prior to an operation, unless circumstances require immediate deployment.
  - 1. When possible, briefings should include the specialized units and supporting resources.
- (c) Protocols for a sustained operation should be developed which may include relief, rotation of personnel and augmentation of resources.
- (d) A generic checklist to be worked through prior to initiating a tactical action as a means of conducting a threat assessment to determine the appropriate response and resources necessary, including the use of SWAT.
- (e) The appropriate role for a trained negotiator.
- (f) A standard method of determining whether or not a warrant should be regarded as high-risk.
- (g) A method for deciding how best to serve a high-risk warrant with all reasonably foreseeable alternatives being reviewed in accordance with risk/benefit criteria prior to selecting the method of response.
- (h) Post incident scene management including:
  - 1. Documentation of the incident.
  - 2. Transition to investigations and/or other units.
  - 3. Debriefing after every deployment of the SWAT team.

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- (a) After-action team debriefing provides evaluation and analysis of critical incidents and affords the opportunity for individual and team assessments, helps to identify training needs, and reinforces sound risk management practices.
- (b) Such debriefing should not be conducted until involved deputies have had the opportunity to individually complete necessary reports or provide formal statements.
- (c) In order to maintain candor and a meaningful exchange, debriefing will generally not be recorded.
- (d) When appropriate, debriefing should include specialized units and resources.
  - (i) Sound risk management analysis.
  - (j) Standardization of equipment deployed.

### **408.4 TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

The SWAT Commander shall conduct an annual SWAT Training needs assessment to ensure that training is conducted within team capabilities, department policy and the training guidelines as established by POST (11 C.C.R. § 1084).

#### **408.4.1 INITIAL TRAINING**

SWAT team operators and SWAT supervisors/team leaders should not be deployed until successful completion of the POST-certified Basic SWAT Course or its equivalent.

- (a) To avoid unnecessary or redundant training, previous training completed by members may be considered equivalent when the hours and content (topics) meet or exceed department requirements or POST standardized training recommendations.

#### **408.4.2 UPDATED TRAINING**

Appropriate team training for the specialized SWAT functions and other supporting resources should be completed prior to full deployment of the team.

SWAT team operators and SWAT supervisors/team leaders should complete update or refresher training as certified by POST, or its equivalent, every 24 months.

#### **408.4.3 SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT TRAINING**

Command and executive personnel are encouraged to attend training for managing the SWAT function at the organizational level to ensure personnel who provide active oversight at the scene of SWAT operations understand the purpose and capabilities of the teams.

Command personnel who may assume incident command responsibilities should attend SWAT or Critical Incident Commander course or its equivalent. SWAT command personnel should attend a POST-certified SWAT commander or tactical commander course, or its equivalent.

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### 408.4.4 SWAT ONGOING TRAINING

Training shall be coordinated by the SWAT Commander and/or Team Leader. The SWAT Commander may conduct monthly training exercises that include a review and critique of personnel and their performance in the exercise in addition to specialized training. Training shall consist of the following:

- (a) Each SWAT member shall perform a physical fitness test twice each year. A minimum qualifying score must be attained by each team member.
- (b) Any SWAT team member failing to attain the minimum physical fitness qualification score will be notified of the requirement to retest and attain a qualifying score. Within 30 days of the previous physical fitness test date, the member required to qualify shall report to a team supervisor and complete the entire physical fitness test. Failure to qualify after a second attempt may result in dismissal from the team.
- (c) Those members who are on vacation, ill, or are on light duty status with a doctor's note of approval on the test date, shall be responsible for reporting to a team supervisor and taking the test within 30 days of their return to regular duty. Any member, who fails to arrange for and perform the physical fitness test within the 30-day period, shall be considered as having failed to attain a qualifying score for that test period.
- (d) Bi-Annually, each SWAT team member shall perform the mandatory SWAT handgun and rifle qualification course. The qualification course shall consist of the SWAT Basic Drill for the handgun and rifle. Failure to qualify will require that officer to seek remedial training from a team range master approved by the SWAT Commander. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify within 30 days with or without remedial training may result in dismissal from the team.
- (e) Bi-Annually, each SWAT team counter sniper shall perform the mandatory SWAT counter sniper qualification course. Failure to qualify will require that officer to seek remedial training from a team range master approved by the SWAT Commander. Team members who fail to qualify must retest within 30 days. Failure to qualify within 30 days with or without remedial training may result in dismissal as a counter sniper.

### 408.4.5 TRAINING SAFETY

Use of a designated safety officer should be considered for all tactical training.

### 408.4.6 SCENARIO BASED TRAINING

SWAT teams should participate in scenario-based training that simulates the tactical operational environment. Such training is an established method of improving performance during an actual deployment.

### 408.4.7 TRAINING DOCUMENTATION

Individual and team training shall be documented and records maintained by the Team Leader. Such documentation shall be maintained in each member's individual training file. A separate agency SWAT training file shall be maintained with documentation and records of all team training.



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### **408.5 UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIREARMS**

#### 408.5.1 UNIFORMS

SWAT teams from this agency should wear uniforms that clearly identify team members as law enforcement officers. It is recognized that certain tactical conditions may require covert movement. Attire may be selected appropriate to the specific mission.

#### 408.5.2 EQUIPMENT

SWAT teams from this agency should be adequately equipped to meet the specific mission(s) identified by the agency.

#### 408.5.3 FIREARMS

Weapons and equipment used by SWAT, the specialized units, and the supporting resources should be agency-issued or approved, including any modifications, additions, or attachments.

### **408.6 MANAGEMENT/SUPERVISION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT**

The Commander of the each unit shall be a Lieutenant or his/her designee, approved by the Sheriff upon recommendation of staff.

#### 408.6.1 TEAM SUPERVISORS

The Negotiation Team and Special Weapons and Tactics Team will be supervised by a Team Leader.

The team leaders shall be selected by the team commander. The Sheriff will have final approval upon specific recommendation by staff.

The following represent the supervisor responsibilities for SWAT/HNT.

- (a) The Negotiation Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the Negotiation Team which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the HNT Commander.
- (b) The Special Weapons and Tactics Team supervisor's primary responsibility is to supervise the operations of the SWAT Team, which will include deployment, training, first line participation, and other duties as directed by the SWAT Commander.

### **408.7 CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

The Hostage Negotiation Team has been established to provide skilled verbal communicators who may be utilized to attempt to de-escalate and effect surrender in critical situations where suspects have taken hostages, barricaded themselves, or have suicidal tendencies.

The following procedures serve as directives for the administrative operation of the Hostage Negotiation Team.

#### 408.7.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel, who are off probation, shall submit a memo of interest to administration once the opening is announced. A copy will be forwarded to the HNT Commander

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and the Hostage Negotiation Team supervisor. Qualified applicants will then be invited to an oral interview. The oral board will consist of the HNT Commander, the HNT supervisor, and a third person to be selected by the two. Interested personnel shall be evaluated by the following criteria:

- (a) Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance.
- (b) Demonstrated good judgment and understanding of critical role of negotiator and negotiation process.
- (c) Effective communication skills to ensure success as a negotiator.
- (d) Special skills, training, or appropriate education as it pertains to the assignment.
- (e) Commitment to the unit, realizing that the assignment may necessitate unusual working hours, conditions, and training obligations.

The oral board shall submit a list of successful applicants to staff. The sheriff will make the final decision.

### 408.7.2 TRAINING OF NEGOTIATORS

Those deputies selected as members of the Negotiation Team should attend the Basic Negotiators Course as approved by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) prior to primary use in an actual crisis situation. Untrained deputies may be used in a support or training capacity. Additional training will be coordinated by the team supervisor.

A minimum of one training day per quarter will be required to provide the opportunity for role playing and situational training necessary to maintain proper skills. This will be coordinated by the team supervisor.

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the team supervisor. Performance and efficiency levels, established by the team supervisor, will be met and maintained by all team members. Any member of the Negotiation Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the unit.

### 408.8 SWAT TEAM ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team was established to provide a skilled and trained team which may be deployed during events requiring specialized tactics in such situations as cases where suspects have taken hostages and/or barricaded themselves as well as prolonged or predictable situations in which persons armed or suspected of being armed pose a danger to themselves or others.

The following procedures serve as directives for the administrative operation of the Special Weapons and Tactics Team.

#### 408.8.1 SELECTION OF PERSONNEL

Interested sworn personnel who are off probation shall submit a memo of interest through administration. A copy of which will be forwarded to the SWAT Commander and/or Team Leader.

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Those qualifying applicants will then be invited to participate in the testing process. The order of the tests will be given at the discretion of the SWAT Commander. The testing process will consist of an interview, physical agility, file review, and team evaluation.

- (a) Interview: The interview will consist of personnel selected by the SWAT Commander. Applicants will be evaluated by the following criteria:
  - 1. Recognized competence and ability as evidenced by performance;
  - 2. Demonstrated good judgment and understanding of critical role of SWAT member;
  - 3. Special skills, training, or appropriate education as it pertains to this assignment; and,
  - 4. Commitment to the unit, realizing that the additional assignment may necessitate unusual working hours, conditions, and training obligations.
- (b) Physical agility: The physical agility test is designed to determine the physical capabilities of the applicant as it relates to performance of SWAT-related duties. The test and scoring procedure will be established by the SWAT Commander. A minimum qualifying score shall be attained by the applicant to be considered for the position.
- (c) File review: The Team Leader or designee will review the applicant's personnel files and review past employee reviews.
- (d) Team evaluation: Current team members will evaluate each candidate on his or her field tactical skills, teamwork, ability to work under stress, communication skills, judgment, and any special skills that could benefit the team.
- (e) A list of successful applicants shall be submitted to staff, by the SWAT Commander. The Sheriff will make the final selection.

### 408.8.2 TEAM EVALUATION

Continual evaluation of a team member's performance and efficiency as it relates to the positive operation of the unit shall be conducted by the SWAT Commander. The performance and efficiency level, as established by the team leader, will be met and maintained by all SWAT Team members. Any member of the SWAT Team who performs or functions at a level less than satisfactory shall be subject to dismissal from the team.

### 408.9 OPERATION GUIDELINES FOR CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The following procedures serve as guidelines for the operational deployment SWAT/HNT. Generally, the Special Weapons and Tactics Team and the Hostage Negotiation Team will be activated together. It is recognized, however, that a tactical team may be used in a situation not requiring the physical presence of the Hostage Negotiation Team such as warrant service operations. This shall be at the discretion of the SWAT Commander.

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### 408.9.1 ON-SCENE DETERMINATION

The supervisor in charge on the scene of a particular event will assess whether SWAT/HNT is to be requested. The Watch Commander will make the request for the SWAT team to the SWAT Commander or SWAT Team Leader. The SWAT Commander or SWAT Team Leader will assess the event and make the final determination for SWAT deployment.

### 408.9.2 APPROPRIATE SITUATIONS FOR USE OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The following are examples of incidents which may result in the activation of SWAT/HNT:

- (a) Barricaded suspects who refuse an order to surrender.
- (b) Incidents where hostages are taken.
- (c) Cases of suicide threats.
- (d) Arrests of dangerous persons.
- (e) Any situation that could enhance the ability to preserve life, maintain social order, and ensure the protection of property.

### 408.9.3 OUTSIDE AGENCY REQUESTS

Requests by field personnel for assistance from outside agency's must be approved by the Watch Commander. Deployment of the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department SWAT Team in response to requests by other agencies must be authorized by the SWAT Commander or SWAT Team Leader.

### 408.9.4 MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL SWAT OPERATIONS

The SWAT team, including relevant specialized units and supporting resources, should develop protocols, agreements, MOU's, or working relationships to support multi-jurisdictional or regional responses.

- (a) If it is anticipated that multi-jurisdictional SWAT operations will regularly be conducted; SWAT multi-agency and multi-disciplinary joint training exercises are encouraged.
- (b) Members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department SWAT team shall operate under the policies, procedures and command of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department when working in a multi-agency situation.

### 408.9.5 MOBILIZATION OF CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT

The On-Scene supervisor shall make a request to the Watch Commander for SWAT/HNT. The Watch Commander shall then notify the SWAT Commander, if unavailable, the Team Leader. A current mobilization list shall be maintained in the Watch Commander's office by the SWAT Commander. The Watch Commander will then notify the Operations Division Commander as soon as practical.

The Watch Commander should advise the SWAT Commander with as much of the following information which is available at the time:

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- (a) The number of suspects, known weapons and resources.
- (b) If the suspect is in control of hostages.
- (c) If the suspect is barricaded.
- (d) The type of crime involved.
- (e) If the suspect has threatened or attempted suicide.
- (f) The location of the command post and a safe approach to it.
- (g) The extent of any perimeter and the number of deputies involved.
- (h) Any other important facts critical to the immediate situation and whether the suspect has refused an order to surrender.

The SWAT Commander or Team Leader will then activate the team.

### 408.9.6 FIELD UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

While waiting for SWAT/HNT field personnel should, if safe, practical and sufficient resources exist:

- (a) Establish an inner and outer perimeter.
- (b) Establish a command post outside of the inner perimeter.
- (c) Establish an arrest/response team. The team actions may include:
  - 1. Securing any subject or suspect who may surrender.
  - 2. Taking action to mitigate a deadly threat or behavior.
- (d) Evacuate any injured persons or citizens in the zone of danger.
- (e) Attempt to establish preliminary communication with the suspect. Once SWAT/HNT has arrived, all negotiations should generally be halted to allow the negotiators and SWAT time to set up.
- (f) Be prepared to brief the SWAT/HNT Commander on the situation.
- (g) Plan for, and stage, anticipated resources.

### 408.9.7 ON-SCENE COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon arrival of SWAT/HNT at the scene, the Incident Commander shall brief the SWAT Commander and Team Leader about the situation. Upon review, it will be the SWAT Commander's decision, with input from the Incident Commander, whether to deploy SWAT/HNT. Once the SWAT Commander authorizes deployment, the SWAT Commander will be responsible for the tactical portion of the operation. The Incident Commander shall continue supervision of the command post operation, outer perimeter security, and support for SWAT/HNT. The Incident Commander and the SWAT Commander (or his or her designee) shall maintain communications at all times.

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### 408.9.8 COMMUNICATION WITH CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT PERSONNEL

All of those persons who are non HNT personnel should refrain from any non-emergency contact or interference with any member of the unit during active negotiations. Operations require the utmost in concentration by involved personnel and, as a result, no one should interrupt or communicate with HNT personnel directly. All non-emergency communications shall be channeled through the Negotiation Team Leader or his or her designee.

## Ride-Along Policy

### 410.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Ride-Along Program provides an opportunity for citizens to experience the law enforcement function first hand. This policy provides the requirements, approval process, and hours of operation for the Ride-Along Program.

#### 410.1.1 ELIGIBILITY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Ride-Along Program is offered to residents, students and those employed within the County. Every attempt will be made to accommodate interested persons however any applicant may be disqualified without cause.

The following factors may be considered in disqualifying an applicant and are not limited to:

- Being under 15 years of age
- Prior criminal history
- Pending criminal action
- Pending lawsuit against the Department
- Denial by any supervisor

#### 410.1.2 AVAILABILITY

The Ride-Along Program is available on most days of the week, with certain exceptions. The ride-along times are from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Exceptions to this schedule may be made as approved by the Sheriff, Division Commander, or Watch Commander.

### 410.2 PROCEDURE TO REQUEST A RIDE-ALONG

Generally, ride-along requests will be scheduled by the Watch Commander. The participant will complete a ride-along waiver form. Information requested will include a valid ID or California driver's license, address, and telephone number. If the participant is under 18 years of age, a parent/guardian must be present to complete the Ride-Along Form.

The Watch Commander will schedule a date, based on availability, at least one week after the date of application. If approved, a copy will be forwarded to the respective Watch Commander as soon as possible for his/her scheduling considerations.

If the ride-along is denied after the request has been made, a representative of the Department will contact the applicant and advise him/her of the denial.

#### 410.2.1 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Once approved, civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once every six months. An exception would apply to the following: Cadets, Explorers, RSVP, Chaplains, Reserves, sheriff's applicants, and all others with approval of the Watch Commander.

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## *Ride-Along Policy*

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An effort will be made to ensure that no more than one citizen will participate in a ride-along during any given time period. Normally, no more than one ride-along will be allowed in the deputy's vehicle at a given time.

Ride-along requirements for sheriff's cadets are covered in the Sheriff's Cadets Policy.

### 410.2.2 SUITABLE ATTIRE

Any person approved to ride along is required to be suitably dressed in collared shirt, blouse or jacket, slacks and shoes. Sandals, T-shirts, tank tops, shorts and ripped or torn blue jeans are not permitted. Hats and ball caps will not be worn in the sheriff's vehicle. The Watch Commander or field supervisor may refuse a ride along to anyone not properly dressed.

### 410.2.3 PEACE OFFICER RIDE-ALONGS

Off-duty members of this department or any other law enforcement agency will not be permitted to ride-along with on-duty deputies without the expressed consent of the Watch Commander. In the event that such a ride-along is permitted, the off-duty employee shall not be considered on-duty and shall not represent themselves as a peace officer or participate in any law enforcement activity except as emergency circumstances may require.

### 410.2.4 RIDE-ALONG CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK

All Ride-along applicants are subject to a criminal history check. The criminal history check may include a local records check and a Department of Justice Automated Criminal History System check through CLETS prior to their approval as a ride-along with a law enforcement officer (provided that the ride-along is not an employee of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department) (CLETS Policies, Practices and Procedures Manual § 1.6.1.D.3.)

## **410.3 DEPUTY'S RESPONSIBILITY**

The deputy shall advise the dispatcher that a ride-along is present in the vehicle before going into service. Deputies shall consider the safety of the ride-along at all times. Deputies should use sound discretion when encountering a potentially dangerous situation, and if feasible, let the participant out of the vehicle in a well-lighted place of safety. The dispatcher will be advised of the situation and as soon as practical have another sheriff's unit respond to pick up the participant at that location. The ride-along may be continued or terminated at this time.

The Watch Commander is responsible for maintaining and scheduling ride-alongs. Upon completion of the ride-along, the yellow form shall be returned to the Watch Commander with any comments which may be offered by the deputy.

## **410.4 CONTROL OF RIDE-ALONG**

The assigned employee shall maintain control over the ride-along at all times and instruct him/her in the conditions that necessarily limit their participation. These instructions should include:

- (a) The ride-along will follow the directions of the deputy



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- (b) The ride-along will not become involved in any investigation, handling of evidence, discussions with victims or suspects, or handling any sheriff's equipment
- (c) The ride-along may terminate the ride at any time and the deputy may return the observer to their home or to the station if the ride-along interferes with the performance of the deputy's duties
- (d) Ride-alongs may be allowed to continue riding during the transportation and booking process provided this does not jeopardize their safety
- (e) Deputies will not allow any ride-alongs to be present in any residences or situations that would jeopardize their safety or cause undue stress or embarrassment to a victim or any other citizen
- (f) Under no circumstance shall a civilian ride along be permitted to enter a private residence with a deputy without the expressed consent of the resident or other authorized person

## Hazardous Material Response

### 412.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Hazardous materials present a potential harm to employees resulting from their exposure. To comply with Title 8, California Code of Regulations, § 5194, the following is to be the policy of this department.

#### 412.1.1 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL DEFINED

A hazardous material is a substance which by its nature, containment and reactivity, has the capability of inflicting harm during exposure; characterized as being toxic, corrosive, flammable, reactive, an irritant or strong sensitizer and thereby posing a threat to health when improperly managed.

### 412.2 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RESPONSE

Employees may encounter situations involving suspected hazardous materials, such as at the scene of a traffic accident, chemical spill or fire. When employees come into contact with a suspected hazardous material, certain steps should be taken to protect themselves and citizens.

The following steps should be considered at any scene involving suspected hazardous materials:

- (a) Attempt to identify the type of hazardous substance. (Identification can be determined by placard, driver's manifest or statements from the person transporting).
- (b) Notify the Fire Department.
- (c) Provide first-aid for injured parties if it can be done safely and without contamination.
- (d) Begin evacuation of the immediate area and surrounding areas, depending on the substance. Voluntary evacuation should be considered; however, depending on the substance, mandatory evacuation may be necessary.
- (e) Notify the local health authority. Such notification is mandatory when a spilled or released item is a pesticide (Health and Safety Code § 105215).
- (f) Notify the Department of Toxic Substances Control. This is mandatory when a deputy comes in contact with, or is aware of, the presence of a suspected hazardous substance at a site where an illegal controlled substance is or was manufactured (Health and Safety § 25354.5).

### 412.3 REPORTING EXPOSURE(S)

Department personnel who believe that they have been exposed to a hazardous material shall immediately report the exposure to a supervisor. Each exposure shall be documented by the employee in an employee memorandum that shall be forwarded via chain of command to the Commanding Officer. Should the affected employee be unable to document the exposure for any reason, it shall be the responsibility of the notified supervisor to complete the memorandum.

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Injury or illness caused or believed to be caused from exposure to hazardous materials shall be reported the same as any other on-duty injury or illness in addition to a crime report or incident report.

### 412.3.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

When a supervisor has been informed that an employee has been exposed to a hazardous material, he/she shall ensure that immediate medical treatment is obtained and appropriate action is taken to lessen the exposure.

To ensure the safety of employees, safety equipment is available through supervisory personnel. Safety items not maintained by the Department will be obtained through the Fire Department.

## Hostage and Barricade Incidents

### 414.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for situations where deputies have legal cause to contact, detain or arrest a person, and the person refuses to submit to the lawful requests of the deputies by remaining in a structure or vehicle and/or by taking a hostage.

The scope of this policy is not intended to address all variables that deputies encounter during their initial response or when a hostage or barricade situation has developed. This policy does not require or purport to recommend specific strategies or tactics for resolution as each incident is a dynamic and rapidly evolving event.

#### 414.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Barricade situation** - An incident where a person maintains a position of cover or concealment and ignores or resists law enforcement personnel, and it is reasonable to believe the subject is armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon.

**Hostage situation** - An incident where it is reasonable to believe a person is:

- (a) Unlawfully held by a hostage-taker as security so that specified terms or conditions will be met.
- (b) Unlawfully held against his/her will under threat or actual use of force.

### 414.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to address hostage and barricade situations with due regard for the preservation of life and balancing the risk of injury, while obtaining the safe release of hostages, apprehending offenders and securing available evidence.

### 414.3 COMMUNICATION

When circumstances permit, initial responding deputies should try to establish and maintain lines of communication with a barricaded person or hostage-taker. Deputies should attempt to identify any additional subjects, inquire about victims and injuries, seek the release of hostages, gather intelligence information, identify time-sensitive demands or conditions and obtain the suspect's surrender.

When available, [department/office]-authorized negotiators should respond to the scene as soon as practicable and assume communication responsibilities. Negotiators are permitted to exercise flexibility in each situation based upon their training, the circumstances presented, suspect actions or demands and the available resources.

#### 414.3.1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

Only a deputy who has been designated by the District Attorney or Attorney General may use or authorize the use of an electronic amplifying or recording device to eavesdrop on or record,

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or both, oral communication in response to an emergency situation involving a hostage or the barricading of a location, and only when (Penal Code § 633.8(b)):

- (a) The deputy reasonably determines an emergency situation exists that involves the immediate danger of death or serious physical injury to any person within the meaning of 18 USC § 2518(7)(a)(i),
- (b) The deputy reasonably determines that the emergency situation requires that eavesdropping on oral communication occur immediately, and
- (c) There are grounds upon which an order could be obtained pursuant to 18 USC § 2516(2).
- (d) An application for an order approving the eavesdropping and complying with the requirements of Penal Code § 629.50 is made within 48 hours of the beginning of the eavesdropping.
- (e) The contents of any oral communications overheard are recorded on tape or other comparable device.

### 414.3.2 CONSIDERATIONS

- (a) Criminals who use hostages to affect their escape or to attain other results may be desperate individuals who, if allowed to escape, will pose a continuing threat to their hostage and to the public. Assurance that a hostage will be released unharmed is a meaningless promise. This department does not have the ability to protect the safety of a hostage who is allowed to be removed from the presence of deputies. The safety of hostages can be best assured by keeping them in the presence of deputies and not allowing their removal.
- (b) If possible, deputies should use every verbal and tactical tool at their disposal to secure the arrest of the subject without harming the hostage. In every situation involving hostages, the safety of the hostage is of paramount concern. Every reasonable effort should be made to affect the safe release of the hostage(s) and to arrest the subject. Of primary consideration in this endeavor is the safety of all concerned, including the law enforcement involved.
- (c) In general, the hostage-taker shall not be allowed to escape, with or without the hostage(s). Immunity from prosecution shall not be granted to the suspect in order to neutralize a hostage situation. No consideration shall be given to any inmate subject holding a department employee hostage to effect his/her escape from custody.
- (d) Dealing with armed, dangerous persons is a high-risk law enforcement activity requiring the use of high-risk law enforcement tactics. This decision on what tactical operation to be used should be made on the following prioritization of lives:
  - 1. Innocent persons

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2. Hostages
  3. Law enforcement officers
  4. Suspects
- (e) When a subject has barricaded him/herself and he/she does not hold a hostage, this department shall reasonably attempt appropriate methods to affect his/her capture by use of non-lethal means.

### **414.4 FIRST RESPONDER CONSIDERATIONS**

First responding deputies should promptly and carefully evaluate all available information to determine whether an incident involves, or may later develop into, a hostage or barricade situation.

The first responding deputy should immediately request a supervisor's response as soon as it is determined that a hostage or barricade situation exists. The first responding deputy shall assume the duties of the supervisor until relieved by a supervisor or a more qualified responder. The deputy shall continually evaluate the situation, including the level of risk to deputies, to the persons involved and to bystanders, and the resources currently available.

The handling deputy should brief the arriving supervisor of the incident, including information about suspects and victims, the extent of any injuries, additional resources or equipment that may be needed, and current perimeters and evacuation areas.

#### **414.4.1 BARRICADE SITUATION**

Unless circumstances require otherwise, deputies handling a barricade situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of stabilizing the incident by establishing and maintaining lines of communication while awaiting the arrival of specialized personnel and trained negotiators. During the interim the following options, while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.
- (b) Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.
- (c) Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).
- (d) Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.
- (e) Evacuate uninjured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.
- (f) Attempt or obtain a line of communication and gather as much information on the subject as possible, including weapons, other involved parties, additional hazards or injuries.

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- (g) Establish an inner and outer perimeter as circumstances require and resources permit to prevent unauthorized access.
- (h) Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.
- (i) Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the [Department/Office], such as command officers and the Public Information Officer ([PIO]).
- (j) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.
- (k) Establish a command post.

### 414.4.2 HOSTAGE SITUATION

Deputies presented with a hostage situation should attempt to avoid a forceful confrontation in favor of controlling the incident in anticipation of the arrival of specialized personnel and trained hostage negotiators. However, it is understood that hostage situations are dynamic and can require that deputies react quickly to developing or changing threats. The following options, while not all-inclusive or in any particular order, should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated from the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so. Request medical assistance.
- (b) Assign personnel to a contact team to control the subject should he/she attempt to exit the building, structure or vehicle, and attack, use deadly force, attempt to escape or surrender prior to additional resources arriving.
- (c) Establish a rapid response team in the event it becomes necessary to rapidly enter a building, structure or vehicle, such as when the suspect is using deadly force against any hostages (see the Rapid Response and Deployment Policy).
- (d) Assist hostages or potential hostages to escape if it is reasonably safe to do so. Hostages should be kept separated if practicable pending further interview.
- (e) Request additional personnel, resources and equipment as needed (e.g., canine team, air support).
- (f) Provide responding emergency personnel with a safe arrival route to the location.
- (g) Evacuate uninjured persons in the immediate threat area if it is reasonably safe to do so.
- (h) Coordinate pursuit or surveillance vehicles and control of travel routes.
- (i) Attempt to obtain a line of communication and gather as much information about the suspect as possible, including any weapons, victims and their injuries, additional hazards, other involved parties and any other relevant intelligence information.
- (j) Establish an inner and outer perimeter as resources and circumstances permit to prevent unauthorized access.

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- (k) Evacuate bystanders, residents and businesses within the inner and then outer perimeter as appropriate. Check for injuries, the presence of other involved subjects, witnesses, evidence or additional information.
- (l) Determine the need for and notify the appropriate persons within and outside the [Department/Office], such as command officers and the [PIO].
- (m) If necessary and available, establish a tactical or exclusive radio frequency for the incident.

### **414.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon being notified that a hostage or barricade situation exists, the supervisor should immediately respond to the scene, assess the risk level of the situation, establish a proper chain of command and assume the role of Incident Commander until properly relieved. This includes requesting a [Crisis Response Unit] ([CRU])/Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) response if appropriate and apprising the [CRU] Commander of the circumstances. In addition, the following options should be considered:

- (a) Ensure injured persons are evacuated and treated by medical personnel.
- (b) Ensure the completion of necessary first responder responsibilities or assignments.
- (c) Request crisis negotiators, specialized units, additional personnel, resources or equipment as appropriate.
- (d) Establish a command post location as resources and circumstances permit.
- (e) Designate assistants who can help with intelligence information and documentation of the incident.
- (f) If it is practicable to do so, arrange for video documentation of the operation.
- (g) Consider contacting utility and communication providers to restrict such services (e.g., restricting electric power, gas, telephone service).
  - 1. When considering restricting communication services, a supervisor should make the determination that there is reason to believe an emergency situation exists involving immediate danger of death or great bodily harm and that an interruption to communication services is necessary to protect public safety (Penal Code § 11471). The supervisor must ensure the [Department/Office] obtains a court order, in accordance with Penal Code § 11472, prior to requesting the interruption. In the case of an extreme emergency when there is insufficient time to obtain an order prior to the request, application for the order must be submitted within six hours after initiating the interruption. If six hours is not possible, then the application for the court order shall be made at the first reasonably available opportunity, but no later than 24 hours in accordance with Penal Code § 11475.
- (h) Ensure adequate law enforcement coverage for the remainder of the County during the incident. The supervisor should direct non-essential personnel away from the scene unless they have been summoned by the supervisor or the Communications Center.



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- (i) Identify a media staging area outside the outer perimeter and have the [department/office] Public Information Officer or a designated temporary media representative provide media access in accordance with the Media Relations Policy.
- (j) Identify the need for mutual aid and the transition or relief of personnel for incidents of extended duration.
- (k) Debrief personnel and review documentation as appropriate.

### **414.6 CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT/HOSTAGE NEGOTIATIONS TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Incident Commander will decide, with input from the CRU/HNT Commander, whether to deploy the CRU during a hostage or barricade situation. Once the Incident Commander authorizes deployment, the CRU Commander or the authorized designee will be responsible for the tactical portion of the operation. The Incident Commander shall continue supervision of the command post operation, outer perimeter security and evacuation, media access and support for the CRU. The Incident Commander and the CRU Commander or the authorized designee shall maintain communications at all times.

### **414.7 REPORTING**

Unless otherwise relieved by a supervisor or Incident Commander, the handling deputy at the scene is responsible for completion and/or coordination of incident reports.

## Response to Bomb Calls

### 416.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to assist members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in their initial response to incidents involving explosives, explosive devices, explosion/bombing incidents or threats of such incidents. Under no circumstances should these guidelines be interpreted as compromising the safety of first responders or the public. When confronted with an incident involving explosives, safety should always be the primary consideration.

### 416.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to place a higher priority on the safety of persons and the public over damage or destruction to public or private property.

### 416.3 RECEIPT OF BOMB THREAT

Department members receiving a bomb threat should obtain as much information from the individual as reasonably possible, including the type, placement and alleged detonation time of the device.

If the bomb threat is received on a recorded line, reasonable steps should be taken to ensure that the recording is preserved in accordance with established department evidence procedures.

The member receiving the bomb threat should ensure that the Watch Commander is immediately advised and informed of the details. This will enable the Watch Commander to ensure that the appropriate personnel are dispatched, and, as appropriate, the threatened location is given an advance warning.

### 416.4 GOVERNMENT FACILITY OR PROPERTY

A bomb threat targeting a government facility may require a different response based on the government agency.

#### 416.4.1 STANISLAUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FACILITY

If the bomb threat is against the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facility, the Watch Commander will direct and assign deputies as required for coordinating a general building search or evacuation of the sheriff's department, as he/she deems appropriate.

#### 416.4.2 OTHER COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL FACILITY OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a county or municipal facility within the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that is not the property of this department, the appropriate agency will be promptly informed of the threat. Assistance to the other entity may be provided as the Watch Commander deems appropriate.

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### 416.4.3 FEDERAL BUILDING OR PROPERTY

If the bomb threat is against a federal building or property, the Federal Protective Service should be immediately notified. The Federal Protective Service provides a uniformed law enforcement response for most facilities, which may include use of its Explosive Detector Dog teams.

If the bomb threat is against a federal government property where the Federal Protective Service is unable to provide a timely response, the appropriate facility's security or command staff should be notified.

Bomb threats against a military installation should be reported to the military police or other military security responsible for the installation.

### 416.5 PRIVATE FACILITY OR PROPERTY

When a member of this department receives notification of a bomb threat at a location in the County of Stanislaus, the member receiving the notification should obtain as much information as reasonably possible from the notifying individual, including:

- (a) The location of the facility.
- (b) The nature of the threat.
- (c) Whether the type and detonation time of the device is known.
- (d) Whether the facility is occupied and, if so, the number of occupants currently on-scene.
- (e) Whether the individual is requesting sheriff's assistance at the facility.
- (f) Whether there are any internal facility procedures regarding bomb threats in place, such as:
  - 1. No evacuation of personnel and no search for a device.
  - 2. Search for a device without evacuation of personnel.
  - 3. Evacuation of personnel without a search for a device.
  - 4. Evacuation of personnel and a search for a device.

The member receiving the bomb threat information should ensure that the Watch Commander is immediately notified so that he/she can communicate with the person in charge of the threatened facility.

#### 416.5.1 ASSISTANCE

The Watch Commander should be notified when sheriff's assistance is requested. The Watch Commander will make the decision whether the Department will render assistance and at what level. Information and circumstances that indicate a reasonably apparent, imminent threat to the safety of either the facility or the public may require a more active approach, including sheriff's control over the facility.

Should the Watch Commander determine that the Department will assist or control such an incident, he/she will determine:

- (a) The appropriate level of assistance.

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- (b) The plan for assistance.
- (c) Whether to evacuate and/or search the facility.
- (d) Whether to involve facility staff in the search or evacuation of the building.
  - 1. The person in charge of the facility should be made aware of the possibility of damage to the facility as a result of a search.
  - 2. The safety of all participants is the paramount concern.
- (e) The need for additional resources, including:
  - 1. Notification and response, or standby notice, for fire and emergency medical services.

Even though a facility does not request sheriff's assistance to clear the interior of a building, based upon the circumstances and known threat, deputies may be sent to the scene to evacuate other areas that could be affected by the type of threat, or for traffic and pedestrian control.

### **416.6 FOUND DEVICE**

When handling an incident involving a suspected explosive device, the following guidelines, while not all inclusive, should be followed:

- (a) No known or suspected explosive item should be considered safe regardless of its size or apparent packaging.
- (b) The device should not be touched or moved except by the bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team.
- (c) Personnel should not transmit on any equipment that is capable of producing radio frequency energy within the evacuation area around the suspected device. This includes the following:
  - 1. Two-way radios
  - 2. Cell phones
  - 3. Other personal communication devices
- (d) The appropriate bomb squad or military explosive ordnance disposal team should be summoned for assistance.
- (e) The largest perimeter reasonably possible should initially be established around the device based upon available personnel and the anticipated danger zone.
- (f) A safe access route should be provided for support personnel and equipment.
- (g) Search the area for secondary devices as appropriate and based upon available resources.
- (h) Consider evacuation of buildings and personnel near the device or inside the danger zone and the safest exit route.
- (i) Promptly relay available information to the Watch Commander including:
  - 1. The time of discovery.

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2. The exact location of the device.
3. A full description of the device (e.g., size, shape, markings, construction).
4. The anticipated danger zone and perimeter.
5. The areas to be evacuated or cleared.

### **416.7 EXPLOSION/BOMBING INCIDENTS**

When an explosion has occurred, there are multitudes of considerations which may confront the responding deputies. As in other catastrophic events, a rapid response may help to minimize injury to victims, minimize contamination of the scene by gathering crowds, or minimize any additional damage from fires or unstable structures.

#### **416.7.1 CONSIDERATIONS**

Deputies responding to explosions, whether accidental or a criminal act, should consider the following actions:

- (a) Assess the scope of the incident, including the number of victims and extent of injuries.
- (b) Request additional personnel and resources, as appropriate.
- (c) Assist with first aid.
- (d) Identify and take appropriate precautions to mitigate scene hazards, such as collapsed structures, bloodborne pathogens and hazardous materials.
- (e) Assist with the safe evacuation of victims, if possible.
- (f) Establish an inner perimeter to include entry points and evacuation routes. Search for additional or secondary devices.
- (g) Preserve evidence.
- (h) Establish an outer perimeter and evacuate if necessary.
- (i) Identify witnesses.

#### **416.7.2 NOTIFICATIONS**

When an explosion has occurred, the following people should be notified as appropriate:

- Fire department
- Bomb squad
- Additional department personnel, such as investigators and forensic services
- Field supervisor
- Watch Commander
- Other law enforcement agencies, including local, state or federal agencies, such as the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)
- Other government agencies, as appropriate

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### 416.7.3 CROWD CONTROL

Only authorized members with a legitimate need should be permitted access to the scene. Spectators and other unauthorized individuals should be restricted to a safe distance as is reasonably practicable given the available resources and personnel.

### 416.7.4 PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE

As in any other crime scene, steps should immediately be taken to preserve the scene. The Watch Commander should assign deputies to protect the crime scene area, which could extend over a long distance. Consideration should be given to the fact that evidence may be imbedded in nearby structures or hanging in trees and bushes.

## Mental Illness Commitments

### 418.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for when deputies may take a person into custody for psychiatric evaluation and treatment (5150 commitment) (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

### 418.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to protect the public and individuals through legal and appropriate use of the 72-hour treatment and evaluation commitment (5150 commitment) process.

### 418.3 AUTHORITY

A deputy having probable cause may take a person into custody and place the person in an approved mental health facility for 72-hour treatment and evaluation when the deputy believes that, as a result of a mental disorder, the person is a danger to him/herself or others or the person is gravely disabled (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150; Welfare and Institutions Code § 5585.50).

When determining whether to take a person into custody, deputies are not limited to determining the person is an imminent danger and shall consider reasonably available information about the historical course of the person's mental disorder, which may include evidence presented from any of the following (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150; Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150.05):

- (a) An individual who is providing or has provided mental health treatment or related support services to the person
- (b) A family member
- (c) The person subject to the determination or anyone designated by the person

#### 418.3.1 VOLUNTARY EVALUATION

If a deputy encounters an individual who may qualify for a 5150 commitment, he/she may inquire as to whether the person desires to voluntarily be evaluated at an appropriate facility. If the person so desires, the deputies should:

- (a) Transport the person to an appropriate facility that is able to conduct the evaluation and admit the person pursuant to a 5150 commitment.
- (b) If at any point the person changes his/her mind regarding voluntary evaluation, deputies should proceed with the 5150 commitment, if appropriate.
- (c) Document the circumstances surrounding the individual's desire to pursue voluntary evaluation and/or admission.

### 418.4 CONSIDERATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Any deputy handling a call involving an individual who may qualify for a 5150 commitment should consider, as time and circumstances reasonably permit:

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- (a) Available information that might assist in determining the cause and nature of the person's action or stated intentions.
- (b) Community or neighborhood mediation services.
- (c) Conflict resolution and de-escalation techniques.
- (d) Community or other resources available to assist in dealing with mental health issues.

While these steps are encouraged, nothing in this section is intended to dissuade deputies from taking reasonable action to ensure the safety of the deputies and others.

Deputies should consider a 5150 commitment over arrest when mental health issues appear to be a mitigating factor for people who are suspected of committing minor crimes or creating other public safety issues.

### **418.4.1 SECURING OF PROPERTY**

When a person is taken into custody for evaluation, or within a reasonable time thereafter, and unless a responsible relative, guardian or conservator is in possession of the person's personal property, the deputy shall take reasonable precautions to safeguard the individual's personal property in his/her possession or on the premises occupied by the person (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

The deputy taking the person into custody shall provide a report to the court that describes the person's property and its disposition in the format provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 5211, unless a responsible person took possession of the property, in which case the deputy shall only include the name of the responsible person and the location of the property (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

### **418.5 TRANSPORTATION**

When transporting any individual for a 5150 commitment, the transporting deputy should have the Communications Center notify the receiving facility of the estimated time of arrival, the level of cooperation of the individual and whether any special medical care is needed.

Deputies may transport individuals in a patrol unit and shall secure them in accordance with the Handcuffing and Restraints Policy. Should the detainee require transport in a medical transport vehicle and the safety of any person, including the detainee, requires the presence of a deputy during the transport, supervisor approval should be obtained prior to doing the transport.

### **418.6 TRANSFER TO APPROPRIATE FACILITY**

Upon arrival at the facility, the deputy will escort the individual into a treatment area designated by a facility staff member. If the individual is not seeking treatment voluntarily, the deputy should provide the staff member with the written application for 5150 commitment and remain present to provide clarification of the grounds for detention, upon request.

Absent exigent circumstances, the transporting deputy should not assist facility staff with the admission process, including restraint of the individual. However, if the individual is transported



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and delivered while restrained, the deputy may assist with transferring the individual to facility restraints and will be available to assist during the admission process, if requested. Under normal circumstances, deputies will not apply facility-ordered restraints.

### **418.7 DOCUMENTATION**

The deputy shall complete an application for a 72-Hour detention for evaluation and treatment, provide it to the facility staff member assigned to that patient and retain a copy of the application for inclusion in the case report.

The application shall include the circumstances for deputy involvement; the probable cause to believe the person is, as a result of a mental health disorder, a danger to others or him/herself or gravely disabled; and all information used for the determination of probable cause (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150; Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150.05).

The deputy should also provide a verbal summary to any evaluating staff member regarding the circumstances leading to the involuntary detention.

#### **418.7.1 ADVISEMENT**

The deputy taking a person into custody for evaluation shall advise the person of:

- (a) The deputy's name and agency.
- (b) The fact that the person is not under criminal arrest but is being taken for examination by mental health professionals and the mental health staff will advise him/her of their rights.
- (c) The name of the facility to which the person is being taken.
- (d) If the person is being taken into custody at his/her residence, he/she should also be advised that he/she may take a few personal items, which the deputy must approve, and may make a telephone call or leave a note indicating where he/she is being taken. The deputy should also ask if the person needs assistance turning off any appliance or water.

The advisement shall be given in a language the person understands. If the person cannot understand an oral advisement, the information shall be provided in writing (Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150).

### **418.8 CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

Deputies investigating an individual who is suspected of committing a minor criminal offense and who is being taken on a 5150 commitment should resolve the criminal matter by issuing a warning or a Notice to Appear as appropriate.

When an individual who may qualify for a 5150 commitment has committed a serious criminal offense that would normally result in an arrest and transfer to a jail facility, the deputy should:

- (a) Arrest the individual when there is probable cause to do so.

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- (b) Notify the appropriate supervisor of the facts supporting the arrest and the facts that would support the 5150 commitment.
- (c) Facilitate the individual's transfer to jail.
- (d) Thoroughly document in the related reports the circumstances that indicate the individual may qualify for a 5150 commitment.

In the supervisor's judgment, the individual may be arrested or booked and transported to the appropriate mental health facility. The supervisor should consider the seriousness of the offense, the treatment options available, the ability of this department to regain custody of the individual, department resources (e.g., posting a guard) and other relevant factors in making this decision.

### **418.9 FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS**

Whenever a person is taken into custody for a 5150 commitment, the handling deputies should seek to determine if the person owns or has access to any firearm or other deadly weapon defined in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100. Deputies should consider whether it is appropriate and consistent with current search and seizure law under the circumstances to seize any such firearms or other dangerous weapons (e.g., safekeeping, evidence, consent).

Deputies are cautioned that a search warrant may be needed before entering a residence or other place to search, unless lawful, warrantless entry has already been made (e.g., exigent circumstances, consent). A search warrant may also be needed before searching for or seizing weapons

The handling deputies shall issue a receipt describing the deadly weapon or any firearm seized, and list any serial number or other identification that is on the firearm. Deputies shall advise the person of the procedure for the return of any firearm or other weapon that has been taken into custody (Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102 (b)) (see Property and Evidence Policy).

#### **418.9.1 PETITION FOR RETURN OF FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS**

Whenever the handling deputy has cause to believe that the future return of any confiscated weapon might endanger the person or others, the deputy shall detail those facts and circumstances in a report. The report shall be forwarded to the Investigations, which shall be responsible for initiating a petition to the Superior Court for a hearing in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102(c), to determine whether the weapon will be returned.

The petition to the Superior Court shall be initiated within 30 days of the release of the individual from whom such weapon has been confiscated, unless the Department makes an ex parte application to the court to extend the time to file such a petition, up to a maximum of 60 days. At the time any such petition is initiated, the Department shall send written notice to the individual informing him/her of the right to a hearing on the issue, that he/she has 30 days to confirm with the court clerk any desire for a hearing and that the failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of any confiscated weapon.

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### **418.10 TRAINING**

This department will endeavor to provide Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST)-approved advanced officer training on interaction with persons with mental disabilities, 5150 commitments and crisis intervention.

## Cite and Release Policy

### 420.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on when to release adults who are arrested for a criminal misdemeanor offense on a written notice to appear (citation) and when to hold for court or bail.

### 420.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to release all persons arrested on misdemeanor or other qualifying charges on a citation with certain exceptions (Penal Code § 853.6).

If there is a reason for non-release, the [Department/Office]'s mission to protect the community will be the primary consideration when determining whether to release any individual in lieu of holding for court or bail.

### 420.3 RELEASE BY CITATION

Except in cases where a reason for non-release as described below exists, adults arrested for a misdemeanor offense, including a private persons arrest, shall be released from custody on a citation (Penal Code § 853.6).

The citing deputy shall, at the time the defendant signs the notice to appear, call attention to the time and place for appearance and take any other steps he/she deems necessary to ensure that the defendant understands his/her written promise to appear.

#### 420.3.1 FIELD CITATIONS

In most cases an adult arrested for a misdemeanor offense may be released in the field on a citation in lieu of physical arrest when booking and fingerprinting is not practicable or immediately required provided the individual can be satisfactorily identified, there is no outstanding arrest warrant for the individual and none of the below described disqualifying circumstances are present (Penal Code § 853.6; Penal Code § 1270.1). In such cases the arresting deputy should check the booking required box on the citation form to indicate that the person will be photographed and fingerprinted at a later time when ordered by the court.

When a booking photo or fingerprints are needed for the furtherance of any investigation, the person should be released on citation after booking instead of on a field citation.

#### 420.3.2 RELEASE AFTER BOOKING

In some cases it may not be feasible or desirable to release a person in the field. The person should instead be released on citation after booking at the jail. All bookings shall be approved by the Watch Commander or the authorized designee.

### 420.4 NON-RELEASE

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### 420.4.1 DISQUALIFYING OFFENSES

An adult arrested on any of the following disqualifying charges shall not be released on citation and shall be transported to the appropriate detention facility or held for court or bail after booking (Penal Code § 1270.1):

- (a) Misdemeanor domestic battery (Penal Code § 243(e)(1))
- (b) Felony domestic battery (Penal Code § 273.5)
- (c) Serious or violent felonies (Penal Code § 1270.1(a)(1))
- (d) Felony intimidation of witnesses and victims (Penal Code § 136.1)
- (e) Rape of a spouse (Penal Code § 262)
- (f) Violation of a protective order and the arrested person has made threats, used violence, or has gone to the protected person's workplace or residence (Penal Code § 273.6)
- (g) Stalking (Penal Code § 646.9)
- (h) Misdemeanor violations of a protective order relating to domestic violence if there is a reasonable likelihood the offense will continue or the safety of the individuals or property would be endangered (Penal Code § 853.6)

### 420.4.2 REASONS FOR NON-RELEASE

A person arrested for a misdemeanor shall be released on a citation unless there is a reason for non-release. The Watch Commander may authorize a release on citation regardless of whether a reason for non-release exists when it is determined to be in the best interest of the [Department/ Office] and does not present an unreasonable risk to the community (e.g., release of an intoxicated or ill person to a responsible adult).

Reasons for non-release include (Penal Code § 853.6(i)):

- (a) The person arrested is so intoxicated that he/she could be a danger to him/herself or to others. Release may occur as soon as this condition no longer exists.
- (b) The person arrested requires medical examination or medical care or is otherwise unable to care for his/her own safety
  1. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall not release an arrestee from custody for the purpose of allowing that person to seek medical care at a hospital, and then immediately re-arrest the same individual upon discharge from the hospital, unless the hospital determines this action will enable it to bill and collect from a third-party payment source (Penal Code § 4011.10).
- (c) The person is arrested for one or more of the offenses listed in Vehicle Code § 40302, Vehicle Code § 40303, and Vehicle Code § 40305.
- (d) The person has been cited, arrested, or convicted for theft from a store or vehicle in the previous six months, or there is probable cause to believe the person is guilty of committing organized retail theft, as defined in Penal Code § 490.4(a).

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- (e) There are one or more outstanding arrest warrants for the person or failures to appear in court on previous misdemeanor citations that have not been resolved (see Misdemeanor Warrants elsewhere in this policy).
- (f) The person could not provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.
  - 1. If a person released on citation does not have satisfactory identification in his/her possession, a right thumbprint or fingerprint should be obtained on the citation form.
- (g) The prosecution of the offense or offenses for which the person was arrested or the prosecution of any other offense or offenses would be jeopardized by the immediate release of the person arrested.
- (h) There is a reasonable likelihood that the offense or offenses would continue or resume, or that the safety of persons or property would be imminently endangered by the release of the person arrested.
- (i) The person arrested demands to be taken before a magistrate or has refused to sign the notice to appear.
- (j) There is reason to believe that the person would not appear at the time and place specified in the notice to appear. The basis for this determination shall be specifically documented. An arrest warrant or failure to appear that is currently pending shall constitute reason to believe that the person will not appear. Other reasons may include:
  - (a) Previous failure to appear is on record
  - (b) The person lacks ties to the area, such as a residence, job, or family
  - (c) Unusual circumstances lead the deputy responsible for the release of prisoners to conclude that the suspect should be held for further investigation

When a person is arrested on a misdemeanor offense and is not released by criminal citation, the reason for non-release shall be noted on the booking form. This form shall be submitted to the Watch Commander for approval and included with the case file in the Records Bureau.

### **420.5 MISDEMEANOR WARRANTS**

An adult arrested on a misdemeanor warrant may be released, subject to Watch Commander approval, unless any of the following conditions exist:

- (a) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves violence.
- (b) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves a firearm.
- (c) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves resisting arrest.
- (d) The misdemeanor cited in the warrant involves giving false information to a peace deputy.
- (e) The person arrested is a danger to him/herself or others due to intoxication or being under the influence of drugs or narcotics.

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- (f) The person requires medical examination or medical care or was otherwise unable to care for his/her own safety.
- (g) The person has other ineligible charges pending against him/her.
- (h) There is reasonable likelihood that the offense or offenses would continue or resume, or that the safety of persons or property would be immediately endangered by the release of the person.
- (i) The person refuses to sign the notice to appear.
- (j) The person cannot provide satisfactory evidence of personal identification.
- (k) The warrant of arrest indicates that the person is not eligible to be released on a notice to appear.

Release under this section shall be done in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

### **420.6 REQUESTING CASE NUMBERS**

Many cases involving a criminal citation release can be handled without requesting a case number. Traffic situations and local code violations can be documented on the reverse side of the records copy of the citation. Most Penal Code sections will require a case number to document the incident properly in a report. This section does not preclude a deputy from requesting a case number if he/she feels the situation should be documented more thoroughly in a case report.

# Foreign Diplomatic and Consular Representatives

## 422.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to ensure that members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department extend appropriate privileges and immunities to foreign diplomatic and consular representatives in accordance with international law.

## 422.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department respects international laws related to the special privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives assigned to the United States.

All foreign diplomatic and consular representatives shall be treated with respect and courtesy, regardless of any privileges or immunities afforded them.

## 422.3 CLAIMS OF IMMUNITY

If a member comes into contact with a person where law enforcement action may be warranted and the person claims diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, the member should, without delay:

- (a) Notify a supervisor.
- (b) Advise the person that his/her claim will be investigated and he/she may be released in accordance with the law upon confirmation of the person's status.
- (c) Request the person's identification card, either issued by the U.S. Department of State (DOS), Office of the Chief of Protocol, or in the case of persons accredited to the United Nations, by the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. These are the only reliable documents for purposes of determining privileges and immunities.
- (d) Contact the DOS Diplomatic Security Command Center at 571-345-3146 or toll free at 866-217-2089, or at another current telephone number and inform the center of the circumstances.
- (e) Verify the immunity status with DOS and follow any instructions regarding further detention, arrest, prosecution and/or release, as indicated by the DOS representative. This may require immediate release, even if a crime has been committed.

Identity or immunity status should not be presumed from the type of license plates displayed on a vehicle. If there is a question as to the status or the legitimate possession of a Diplomat or Consul license plate, a query should be run via the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), designating "US" as the state.



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### **422.4 ENFORCEMENT**

If the DOS is not immediately available for consultation regarding law enforcement action, members shall be aware of the following:

- (a) Generally, all persons with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may be issued a citation or notice to appear. However, the person may not be compelled to sign the citation.
- (b) All persons, even those with a valid privilege or immunity, may be reasonably restrained in exigent circumstances for purposes of self-defense, public safety or the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) An impaired foreign diplomatic or consular representative may be prevented from driving a vehicle, even if the person may not be arrested due to privileges and immunities.
  - 1. Investigations, including the request for field sobriety tests, chemical tests and any other tests regarding impaired driving may proceed but they shall not be compelled.
- (d) The following persons may not be detained or arrested, and any property or vehicle owned by these persons may not be searched or seized:
  - 1. Diplomatic-level staff of missions to international organizations and recognized family members
  - 2. Diplomatic agents and recognized family members
  - 3. Members of administrative and technical staff of a diplomatic mission and recognized family members
  - 4. Career consular officers, unless the person is the subject of a felony warrant
- (e) The following persons may generally be detained and arrested:
  - 1. International organization staff; however, some senior officers are entitled to the same treatment as diplomatic agents.
  - 2. Support staff of missions to international organizations
  - 3. Diplomatic service staff and consular employees; however, special bilateral agreements may exclude employees of certain foreign countries.
  - 4. Honorary consular officers
  - 5. Whenever a deputy arrests and incarcerates, or detains for investigation for over two hours, a person with diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities, the deputy shall promptly advise the person that he/she is entitled to have his/her government notified of the arrest or detention (Penal Code § 834c). If the individual wants his/her government notified, the deputy shall begin the notification process.

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### **422.5 DOCUMENTATION**

All contacts with persons who have claimed privileges and immunities afforded foreign diplomatic and consular representatives should be thoroughly documented and the related reports forwarded to DOS.

### **422.6 DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY TABLE**

Reference table on diplomatic immunity:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Arrested or Detained</b>	<b>Enter Residence Subject to Ordinary Procedures</b>	<b>Issued Traffic Citation</b>	<b>Subpoenaed as Witness</b>	<b>Prosecuted</b>	<b>Recognized Family Members</b>
<b>Diplomatic Agent</b>	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
<b>Member of Admin and Tech Staff</b>	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
<b>Service Staff</b>	Yes (note (a))	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability (note (a))
<b>Career Consul Officer</b>	Yes if for a felony and pursuant to a warrant (note (a))	Yes (note (d))	Yes	No for official acts Testimony may not be compelled in any case	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability
<b>Honorable Consul Officer</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise.	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability
<b>Consulate Employees</b>	Yes (note (a))	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise.	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note (a))	No immunity or inviolability (note (a))
<b>Int'l Org Staff (note (b))</b>	Yes (note (c))	Yes (note (c))	Yes	Yes (note (c))	No for official acts. Yes otherwise (note (c))	No immunity or inviolability

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<b>Diplomatic-Level Staff of Missions to Int'l Org</b>	No (note (b))	No	Yes	No	No	Same as sponsor (full immunity & inviolability)
<b>Support Staff of Missions to Int'l Orgs</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No for official acts Yes otherwise	No immunity or inviolability

Notes for diplomatic immunity table:

- (a) This table presents general rules. The employees of certain foreign countries may enjoy higher levels of privileges and immunities on the basis of special bilateral agreements.
- (b) Reasonable constraints, however, may be applied in emergency circumstances involving self-defense, public safety, or in the prevention of serious criminal acts.
- (c) A small number of senior officers are entitled to be treated identically to diplomatic agents.
- (d) Note that consul residences are sometimes located within the official consular premises. In such cases, only the official office space is protected from police entry.

## Active shooter response

### 424.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Violence that is committed in schools, workplaces and other locations by individuals or a group of individuals who are determined to target and kill persons and to create mass casualties presents a difficult situation for law enforcement. The purpose of this policy is to identify guidelines and factors that will assist responding deputies in situations that call for rapid response and deployment.

### 424.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will endeavor to plan for rapid response to crisis situations, and to coordinate response planning with other emergency services as well as with those that are responsible for operating sites that may be the target of a critical incident.

Nothing in this policy shall preclude the use of reasonable force, deadly or otherwise, by members of the Department in protecting themselves or others from death or serious injury.

### 424.3 PROCEDURE

If there is a reasonable belief that acts or threats by a suspect are placing lives in imminent danger, first responding deputies should consider reasonable options to immediately eliminate the threat. Deputies must decide, often under a multitude of difficult and rapidly evolving circumstances, whether to advance on the suspect, take other actions to deal with the threat or wait for additional resources.

When deciding on a course of action deputies should consider:

- (a) Whether sufficient personnel are available on-scene to advance on the suspect. Any advance on a suspect should be made using teams of two or more deputies whenever reasonably possible.
- (b) Whether individuals who are under imminent threat can be moved out of danger with reasonable safety.
- (c) Whether the deputies have the ability to effectively communicate with others in the field.
- (d) Whether planned tactics can be effectively deployed.
- (e) The availability of rifles, shotguns, shields, control devices and any other appropriate tools, and whether the deployment of these tools will provide a tactical advantage.
- (f) In a case of a barricaded suspect with no hostages and no immediate threat to others, deputies should consider summoning and waiting for additional assistance (special tactics and/or hostage negotiation team response).
- (g) If a suspect is actively engaged in the infliction of serious bodily harm or other life-threatening activity toward others, the deputy should take immediate action, if

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reasonably possible, to stop the threat presented by the suspect while calling for additional assistance.

### **424.4 DEFINITIONS**

- (a) **Active Shooter:** One of more subjects who participate in random or systematic shooting, demonstrating their intent to continuously harm others. Their objective appears to be that of mass murder, rather than other criminal conduct, such as robbery, hostage takings, etc.
- (b) **Inactive Shooter:** Armed intruder(s) who has/have not fired any shots but is attempting to achieve some other criminal objective.
- (c) **Contact Team:** A contact team consists of one or more deputies or police officers who are immediately deployed into a location where an active shooter incident is in progress. There may be an incident where only one unit arrives with no close backup available and the one deputy will become the contact team and will intervene. The contact team will use tactics that are safe as possible for all present, and the purpose of the team is to contain and neutralize the threat.
- (d) **Rescue Team:** A rescue team consists of two or more deputies who are deployed to recover victims during an active shooter incident and deliver them to a secure area for medical treatment and identification.

### **424.5 RESPONSIBILITY**

- (a) **SWAT responsibility:**
  - 1. SWAT team members arriving on scene at an active or inactive shooter incident will immediately notify the on scene commander and will form a contact team or rescue team.
  - 2. SWAT team members arriving after the initial response will advise the on scene commander of their presence and will immediately join the contact team or rescue team to either augment the initial team or relieve deputies in that team.
- (b) **Detective Responsibility:**
  - 1. All available detective personnel should respond to the scene.
  - 2. Detective personnel, in civilian attire, who respond, should wear the approved department black SHERIFF'S vest identifying the wearer as a member of the Agency.
- (c) **Supervisory Responsibility:**
  - 1. Patrol Supervisors should respond to the scene as quickly as possible.
  - 2. Should participate in contact team/rescue operations if needed.

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3. Conduct coordination of contact/rescue teams.
4. Establish incident command and command post.
5. Establish victim/medical holding area.
6. Coordinate responding units.

# Immigration Violations

## 428.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department relating to immigration and interacting with federal immigration officials.

## 428.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that all members make personal and professional commitments to equal enforcement of the law and equal service to the public regardless of immigration status. Confidence in this commitment will increase the effectiveness of the Department in protecting and serving the entire community and recognizing the dignity of all persons, regardless of their national origin or immigration status.

## 428.3 VICTIMS AND WITNESSES

To encourage crime reporting and cooperation in the investigation of criminal activity, all individuals, regardless of their immigration status, must feel secure that contacting or being addressed by members of law enforcement will not automatically lead to immigration inquiry and/or deportation. While it may be necessary to determine the identity of a victim or witness, members shall treat all individuals equally and without regard to race, ethnicity or national origin in any way that would violate the United States or California constitutions.

## 428.4 IMMIGRATION INQUIRIES PROHIBITED

Deputies shall not inquire into an individual's immigration status for immigration enforcement purposes (Government Code § 7284.6).

## 428.5 DETENTIONS AND ARRESTS

A deputy shall not detain any individual, for any length of time, for a civil violation of federal immigration laws or a related civil warrant (Government Code § 7284.6).

A deputy who has a reasonable suspicion that an individual already lawfully contacted or detained has committed a criminal violation of 8 USC § 1326(a) (unlawful reentry) that may be subject to an enhancement due to a previous conviction of an aggravated felony under 8 USC § 1326(b) (2), may detain the person for a reasonable period of time to contact federal immigration officials to verify whether the United States Attorney General has granted the individual permission for reentry and whether the violation is subject to enhancement (Government Code § 7284.6). No individual who is otherwise ready to be released should continue to be detained only because questions about the individual's status are unresolved.

If the deputy has facts that establish probable cause to believe that a person already lawfully detained has violated 8 USC § 1326(a) and the penalty may be subject to enhancement due to prior conviction for specified aggravated felonies, he/she may arrest the individual for that offense (Government Code § 7284.6).

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A deputy shall not detain any individual, for any length of time, for any other criminal immigration violation of federal immigration laws (Government Code § 7284.6).

A deputy should notify a supervisor as soon as practicable whenever an individual is arrested for violation of 8 USC § 1326(a).

### **428.5.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

When notified that a deputy has arrested an individual for violation of 8 USC § 1326(a) or under the authority of a judicial warrant, the supervisor should determine whether it is appropriate to:

- (a) Transfer the person to federal authorities.
- (b) Transfer the person to jail.

### **428.6 FEDERAL REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE**

Requests by federal immigration officials for assistance from this Department should be directed to the Sheriff. The Sheriff is responsible for determining whether the requested assistance would be permitted under the California Values Act (Government Code § 7284.2 et seq.).

### **428.7 INFORMATION SHARING**

No member of this [department/office] will prohibit, or in any way restrict, any other member from doing any of the following regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual (8 USC § 1373; Government Code § 7284.6):

- (a) Sending information to, or requesting or receiving such information from federal immigration officials
- (b) Maintaining such information in [department/office] records
- (c) Exchanging such information with any other federal, state or local government entity

Nothing in this policy restricts sharing information that is permissible under the California Values Act.

#### **428.7.1 IMMIGRATION DETAINERS**

No individual should be held based solely on a federal immigration detainer under 8 CFR 287.7 (Government Code § 7284.6).

Notification to a federal authority may be made prior to release of an individual who is the subject of a notification request only if the individual meets one of the following conditions (Government Code § 7282.5; Government Code § 7284.6):

- (a) The individual has been arrested and had a judicial probable cause determination for a serious or violent felony identified in Penal Code § 667.5(c) or Penal Code § 1192.7(c).
- (b) The individual has been arrested and had a judicial probable cause determination for a felony punishable by time in a state prison.
- (c) The individual has been convicted of an offense as identified in Government Code § 7282.5(a).



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- (d) The individual is a current registrant on the California Sex and Arson Registry.
- (e) The individual is identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement as the subject of an outstanding federal felony arrest warrant.

### 428.7.2 NOTICE TO INDIVIDUALS

Individuals in custody shall be given a copy of documentation received from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) regarding a hold, notification or transfer request along with information as to whether the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department intends to comply with the request (Government Code § 7283.1).

If the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department provides ICE with notification that an individual is being, or will be, released on a certain date, the same notification shall be provided in writing to the individual and to his/her attorney or to one additional person who the individual may designate (Government Code § 7283.1).

### 428.7.3 ICE INTERVIEWS

Before any interview regarding civil immigration violations takes place between ICE personnel and an individual in custody, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall provide the individual with a written consent form that explains the purpose of the interview, that the interview is voluntary and that he/she may decline to be interviewed or may choose to be interviewed only with his/her attorney present. The consent form must be available in the languages specified in Government Code § 7283.1.

### 428.7.4 TRANSFERS TO IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES

Members shall not transfer an individual to immigration authorities unless one of the following circumstances exist (Government Code § 7282.5; Government Code § 7284.6):

- (a) Transfer is authorized by a judicial warrant or judicial probable cause determination.
- (b) The individual has been convicted of an offense as identified in Government Code § 7282.5(a).
- (c) The individual is a current registrant on the California Sex and Arson Registry.
- (d) The individual is identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement as the subject of an outstanding federal felony arrest warrant.

### **428.8 U VISA AND T VISA NONIMMIGRANT STATUS**

Under certain circumstances, federal law allows temporary immigration benefits, known as a U visa, to victims and witnesses of certain qualifying crimes (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(U)).

Similar immigration protection, known as a T visa, is available for certain qualifying victims of human trafficking (8 USC § 1101(a)(15)(T)).

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Any request for assistance in applying for U visa or T visa status should be forwarded in a timely manner to the Investigations supervisor assigned to oversee the handling of any related case. The Investigations supervisor should:

- (a) Consult with the assigned investigator to determine the current status of any related case and whether further documentation is warranted.
- (b) Contact the appropriate prosecutor assigned to the case, if applicable, to ensure the certification or declaration has not already been completed and whether a certification or declaration is warranted.
- (c) Address the request and complete the certification or declaration, if appropriate, in a timely manner.
  - 1. The instructions for completing certification and declaration forms can be found on the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) website.
  - 2. Form I-918 Supplement B certification shall be completed if the victim qualifies under Penal Code § 679.10 (multiple serious offenses). Form I-914 Supplement B certification shall be completed if the victim qualifies under Penal Code § 236.5 or Penal Code § 679.11 (human trafficking).
- (d) Ensure that any decision to complete, or not complete, a certification or declaration form is documented in the case file and forwarded to the appropriate prosecutor. Include a copy of any completed form in the case file.
- (e) Inform the victim liaison of any requests and their status.

### 428.8.1 TIME FRAMES FOR COMPLETION

Deputies and their supervisors who are assigned to investigate a case of human trafficking as defined by Penal Code § 236.1 shall complete the above process and the documents needed for indicating the individual is a victim for the T visa application within 15 business days of the first encounter with the victim, regardless of whether it is requested by the victim (Penal Code § 236.5).

Deputies and their supervisors shall complete the above process and the documents needed certifying victim cooperation for a U visa or T visa application pursuant to Penal Code § 679.10 and Penal Code § 679.11 within 30 days of a request from the victim, victim's family, or authorized representative (as defined in Penal Code § 679.10 and Penal Code § 679.11) related to one of their assigned cases. If the victim is in removal proceedings, the certification shall be processed within seven days of the first business day following the day the request was received.

### 428.8.2 REPORTING TO LEGISLATURE

The Investigations supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure that certification requests are reported to the Legislature in January of each year and include the number of certifications signed and the number denied. The report shall comply with Government Code § 9795 (Penal Code § 679.10; Penal Code § 679.11).

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## *Immigration Violations*

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### **428.9 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that all appropriate members receive training on immigration issues.

Training should include:

- (a) Identifying civil versus criminal immigration violations.
- (b) Factors that may be considered in determining whether a criminal immigration violation has been committed.
- (c) Prohibitions contained in the California Values Act (Government Code § 7284 et seq.).

## Patrol Rifles

### 432.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to more effectively and accurately address the increasing level of fire power and body armor utilized by criminal suspects, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will make patrol rifles available to qualified patrol deputies as an additional and more immediate tactical resource.

### 432.2 PATROL RIFLE

#### 432.2.1 DEFINITION

A patrol rifle is an authorized weapon which is owned by the Department and which is made available to properly trained and qualified deputies as a supplemental resource to their duty handgun or shotgun. No personally owned rifles may be carried for patrol duty unless pre-approved in writing by the Sheriff and the department armorer.

### 432.3 SPECIFICATIONS

Only weapons and ammunition that meet agency authorized specifications, approved by the Sheriff, and issued by the Department may be used by deputies in their law enforcement responsibilities. The authorized patrol rifle issued by the Department is the AR-15, M4 (may be carried on patrol by SWAT Team members), and M16A1.

### 432.4 RIFLE MAINTENANCE

- (a) Primary responsibility for maintenance of patrol rifles shall fall on the Armorer, who shall inspect and service each patrol rifle on a semi-annual basis.
- (b) Each patrol deputy carrying a patrol rifle may be required to field strip and clean an assigned patrol rifle as needed.
- (c) Each patrol deputy shall be responsible for promptly reporting any damage or malfunction of an assigned patrol rifle.
- (d) Any patrol rifle found to be unserviceable shall be removed from service. The rifle shall be clearly labeled as "out of service" and details regarding the weapon's condition shall be included on the label.
- (e) Each patrol rifle shall be subject to inspection by a supervisor or the Armorer at any time.
- (f) No modification shall be made to any patrol rifle without prior written authorization from the Armorer.

### 432.5 TRAINING

Deputies shall not carry or utilize the patrol rifle unless they have successfully completed departmental training. This training shall consist of an initial 24-hour patrol rifle user's course

# Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department

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## *Patrol Rifles*

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and qualification score with a certified patrol rifle instructor. Deputies shall thereafter be required to successfully complete an annual qualification, and train at least two additional days a year conducted by a certified patrol rifle instructor.

Any deputy who fails to qualify or who fails to successfully complete two or more department sanctioned training/qualification sessions within a calendar year will no longer be authorized to carry the patrol rifle without successfully completing a qualification.

### **432.6 DEPLOYMENT OF THE PATROL RIFLE**

Deputies may deploy the patrol rifle in any circumstance where the deputy can articulate a reasonable expectation that the rifle may be needed. Examples of some general guidelines for deploying the patrol rifle may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Situations where the deputy reasonably anticipates an armed encounter.
- (b) When a deputy is faced with a situation that may require the delivery of accurate and effective fire at long range.
- (c) Situations where a deputy reasonably expects the need to meet or exceed a suspect's firepower.
- (d) When a deputy reasonably believes that there may be a need to deliver fire on a barricaded suspect or a suspect with a hostage.
- (e) When a deputy reasonably believes that a suspect may be wearing body armor.
- (f) When authorized or requested by a supervisor.
- (g) When needed to euthanize an animal.

### **432.7 DISCHARGE OF THE PATROL RIFLE**

The discharge of the patrol rifle shall be governed by the Department's Deadly Force Policy, Policy Manual § 300.

### **432.8 PATROL READY**

Any qualified deputy carrying a patrol rifle in the field shall maintain the weapon in a patrol ready condition until deployed. A rifle is considered in a patrol ready condition when it has been inspected by the assigned deputy, the fire selector switch is in the safe position, the chamber is empty and a fully loaded magazine is inserted into the magazine well.

### **432.9 RIFLE STORAGE**

- (a) When not in use, all department issued patrol rifles will be stored in an approved location at the SOC Armory, contract city substation, or other approved facility. Exception: personnel assigned to the Detective Bureau, SVOU, K9, and SWAT who have take-home cars and deploy to scenes from home. Those personnel shall ensure firearms are safely secured in accordance with 312.3.2

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## *Patrol Rifles*

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- (b) The assigned patrol rifle number will be recorded with the MDT log-on information.
- (c) When not deployed, in-service patrol rifles shall be secured in the vehicle in a locked gun rack or locked in the trunk.
- (d) At the end of the assigned deputy's shift, the department issued patrol rifle will be returned and secured in the department armory.

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# Administration of Opioid Overdose Medication

## 433.1 ADMINISTRATION OF OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION

Members may administer opioid overdose medication in accordance with protocol specified by the licensed health care provider who prescribed the overdose medication for use by the member and (Civil Code § 1714.22; 22 CCR 100019):

- (a) When trained and tested to demonstrate competence following initial instruction.
- (b) When authorized by the medical director of the LEMSA.
- (c) In accordance with California Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) standards.

### 433.1.1 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION USER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members who are qualified to administer opioid overdose medication, such as naloxone, should handle, store and administer the medication consistent with their training. Members should check the medication and associated administration equipment at the beginning of their shift to ensure they are serviceable and not expired. Any expired medication or unserviceable administration equipment should be removed from service and given to the appropriate designee.

Any member who administers an opioid overdose medication should contact the Dispatch Center as soon as possible and request response by EMS.

### 433.1.2 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION REPORTING

Any member administering opioid overdose medication should detail its use in an appropriate report.

The appropriate designee will ensure that the Records Manager is provided enough information to meet applicable state reporting requirements.

### 433.1.3 OPIOID OVERDOSE MEDICATION TRAINING

The Training Manager should ensure initial and refresher training is provided to members authorized to administer opioid overdose medication. Training should be coordinated with the local health department and comply with the requirements in 22 CCR 100019 and any applicable POST standards (Civil Code § 1714.22).

## Aircraft Accidents

### 434.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide [department/office] members with guidelines for handling aircraft accidents.

This policy does not supersede, and is supplementary to, applicable portions of the Crime and Disaster Scene Integrity, Emergency Management Plan and Hazardous Material Response policies.

#### 434.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Aircraft** - Any fixed wing aircraft, rotorcraft, balloon, blimp/dirigible or glider that is capable of carrying a person or any unmanned aerial vehicle other than those intended for non-commercial recreational use.

### 434.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to provide an appropriate emergency response to aircraft accidents. This includes emergency medical care and scene management.

### 434.3 ARRIVAL AT SCENE

Deputies or other authorized members tasked with initial scene management should establish an inner and outer perimeter to:

- (a) Protect persons and property.
- (b) Prevent any disturbance or further damage to the wreckage or debris, except to preserve life or rescue the injured.
- (c) Preserve ground scars and marks made by the aircraft.
- (d) Manage the admission and access of public safety and medical personnel to the extent necessary to preserve life or to stabilize hazardous materials.
- (e) Maintain a record of persons who enter the accident site.
- (f) Consider implementation of an Incident Command System (ICS).

### 434.4 INJURIES AND CASUALTIES

Members should address emergency medical issues and provide care as a first priority.

Those tasked with the supervision of the scene should coordinate with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) before the removal of bodies. If that is not possible, the scene supervisor should ensure documentation of what was disturbed, including switch/control positions and instrument/gauge readings.



# Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department

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## *Aircraft Accidents*

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### **434.5 NOTIFICATIONS**

When an aircraft accident is reported to this [department/office], the responding supervisor shall ensure notification is or has been made to NTSB, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and when applicable, the appropriate branch of the military.

Supervisors shall ensure other notifications are made once an aircraft accident has been reported. The notifications will vary depending on the type of accident, extent of injuries or damage, and the type of aircraft involved. When an aircraft accident has occurred, it is generally necessary to notify the following:

- (a) Fire department
- (b) Appropriate airport tower
- (c) Emergency medical services (EMS)

### **434.6 CONTROLLING ACCESS AND SCENE AUTHORITY**

Prior to NTSB arrival, scene access should be limited to authorized personnel from the:

- (a) FAA.
- (b) Fire department, EMS or other assisting law enforcement agencies.
- (c) [Medical Examiner/JOP].
- (d) Air Carrier/Operators investigative teams with NTSB approval.
- (e) Appropriate branch of the military, when applicable.
- (f) Other emergency services agencies (e.g., hazardous materials teams, biohazard decontamination teams, fuel recovery specialists, explosive ordnance disposal specialists).

The NTSB has primary responsibility for investigating accidents involving civil aircraft. In the case of a military aircraft accident, the appropriate branch of the military will have primary investigation responsibility.

After the NTSB or military representative arrives on-scene, the efforts of this [department/office] will shift to a support role for those agencies.

If NTSB or a military representative determines that an aircraft or accident does not qualify under its jurisdiction, the on-scene [department/office] supervisor should ensure the accident is still appropriately investigated and documented.

### **434.7 DANGEROUS MATERIALS**

Members should be aware of potentially dangerous materials that might be present. These may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Fuel, chemicals, explosives, biological or radioactive materials and bombs or other ordnance.
- (b) Pressure vessels, compressed gas bottles, accumulators and tires.

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## *Aircraft Accidents*

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- (c) Fluids, batteries, flares and igniters.
- (d) Evacuation chutes, ballistic parachute systems and composite materials.

### **434.8 DOCUMENTATION**

All aircraft accidents occurring within the County of Stanislaus shall be documented. At a minimum the documentation should include the date, time and location of the incident; any witness statements, if taken; the names of SCSD members deployed to assist; other County resources that were utilized; and cross reference information to other investigating agencies. Suspected criminal activity should be documented on the appropriate crime report.

#### **434.8.1 WRECKAGE**

When reasonably safe, members should:

- (a) Obtain the aircraft registration number (N number) and note the type of aircraft.
- (b) Attempt to ascertain the number of casualties.
- (c) Obtain photographs or video of the overall wreckage, including the cockpit and damage, starting at the initial point of impact, if possible, and any ground scars or marks made by the aircraft.
  - 1. Military aircraft may contain classified equipment and therefore shall not be photographed unless authorized by a military commanding officer (18 USC § 795).
- (d) Secure, if requested by the lead authority, any electronic data or video recorders from the aircraft that became dislodged or cell phones or other recording devices that are part of the wreckage.
- (e) Acquire copies of any recordings from security cameras that may have captured the incident.

#### **434.8.2 WITNESSES**

Members tasked with contacting witnesses should obtain:

- (a) The location of the witness at the time of his/her observation relative to the accident site.
- (b) A detailed description of what was observed or heard.
- (c) Any photographs or recordings of the accident witnesses may be willing to voluntarily surrender.
- (d) The names of all persons reporting the accident, even if not yet interviewed.
- (e) Any audio recordings of reports to 9-1-1 regarding the accident and dispatch records.

### **434.9 MEDIA RELATIONS**

The Public Information Officer ([PIO]) should coordinate a response to the media, including access issues, road closures, detours and any safety information that is pertinent to the surrounding community. Any release of information regarding details of the accident itself should

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## *Aircraft Accidents*

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be coordinated with the NTSB or other authority who may have assumed responsibility for the investigation.

Depending on the type of aircraft, the airline or the military may be responsible for family notifications and the release of victims' names. The [PIO] should coordinate with other involved entities before the release of information.

## Field Training Officer Program

### 436.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Field Training Officer Program is intended to provide a standardized program to facilitate the deputy's transition from the academic setting to the actual performance of general law enforcement duties of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

It is the policy of this [department/office] to assign all new sheriff's deputies to a structured Field Training Officer Program that is designed to prepare the new deputy to perform in a patrol assignment, and possessing all skills needed to operate in a safe, productive, and professional manner.

### 436.2 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER - SELECTION AND TRAINING

The Field Training Officer (FTO) is an experienced deputy trained in the art of supervising, training and evaluating entry level and lateral sheriff's deputies in the application of their previously acquired knowledge and skills.

#### 436.2.1 SELECTION PROCESS

FTOs will be selected based on the following requirements:

- (a) Desire to be an FTO
- (b) Minimum of three years of patrol experience and off of probation
- (c) Demonstrated ability as a positive role model
- (d) Participate and pass an internal oral interview selection process
- (e) Evaluation by supervisors and current FTOs
- (f) Possess a POST Basic certificate

#### 436.2.2 TRAINING

A deputy selected as a Field Training Officer shall successfully complete a POST certified (40-hour) Field Training Officer's Course prior to being assigned as an FTO.

All FTOs must complete a 24-hour Field Training Officer update course every three years while assigned to the position of FTO (11 CCR 1004).

All FTOs must meet any training mandate regarding crisis intervention behavioral health training pursuant to Penal Code § 13515.28.

### 436.3 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

The FTO Program supervisor should be selected from the rank of sergeant or above by the Operations Division Commander or a designee and should possess, or be eligible to receive, a POST Supervisory Certificate.

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## *Field Training Officer Program*

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The responsibilities of the FTO Program supervisor include the following:

- (a) Assignment of trainees to FTOs
- (b) Conduct FTO meetings
- (c) Maintain and ensure FTO/trainee performance evaluations are completed
- (d) Maintain, update, and issue the Field Training Manual to each trainee
- (e) Monitor individual FTO performance
- (f) Monitor overall FTO Program
- (g) Maintain liaison with FTO coordinators of other agencies
- (h) Maintain liaison with academy staff on recruit performance during the academy
- (i) Develop ongoing training for FTOs

The FTO Program supervisor will be required to successfully complete a POST-approved Field Training Administrator's Course within one year of appointment to this position (11 CCR 1004(c)).

### **436.4 TRAINEE DEFINED**

Any entry level or lateral sheriff's deputy newly appointed to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department who has successfully completed a POST approved Basic Academy.

### **436.5 REQUIRED TRAINING**

Entry level deputies shall be required to successfully complete the Field Training Program, consisting of a minimum of 10 weeks (11 CCR 1004; 11 CCR 1005).

The training period for a lateral deputy may be modified depending on the trainee's demonstrated performance and level of experience. A lateral deputy may be exempt from the Field Training Program requirement if the deputy qualifies for an exemption as provided in 11 CCR 1005(a)(B).

To the extent practicable, entry level and lateral deputies should be assigned to a variety of Field Training Officers, shifts, and geographical areas during their Field Training Program.

#### **436.5.1 FIELD TRAINING MANUAL**

Each new deputy will be issued a Field Training Manual at the beginning of his/her Primary Training Phase. This manual is an outline of the subject matter and/or skills necessary to properly function as a deputy with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. The deputy shall become knowledgeable of the subject matter as outlined. He/she shall also become proficient with those skills as set forth in the manual.

The Field Training Manual will specifically cover those policies, procedures, rules, and regulations adopted by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

### **436.6 EVALUATIONS**

Evaluations are an important component of the training process and shall be completed as outlined below.

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## *Field Training Officer Program*

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### 436.6.1 FIELD TRAINING OFFICER

The FTO will be responsible for the following:

- (a) Complete and submit a written evaluation on the performance of his/her assigned trainee to the FTO Coordinator on a daily basis.
- (b) Review the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations with the trainee each day.
- (c) Complete a detailed end-of-phase performance evaluation on his/her assigned trainee at the end of each phase of training.
- (d) Sign off all completed topics contained in the Field Training Manual, noting the method(s) of learning and evaluating the performance of his/her assigned trainee.

### 436.6.2 IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR

The immediate supervisor shall review and approve the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations and forward them to the Field Training Administrator.

### 436.6.3 FIELD TRAINING ADMINISTRATOR

The Field Training Administrator will review and approve the Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations submitted by the FTO through his/her immediate supervisor.

### 436.6.4 TRAINEE

At the completion of the Field Training Program, the trainee shall submit a confidential performance evaluation on each of their FTOs and on the Field Training Program.

## **436.7 DOCUMENTATION**

All documentation of the Field Training Program will be retained in the deputy's training files and will consist of the following:

- (a) Daily Trainee Performance Evaluations
- (b) End of phase evaluations
- (c) A Certificate of Completion certifying that the trainee has successfully completed the required number of hours of field training

## Obtaining Air Support

### 438.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The use of a police helicopter can be invaluable in certain situations. This policy specifies potential situations where the use of a helicopter may be requested and the responsibilities for making a request.

### 438.2 REQUEST FOR HELICOPTER ASSISTANCE

If a supervisor or deputy in charge of an incident determines that the use of a helicopter would be beneficial, a request for the Sheriff's Air Support Unit may be made through the on-duty Watch Commander.

#### 438.2.1 REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FROM ANOTHER AGENCY

After consideration and approval of the request for a helicopter, the Watch Commander, or his/her designee, will call the closest agency having helicopter support available. The Watch Commander on duty will apprise that agency of the specific details of the incident prompting the request.

#### 438.2.2 CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH AID MAY BE REQUESTED

Police helicopters may be requested under any of the following conditions, but not limited to:

- (a) When the helicopter is activated under existing mutual aid agreements
- (b) Whenever the safety of law enforcement personnel is in jeopardy and the presence of the helicopters may reduce such hazard
- (c) When the use of the helicopters will aid in the capture of a suspected fleeing felon whose continued freedom represents an ongoing threat to the community
- (d) When a helicopter is needed to locate a person who has strayed or is lost and whose continued absence constitutes a serious health or safety hazard
- (e) Vehicle pursuits
- (f) For any rescue of individuals on land or in water where access is delayed or limited.

While it is recognized that the availability of helicopter support will generally provide valuable assistance to ground personnel, the presence of a helicopter will rarely replace the need for deputies on the ground.

## Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity

### 439.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for handling situations in which members of the public photograph or audio/video record law enforcement actions and other public activities that involve members of this department. In addition, this policy provides guidelines for situations where the recordings may be evidence.

### 439.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office recognizes the right of persons to lawfully record members of this department who are performing their official duties (Penal Code § 69(b) and Penal Code § 148(g)). Members of this department will not prohibit or intentionally interfere with such lawful recordings. Any recordings that are deemed to be evidence of a crime or relevant to an investigation will only be collected or seized lawfully.

Deputies should exercise restraint and should not resort to highly discretionary arrests for offenses such as interference, failure to comply or disorderly conduct as a means of preventing someone from exercising the right to record members performing their official duties.

### 439.3 RECORDING LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Members of the public who wish to record law enforcement activities are limited only in certain aspects.

- (a) Recordings may be made from any public place or any private property where the individual had the legal right to be present.
- (b) Beyond the act of photographing or recording, individuals may not interfere with the law enforcement activity. Examples of interference include, but are not limited to:
  1. Tampering with a witness or suspect.
  2. Inciting others to violate the law.
  3. Being so close to the activity as to present a clear safety hazard to the deputies.
  4. Being so close to the activity as to interfere with a deputy's effective communication with a suspect or witness.
- (c) The individual may not present an undue safety risk to the deputies, him/herself or others.

### 439.4 DEPUTY RESPONSE

Deputies should promptly request a supervisor respond to the scene whenever it appears that anyone recording activities may be interfering with an investigation or it is believed that the recording may be evidence. If practicable, deputies should wait for the supervisor to arrive before taking enforcement action or seizing any cameras or recording media.



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## *Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity*

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Whenever practicable, deputies or supervisors should give clear and concise warning to individuals who are conducting themselves in a manner that would cause their recording or behavior to be unlawful. Accompanying the warning should be clear directions on what an individual can do to be compliant; directions should be specific enough to allow compliance. For example, rather than directing an individual to clear the area, a deputy could advise the person that he/she may continue observing and recording from the sidewalk across the street.

If an arrest or other significant enforcement activity is taken as the result of a recording that interferes with law enforcement activity, deputies shall document in a report the nature and extent of the interference or other unlawful behavior and the warnings that were issued.

### **439.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

A supervisor should respond to the scene when requested or any time the circumstances indicate a likelihood of interference or other unlawful behavior.

The supervisor should review the situation with the deputy and:

- (a) Request any additional assistance as needed to ensure a safe environment.
- (b) Take a lead role in communicating with individuals who are observing or recording regarding any appropriate limitations on their location or behavior.
- (c) When practicable, allow adequate time for individuals to respond to requests for a change of location or behavior.
- (d) Ensure that any enforcement, seizure or other actions are consistent with this policy and constitutional and state law.
- (e) Explain alternatives for individuals who wish to express concern about the conduct of department members, such as how and where to file a complaint.

### **439.6 SEIZING RECORDINGS AS EVIDENCE**

Deputies should not seize recording devices or media (42 USC § 2000aa and Evidence Code §1070) unless:

- (a) There is probable cause to believe the person recording has committed or is committing a crime which the recording relates, and the recording is reasonably necessary for prosecution of the person.
  - 1. Absent an exigency or consent, a warrant should be sought before seizing or viewing such recordings. Reasonable steps may be taken to prevent erasure of the recording.
- (b) There is reason to believe that the immediate seizure of such recordings is necessary to prevent serious bodily injury or death of any person.
- (c) The person consents.

If the original recording is provided, a copy of the recording should be provided to the recording party, if practicable. The recording party should be permitted to be present while the copy is being made, if feasible.

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## *Public Recording of Law Enforcement Activity*

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Recording devices and media that are seized will be submitted within the guidelines of the Property and Evidence Policy.

# Field Interviews & Photographing of Field Detainees

## 440.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for conducting field interviews (FI) and pat-down searches, and the taking and retention of photographs of persons detained in the field but not arrested. Due to a variety of situations confronting the deputy, the decision to FI or photograph a field detainee shall be left to the discretion of the involved deputy based on the totality of the circumstances available to them at the time of the detention.

## 440.2 DEFINITIONS

**Detention** - Occurs when a deputy intentionally, through words, actions or physical force causes an individual to reasonably believe he/she is being required to restrict his/her movement. Detentions also occur when a deputy actually restrains a person's freedom of movement.

**Consensual Encounter** - Occurs when a deputy contacts an individual but does not create a detention through words, actions or other means. In other words, a reasonable individual would believe that his/her contact with the deputy is voluntary.

**Field Interview** - The brief detainment of an individual, whether on foot or in a vehicle, based on reasonable suspicion for the purposes of determining the individual's identity and resolving the deputy's suspicions.

**Field Photographs** - Field photographs are defined as posed photographs taken of a person during a contact, detention, or arrest in the field. Undercover surveillance photographs of an individual and recordings captured by the normal operation of a Mobile Audio Video (MAV) system when persons are not posed for the purpose of photographing are not considered field photographs.

**Pat-Down Search** - This type of search is used by deputies in the field to check an individual for weapons. It involves a thorough patting down of clothing to locate any weapons or dangerous items that could pose a danger to the deputy, the detainee, or others.

**Reasonable Suspicion** - Occurs when, under the totality of the circumstances, a deputy has articulable facts that criminal activity may be afoot and a particular person is connected with that possible criminal activity.

## 440.3 FIELD INTERVIEWS

Deputies may stop individuals for the purpose of conducting an FI where reasonable suspicion is present. In justifying the stop, the deputy should be able to point to specific facts which, when taken together with rational inferences, reasonably warrant the stop. Such facts include, but are not limited to, the following:

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## *Field Interviews & Photographing of Field Detainees*

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- (a) The appearance or demeanor of an individual suggests that he/she is part of a criminal enterprise or is engaged in a criminal act.
- (b) The actions of the suspect suggest that he/she is engaged in a criminal activity.
- (c) The hour of day or night is inappropriate for the suspect's presence in the area.
- (d) The suspect's presence in the particular area is suspicious.
- (e) The suspect is carrying a suspicious object.
- (f) The suspect's clothing bulges in a manner that suggests he/she is carrying a weapon.
- (g) The suspect is located in proximate time and place to an alleged crime.
- (h) The deputy has knowledge of the suspect's prior criminal record or involvement in criminal activity.

### 440.3.1 INITIATING A FIELD INTERVIEW

A deputy may initiate the stop of a person when there is articulable, reasonable suspicion to do so. A person however, should not be detained longer than is reasonably necessary to resolve the deputy's suspicions.

Nothing in this policy is intended to discourage consensual contacts. Frequent and random casual contacts with consenting individuals are encouraged by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to strengthen our community involvement, community awareness and problem identification.

### 440.3.2 WITNESS IDENTIFICATION AND INTERVIEWS

Because potential witnesses to an incident may become unavailable or the integrity of their statements compromised with the passage of time, deputies should, when warranted by the seriousness of the case, take reasonable steps to promptly coordinate with an on-scene supervisor and/or criminal investigators to utilize available personnel for the following:

- (a) Identify all persons present at the scene and in the immediate area.
  - 1. When feasible, a recorded statement should be obtained from those persons who claim not to have witnessed the incident but who were present at the time it occurred.
  - 2. Any potential witness who is unwilling or unable to remain available for a formal interview should not be detained absent reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest. Without detaining the individual for the sole purpose of identification, deputies should attempt to identify the witness prior to his/her departure.
- (b) Witnesses who are willing to provide a formal interview should be asked to meet at a suitable location where criminal investigators may obtain a recorded statement. Such witnesses, if willing, may be transported by department personnel.

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## *Field Interviews & Photographing of Field Detainees*

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1. A written, verbal or recorded statement of consent should be obtained prior to transporting a witness in a department vehicle. When the witness is a minor, consent should be obtained from the parent or guardian, if available, prior to transportation.

### **440.4 PAT-DOWN SEARCHES**

A pat-down search of a detained subject may be conducted whenever a deputy reasonably believes that the person may possess an object that can be utilized as an offensive weapon or whenever the deputy has a reasonable fear for his/her own safety or the safety of others. Circumstances that may establish justification for performing a pat-down search include, but are not limited to the following:

- (a) The type of crime suspected, particularly in crimes of violence where the use or threat of deadly weapons is involved.
- (b) Where more than one suspect must be handled by a single deputy.
- (c) The hour of the day and the location or neighborhood where the stop takes place.
- (d) Prior knowledge of the suspect's use of force and/or propensity to carry deadly weapons.
- (e) The appearance and demeanor of the suspect.
- (f) Visual indications which suggest that the suspect is carrying a firearm or other weapon.
- (g) The age and gender of the suspect.

Whenever possible, pat-down searches should be performed by deputies of the same gender.

### **440.5 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS**

Before photographing any field detainee, the deputy shall carefully consider, among other things, the factors listed below.

#### **440.5.1 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITH CONSENT**

Field photographs may be taken when the subject of the photograph knowingly and voluntarily gives consent.

#### **440.5.2 FIELD PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN WITHOUT CONSENT**

Field photographs may be taken without consent only if they are taken during a detention that is based upon reasonable suspicion of criminal activity, and the photograph serves a legitimate law enforcement purpose related to the detention. Mere knowledge or suspicion of gang membership or affiliation is not a sufficient justification for taking a photograph without consent. The deputy must be able to articulate facts that reasonably indicate that the subject was involved in or was about to become involved in criminal conduct.

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If, prior to taking a photograph, the deputy's reasonable suspicion of criminal activity has been dispelled, the detention must cease and the photograph should not be taken.

All field photographs and related reports shall be submitted to a supervisor and retained in compliance with this policy.

### **440.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY**

While it is recognized that field photographs often become valuable investigative tools, supervisors should monitor such practices in view of the above listed considerations. This is not to imply that supervisor approval is required before each photograph. Access to field photographs shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

### **440.7 DISPOSITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

All detainee photographs must be adequately labeled and submitted with either an associated FI card or other memorandum explaining the nature of the contact. If an individual is photographed as a suspect in a particular crime, the photograph should be submitted as an evidence item in the related case, following standard evidence procedures.

If a photograph is not associated with an investigation where a case number has been issued, the Watch Commander should review and forward the photograph to one of the following locations:

- (a) If the photo and associated FI or memorandum is relevant to criminal street gang enforcement, the supervisor will forward the photo and documents to the Gang Supervisor. The Gang Supervisor will ensure the photograph and supporting documents are retained as prescribed by Policy § 442.
- (b) Photographs that do not qualify for Criminal Street Gang file retention or which are not evidence in an investigation with an assigned case number should be forwarded to Records Bureau. These photographs will be purged as described in Policy § 440.7.1.

When a photograph is taken in association with a particular case, the detective may use such photograph in a photo lineup. Thereafter, the individual photograph should be retained as a part of the case file. All other photographs will be kept in the Records Bureau in a separate non-booking photograph file in alphabetical order.

#### **440.7.1 PURGING THE FIELD PHOTO FILE**

The Records Manager will be responsible for ensuring that photographs maintained by the Records Bureau that are more than one year old and no longer serve a law enforcement purpose are periodically purged and destroyed. Photographs that continue to serve a legitimate law enforcement purpose may be retained longer than one year provided that a notation of that fact is added to the file for each additional year that they are retained. Access to the FI photo file shall be strictly limited to law enforcement purposes.

A photograph need not be purged but may be retained as an updated photograph in a prior booking file if the person depicted in the photograph has been booked at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and the booking file remains in the Records Bureau.

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### **440.8 PHOTO REVIEW POLICY**

Any person who has been the subject of a field photograph or an FI by this agency during any contact other than an arrest may file a written request within 30 days of the contact requesting a review of the status of the photograph/FI. The request shall be directed to the office of the Sheriff who will ensure that the status of the photograph or FI is properly reviewed according to this policy as described below. Upon a verbal request, the Department will send a request form to the requesting party along with a copy of this policy.

#### **440.8.1 REVIEW PROCESS**

Upon receipt of such a written request, the Sheriff or his or her designee will permit the individual to appear in person (any minor must be accompanied by their parent or legal guardian) for a review of the status of the photograph/FI.

Such a meeting will generally be scheduled during regular business hours within 30 days of the receipt of the written request. An extension of the 30-day limit may be made either upon the mutual convenience of the parties or if, at the discretion of the Sheriff, there appears to be an ongoing legitimate law enforcement interest which warrants a delay. If the delay could jeopardize an ongoing investigation, nothing in this policy shall require the Sheriff to disclose the reason(s) for the delay.

A meeting for the review of the status of any non-arrest photograph/FI is not intended to be a formal hearing, but simply an informal opportunity for the individual to meet with the Sheriff or his/her designee to discuss the matter.

After carefully considering the information available, the Sheriff or designee will determine, generally within 30 days of the original meeting, whether the photograph/FI was obtained in accordance with existing law and Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department policy and, even if properly obtained, then whether there is any ongoing legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining the photograph/FI.

If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that the photograph/FI was obtained in accordance with existing law and department policy and that there is an ongoing legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining the non-arrest photograph, the photograph/FI shall be retained according to this policy and applicable law.

If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that the original legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining a non-arrest photograph no longer exists or that it was obtained in violation of existing law or Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department policy, the original photograph will be destroyed or returned to the person photographed, if requested. All other associated reports or documents, however, will be retained according to department policy and applicable law.

If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that the original legitimate law enforcement interest in retaining a non-arrest FI no longer exists or that the original F/I was not obtained in accordance with established law or Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department policy, the original FI may only be destroyed upon the execution of a full and complete waiver of liability by the individual (and guardian if a minor) arising out of that field contact.

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If the Sheriff or his/her designee determines that any involved Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department personnel violated existing law or department policy, the Sheriff or designee shall initiate a separate internal investigation which may result in additional training, discipline or other appropriate action for the involved employees.

The person photographed/FI'd will be informed in writing within 30 days of the Sheriff's determination whether or not the photograph/FI will be retained. This does not entitle any person to any discovery or access to any law enforcement records not otherwise authorized by law.



## Criminal Street Gangs

### 442.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department appropriately utilizes criminal intelligence systems and temporary information files to support investigations of criminal organizations and enterprises.

#### 442.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Criminal intelligence system** - Any record system that receives, stores, exchanges or disseminates information that has been evaluated and determined to be relevant to the identification of a criminal organization or enterprise, its members or affiliates. This does not include temporary information files.

#### 442.1.2 GANG IDENTIFICATION CRITERIA

**GANG MEMBERS:** 2 criteria must be met. 1 stand alone is classification admit.

1. Jail/Juvenile Hall classification gang admission
2. Gang self admission
3. Identified as a gang member by a reliable source, including, but not limited to; law enforcement, jail classification officer, probation officer, parole officer, family member(s), etc.
4. Associates with gang members and/or associates
5. Uses hand signs, symbols, words, or phrases associated with gangs
6. Wears gang attire/colors
7. Has been or is involved in an incident consistent with gang activity
8. Possesses gang tattoos
9. Possesses or found in physical evidence associated with gangs; i.e.; gang rosters, drawings, photographs, bandanas, jewelry, symbols, computer printouts, etc.
10. Found to be a gang participant in a judicial finding

**ASSOCIATES:** 1 criteria must be met

1. Self admission to being a gang associate
2. Has been identified as a gang associate by a reliable source, including, but not limited to; law enforcement, jail classification officer, probation officer, parole officer, family member(s), etc.
3. Associates with gang member(s)
4. Uses hand signs, symbols, words, or phrases associated with gangs
5. Has been or is involved in an incident consistent with gang activity

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6. Possesses gang tattoos

7. Possesses or found in physical evidence associated with gangs; i.e.; gang rosters, drawings, photographs, bandanas, jewelry, symbols, etc.

8. Found to be a gang participant in a judicial finding

### **442.2 POLICY**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department recognizes that certain criminal activities, including but not limited to gang crimes and drug trafficking, often involve some degree of regular coordination and may involve a large number of participants over a broad geographical area.

It is the policy of this [department/office] to collect and share relevant information while respecting the privacy and legal rights of the public.

### **442.3 CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS**

No [department/office] member may create, submit to or obtain information from a criminal intelligence system unless the Sheriff has approved the system for [department/office] use.

Any criminal intelligence system approved for [department/office] use should meet or exceed the standards of 28 CFR 23.20.

A designated supervisor will be responsible for maintaining each criminal intelligence system that has been approved for [department/office] use. The supervisor or the authorized designee should ensure the following:

- (a) Members using any such system are appropriately selected and trained.
- (b) Use of every criminal intelligence system is appropriately reviewed and audited.
- (c) Any system security issues are reasonably addressed.

#### **442.3.1 SYSTEM ENTRIES**

It is the designated supervisor's responsibility to approve the entry of any information from a report, field interview (FI), photo or other relevant document into an authorized criminal intelligence system. If entries are made based upon information that is not on file with this [department/office], such as open or public source documents or documents that are on file at another agency, the designated supervisor should ensure copies of those documents are retained by the Records Bureau. Any supporting documentation for an entry shall be retained by the Records Bureau in accordance with the established records retention schedule and for at least as long as the entry is maintained in the system.

The designated supervisor should ensure that any documents retained by the Records Bureau are appropriately marked as intelligence information. The Records Manager may not purge such documents without the approval of the designated supervisor.

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### 442.3.2 GANG DATABASES

The Sheriff may approve participation by the gang unit in a shared criminal gang intelligence database, such as CALGANG®. Members must obtain the requisite training before accessing any such database.

It is the gang unit supervisor's responsibility to determine whether any report or FI contains information that would qualify for entry into the database. Prior to designating any person as a suspected gang member, associate or affiliate in a shared gang database; or submitting a document to the Attorney General's office for the purpose of designating a person in a shared gang database; or otherwise identifying the person in a shared gang database, the gang unit supervisor shall provide written notice to the person and, if the person is under the age of 18, to his/her parent or guardian of the designation and the basis for the designation, unless providing that notification would compromise an active criminal investigation or compromise the health or safety of a minor. Notice shall also describe the process to contest the designation (Penal Code § 186.34).

The person, an attorney working on his/her behalf or his/her parent or guardian (if the person is under 18 years of age) may request, in writing, information as to whether the person is designated as a suspected gang member, associate or affiliate in a shared gang database accessible by the [department/office], the basis for that designation and the name of the agency that made the designation. The [department/office] shall respond to a valid request in writing within 30 days, and shall provide the information requested unless doing so would compromise an active investigation or compromise the health and safety of the person if he/she is under 18 years of age (Penal Code § 186.34).

The person, or his/her parent or guardian if the person is under 18 years of age, may contest the designation by submitting written documentation which shall be reviewed by the gang unit supervisor. If it is determined that the person is not a suspected gang member, associate or affiliate, the person shall be removed from the database. The person and the parent or guardian shall be provided written verification of the [department/office]'s decision within 30 days of receipt of the written documentation contesting the designation and shall include the reason for a denial when applicable (Penal Code § 186.34).

The gang unit supervisor should forward reports or FIs to the Records Bureau after appropriate database entries are made. The supervisor should clearly mark the report/FI as gang intelligence information.

It is the responsibility of the Records Bureau supervisor to retain reports and FIs in compliance with the database rules and any applicable end user agreement.

Records contained in a shared gang database shall not be disclosed for employment or military screening purposes, and shall not be disclosed for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law unless required by state or federal statute or regulation (Penal Code § 186.36).

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### 442.3.3 REPORT TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Investigations Division Commander or the authorized designee shall ensure that the annual report of information submitted to a shared gang database as required by Penal Code § 186.34 is submitted to the California Department of Justice.

### **442.4 TEMPORARY INFORMATION FILE**

No member may create or keep files on individuals that are separate from the approved criminal intelligence system. However, members may maintain temporary information that is necessary to actively investigate whether a person or group qualifies for entry into the [department/office]-approved criminal intelligence system only as provided in this section. Once information qualifies for inclusion, it should be submitted to the supervisor responsible for consideration of criminal intelligence system entries.

#### 442.4.1 FILE CONTENTS

A temporary information file may only contain information and documents that, within one year, will have a reasonable likelihood to meet the criteria for entry into an authorized criminal intelligence system.

Information and documents contained in a temporary information file:

- (a) Must only be included upon documented authorization of the responsible department supervisor.
- (b) Should not be originals that would ordinarily be retained by the Records Bureau or Property and Evidence Unit, but should be copies of, or references to, retained documents such as copies of reports, field interview (FI) forms, the Communications Center records or booking forms.
- (c) Shall not include opinions. No person, organization or enterprise shall be labeled as being involved in crime beyond what is already in the document or information.
- (d) May include information collected from publicly available sources or references to documents on file with another government agency. Attribution identifying the source should be retained with the information.

#### 442.4.2 FILE REVIEW AND PURGING

The contents of a temporary information file shall not be retained longer than one year. At the end of one year, the contents must be purged.

The designated supervisor shall periodically review the temporary information files to verify that the contents meet the criteria for retention. Validation and purging of files is the responsibility of the supervisor.

### **442.5 INFORMATION RECOGNITION**

Department members should document facts that suggest an individual, organization or enterprise is involved in criminal activity and should forward that information appropriately. Examples include, but are not limited to:

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- (a) Gang indicia associated with a person or residence.
- (b) Information related to a drug-trafficking operation.
- (c) Vandalism indicating an animus for a particular group.
- (d) Information related to an illegal gambling operation.

Department supervisors who utilize an authorized criminal intelligence system should work with the Training Manager to train members to identify information that may be particularly relevant for inclusion.

### **442.6 RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

[Department/Office] members shall comply with the rules of an authorized criminal intelligence system regarding inquiries and release of information.

Information from a temporary information file may only be furnished to [department/office] members and other law enforcement agencies on a need-to-know basis and consistent with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

When an inquiry is made by the parent or guardian of a juvenile as to whether that juvenile's name is in a temporary information file, such information should be provided by the supervisor responsible for the temporary information file, unless there is good cause to believe that the release of such information might jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation.

### **442.7 CRIMINAL STREET GANGS**

The Investigations supervisor should ensure that there are an appropriate number of [department/office] members who can:

- (a) Testify as experts on matters related to criminal street gangs, and maintain an above average familiarity with:
  - 1. Any organization, associate or group of three or more persons that meets the definition of a criminal street gang under Penal Code § 186.22(f).
  - 2. Identification of a person as a criminal street gang member and criminal street gang-related crimes.
  - 3. The California Street Terrorism Enforcement and Prevention Act (Penal Code § 186.21 et seq.), associated crimes and what defines a criminal street gang (Penal Code § 186.22).
- (b) Coordinate with other agencies in the region regarding criminal street gang-related crimes and information.
- (c) Train other members to identify gang indicia and investigate criminal street gang-related crimes.

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### **442.8 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should provide training on best practices in the use of each authorized criminal intelligence system to those tasked with investigating criminal organizations and enterprises. Training should include:

- (a) The protection of civil liberties.
- (b) Participation in a multiagency criminal intelligence system.
- (c) Submission of information into a multiagency criminal intelligence system or the receipt of information from such a system, including any governing federal and state rules and statutes.
- (d) The type of information appropriate for entry into a criminal intelligence system or temporary information file.
- (e) The review and purging of temporary information files.

## Watch Commanders

### **444.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Each patrol shift must be directed by supervisors who are capable of making decisions and communicating in a manner consistent with departmental policies, procedures, practices, functions and objectives. To accomplish this goal, a Watch Commander heads each watch.

### **444.2 DESIGNATION AS ACTING WATCH COMMANDER**

When a Lieutenant is unavailable for duty as Watch Commander, in most instances the senior qualified sergeant shall be designated as acting Watch Commander. This policy does not preclude designating a less senior sergeant as an acting Watch Commander when operational needs require or training permits. At no time shall a deputy sheriff acting in the capacity as acting sergeant be designated as the Watch Commander.

## Body Worn Camera Policy

### 445.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (SCSD) recognizes the use of Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) by its officers conveys a sense of law enforcement legitimacy, accountability, and transparency. The SCSD believes video and audio recordings from BWCs will serve as a tool to maintain and enhance the community's trust in the department. The recordings will capture interactions with the public and provide additional means of evidence collection for criminal investigations, administrative investigations, and civil litigation. In addition, BWCs will serve as a valuable training aid for officers.

While BWC recordings can provide an unbiased and objective account of a police contact, there are limitations to BWC video technology. Specifically, there are inherent differences between how human beings see and interpret their surroundings and how BWCs record video. In some cases, an officer may capture information not observed by a BWC just as a BWC may capture information not heard or seen by an officer. Therefore, it is critical to consider BWC footage as one piece of useful information regarding an incident, just as an officer's experience, state of mind, and input gleaned from his or her other senses would be considered useful information. When these varied sources of information are combined, a more complete picture of an incident can be obtained.

### 445.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will issue BWCs to Officers, Supervisors or other designated personnel for use during the performance of their duties. This policy is intended to provide users with guidance on when and how to use BWCs so that users may accurately and reliably record their contacts with the public.

### 445.3 DEFINITIONS

**Body Worn Camera (BWC)** - A camera worn on the User's person that records and stores audio and video.

**Buffering Mode** - When the BWC is on but has not been activated to record both sound and video, the camera is in the "buffering" mode. While in the buffering mode, the BWC will continuously record only video (not audio) in 30 second loops.

**BWC Program Administrator** - The department designated employee responsible for implementing and managing the BWC program and providing training to Users. The BWC Program Administrator will have full access to user rights and sets user access and parameters.

**Digital Evidence** - BWC files, including photographs, audio and video recordings, captured by a BWC and stored digitally.

**Event Mode** - When the "Event" mode button on the BWC is activated, the camera records both audio and video. The buffered video (not audio) captured directly before the event (30 seconds prior to activation) will also be saved and attached to the event in permanent memory.



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**Metadata** - Case numbers, event numbers, and other descriptors used to identify digital evidence via the annotation process.

**Officer** - All regular full-time uniformed Officers and Reserve part-time uniformed Officers are considered officers for the purposes of this policy. Both Officers and Reserve Officers may be issued BWCs.

**Public Records Act** - The California Public Records Act gives the public the right to access records that are in the possession of public agencies, subject to certain statutory exemptions from disclosure.

**User** - Any Officer, Supervisor or designated employee issued a BWC

**Supervisor** - Any department member at the rank of Sergeant or above.

### **445.4 CAMERA ADMINISTRATION**

- (a) All SCSD Operations Officers and Supervisors will be issued BWCs. While in uniform and performing duties which will place them in contact with the public, Officers and Supervisors shall wear their department issued BWC.
- (b) Members assigned to Court Services shall activate their BWC's in accordance with the general procedures in this policy.
- (c) Any non-uniformed Officers, Supervisors and support staff may wear a department issued BWC if the User believes such a device is useful in the performance of their duties and the Program Administrator gives approval. Operations Officers assigned to a non-uniformed position shall wear and activate the BWC during pre-planned and anticipated enforcement encounters, such as probation searches, parole searches, arrests, interviews, or search warrant services.
- (d) SCSD personnel assigned to the Adult Detention Division shall follow the Policy established by that Division during incidents involving inmates. Adult Detention members assigned to Court Services shall activate their BWC's in accordance with the general procedures in this policy.
- (e) BWCs shall be worn above the midline of the torso.
- (f) When donning their BWC, Officers and Supervisors should utilize their smart phone Bluetooth BWC application to ensure their BWC is mounted in a position where the field of view is effective for recording.
- (g) The BWC equipment and all data, images, video, and metadata captured, recorded, or otherwise produced by the equipment is the sole property of SCSD.
- (h) BWC equipment is the responsibility of individual Users and shall be used with reasonable care to ensure proper functioning. Users shall inspect and test the BWC prior to each shift in order to verify proper functioning. Equipment malfunctions shall be brought to the attention of a Supervisor as soon as possible so that a replacement unit can be issued. Users will notify electronically or in writing the BWC Program Administrator or designee of the malfunctioning equipment.

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- (i) Users shall not remove, dismantle, or tamper with any hardware or software component or part of the BWC except for approved repairs or maintenance. All mounting devices or holsters will be issued by SCSD. No other unauthorized mounts or holsters will be allowed unless approved by the Program Administrator.
- (j) Users should upload all video from their BWC with appropriate metadata annotation daily by the end of their shift. Officers shall obtain Supervisor approval if the BWC upload cannot take place by the end of an Officer's shift.
- (k) Users shall not edit, alter, or erase BWC recordings.

### **445.5 WHEN TO RECORD**

- (a) Users are not expected to jeopardize their own safety or the safety of the public simply to record an incident via BWC.
- (b) Users should activate their BWC any time they reasonably believe a recording would be of evidentiary value in a criminal investigation or other interaction with the public. This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which a BWC should be used, although there are many situations where its use is appropriate. Below are some examples of when a BWC should be activated:
  - 1. All enforcement and investigative contacts including stop and field interview situations.
  - 2. Traffic stops including, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance, and all crime interdiction stops.
  - 3. Self-initiated activity in which a User would normally notify Dispatch via the radio.
  - 4. Any other contact that becomes adversarial after the initial contact in a situation that would not otherwise warrant recording.

### **445.6 HOW TO RECORD**

- (a) Users shall patrol with their BWC in "buffer" mode. While in buffer mode, the BWC will continuously record in 30 second loops. During that 30 second period, only video is being recorded, not audio.
- (b) When a User decides to activate their BWC, he or she will place the camera in "event" mode to record the incident. In this mode, both video and audio will be recorded.
- (c) When the incident is over or the User stops recording for any other reason set forth in this policy, he or she will return the BWC to "buffer" mode.

### **445.7 PROHIBITED RECORDINGS**

All recordings made by Users acting in their official capacity as employees of the department, are the property of SCSD and are not considered private. Due to privacy concerns, Users shall not utilize BWCs to record in the following situations (Note: Users should turn off their BWCs in these situations):

- (a) Strip searches of prisoners.

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- (b) In correctional facilities in which audio or video recording is prohibited.
- (c) Conversations with any SCSD personnel without the recorded member's knowledge or permission.
- (d) Places where a reasonable expectation of privacy exists, such as restrooms and locker rooms.
- (e) Conversations involving confidential informants and undercover officers.
- (f) When Users are on break or otherwise engaged in personal activities.
- (g) A peace officer shall not use a personal device to make an unauthorized recording of the video or audio taken from a body-worn camera.

### **445.8 OPTIONAL RECORDINGS**

Also due to privacy concerns, Users should not record using BWCs in the following situations (Note: Users should keep their BWCs in buffer mode or turn the BWCs off in these situations):

- (a) When obtaining victim statements in sexual assault, domestic violence or child abuse, members may stop recording when encountering or interviewing a victim(s) who asks not to be video-recorded and the absence of a BWC recording will not affect the investigation.
- (b) In order to gain the cooperation of citizens who are reluctant to provide a statement while being recorded.
- (c) Conversations with agency personnel or members of personnel from another agency involving tactics and strategy.

### **445.9 PUBLIC'S EXPECTATION OF PRIVACY**

Users are not required to obtain consent from a private citizen to record an interaction when:

- (a) In a public place, or
- (b) In a location where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy (i.e., inside a building or dwelling where the officer is lawfully present and engaged in the performance of official duties).

Officers are encouraged to advise citizens they are recording if the advisement may assist in gaining compliance, assist in the investigation, and will not otherwise interfere with the investigation or officer safety.

### **445.10 UNINTENTIONAL RECORDINGS**

In the event of an unintentional or inadvertent activation of the BWC in which the resulting recording is not evidence in a criminal case or potential administrative investigation, or when the recording may unreasonably infringe on personal privacy rights, the User who recorded the video may request the recording be deleted. If the recording captured another member of the department, the User shall notify that member of the department of the existence of that video. Either the User

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or the member of the department who was captured on the BWC recording may submit a written request to his or her Supervisor for the video to be deleted.

The request shall contain specific reasons for recommending the deletion of the recording. The Supervisor shall "flag" the video to be deleted and alert the Program Administrator of the request. The Program Administrator or his or her designee will review the video in a timely manner to ensure that it is appropriate for deletion. If the Program Administrator determines the video should be deleted due to personal privacy rights concerns, the BWC Program Administrator will delete the file and document the deletion for audit purposes.

### **445.11 DOCUMENTATION**

- (a) When preparing written reports, Users should review their recordings as a resource.
- (b) Users shall document in their police reports and citation notes when BWC video exists of a particular incident. However, BWC recordings are not a replacement for written reports and Users shall not substitute "refer to video" for a detailed and thorough report.
- (c) If BWC recordings are interrupted during an incident, Officers shall document in their police reports or CAD Event remarks why they stopped their BWC recording.
- (d) Users shall annotate video with specifics such as case number, event number, type of case, retention category, and other metadata. This information is useful for case retention schedules and for searching for specific video files.

### **445.12 RELEASE OF RECORDED FILES**

BWC files are presumed to be evidence for investigative purposes and exempt from public disclosure under the Public Records Act. Notwithstanding the existence of such exemption, the Sheriff or his designee reserves the right to release BWC video to the public in specific instances when it is determined that such release will best serve the public interest.

### **445.13 REVIEW OF RECORDED FILES**

Recorded BWC videos may be reviewed in any of the following situations:

- (a) By the User who originally recorded the incident for use in report preparation or courtroom testimony.
- (b) By an Officer or Supervisor directly involved in the incident for use in report preparation or courtroom testimony.
- (c) By a Detective assigned to conduct follow-up investigation related to the incident.
- (d) By a Field Training Officer reviewing the recordings made by their trainees.
- (e) By a Supervisor approving a report in which BWC video exists.
- (f) By a Supervisor ensuring that BWC Users utilize the cameras in accordance with this policy.

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- (g) By a Supervisor reviewing a specific incident requiring an After Action report in accordance with department policy.
- (h) Any group or team within SCSO as recommended for review by an After Action report disposition, such as the Defensive Tactics Teams.
- (i) As part of department approved training. In these instances, permission to show the BWC video from the User who made the recording will be sought. However, the Sheriff or designee will have the ultimate authority in deciding whether the training benefits of the video outweigh the User's desire for privacy. Note: Users are encouraged to inform their Supervisor of any recordings that may be valuable to other members of the department as a training aid.
- (j) By department investigators, supervisors or administration who are participating in an official investigation, such as personnel complaint, administrative inquiry or a criminal investigation.

### 445.14 REVIEW OF RECORDED FILES

In accordance with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department OIS Policy, Users should provide an initial statement to investigators after reviewing BWC videos when the User was involved in a protocol incident. Before an investigator shows a BWC recording to an involved User, the investigator should admonish the involved User of the limitations of BWC recordings. Below is an example of such an admonition:

*In this case, there is recorded evidence that you will have an opportunity to review before you have given your initial statement. Recorded evidence has limitations and may depict the events differently than you recall, and it may not depict all of the events that you saw or heard. Recordings have a limited field of view and may not capture events normally seen by the human eye. The "frame rate" of the recording may limit the camera's ability to capture movements normally seen by the human eye. Lighting as seen on the recording may be different than that which is seen by the human eye. Recordings are two-dimensional and may not capture depth, distance, or positional orientation as well as the human eye. Remember, the video evidence is intended to assist your memory and your ability to recall and describe the incident.*

### 445.15 RETENTION OF BWC FILES

Recordings of the following should be retained for a minimum of two years (Penal Code § 832.18):

- (a) Incident involving use of force by an officer
- (b) Officer-involved shootings
- (c) Incidents that lead to the detention or arrest of an individual
- (d) Recordings relevant to a formal or informal complaint against an officer or the Department

Recordings containing evidence that may be relevant to a criminal prosecution should be retained for any additional period required by law for other evidence relevant to a criminal prosecution (Penal Code § 832.18).

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All other recordings should be retained for a period consistent with the requirements of the organization's records retention schedule but in no event for a period less than 180 days.

Records or logs of access and deletion of recordings should be retained permanently (Penal Code § 832.18).

The Sheriff or designee will determine the retention length of training videos based on their usefulness.

### **445.16 TRAINING**

Users shall complete department training to ensure proper use and operation of BWCs. Additional training may be required at periodic intervals to ensure the continued effective use and operation of the equipment, proper calibration and performance, and to incorporate changes, updates, or other revisions in policy and BWC equipment.

### **445.17 STORAGE**

- (a) All BWC recordings will be stored via a 3rd party BWC vendor's cloud storage. The cloud storage service shall comply with Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) requirements for law enforcement digital evidence storage.
- (b) All BWC recordings are considered official SCSD records and shall not be shared with any person not having authorization to access the files as part of his or her official duties.
- (c) Only the BWC Program Administrator or a designee of the Sheriff, in accordance with retention schedules and inadvertent recording protocol, shall have the authority and ability to delete BWC files.
- (d) The following SCSD employees are authorized to make duplicate copies of BWC recordings as required by their job responsibilities:
  1. BWC Program Administrator or designee.

### **445.18 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) Supervisors shall review BWC video to ensure that Users are utilizing BWCs in accordance with this policy.
- (b) Supervisors shall not arbitrarily review BWC recordings for the purpose of searching for violations of department policy not related to a specific complaint or incident.
- (c) Supervisors will provide Officers with a replacement BWC unit if their assigned BWC is damaged or malfunctioning.
- (d) Supervisors may take possession of the BWCs of Users involved in a Critical Incident immediately after the incident to limit access to the video by involved Users prior to the initial interview by investigators.
- (e) Any public safety statements by involved officers should not be recorded. Supervisors shall ensure that all cameras are turned off while receiving the public safety statement.

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Cameras should be turned back on, to buffer mode, after the public safety statement is given.

### **445.19 ANNUAL REVIEW OF POLICY**

This policy will be reviewed by the Sheriff or designee on an annual basis to ensure its continued compliance with all applicable laws, including those pertaining to the retention of electronic and digital records and the California Public Records Act.

## Mobile Data Terminal Use

### 448.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the proper access, use and application of the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) system in order to ensure appropriate access to confidential records from local, state and national law enforcement databases, and to ensure effective electronic communications between department members and the Communications Center.

### 448.2 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to messages accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system (see the Information Technology Use Policy for additional guidance).

### 448.3 POLICY

Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members using the MDT shall comply with all appropriate federal and state rules and regulations and shall use the MDT in a professional manner, in accordance with this policy.

### 448.4 RESTRICTED ACCESS AND USE

MDT use is subject to the Information Technology Use and Protected Information policies.

Members shall not access the MDT system if they have not received prior authorization and the required training. Members shall immediately report unauthorized access or use of the MDT by another member to their supervisors or Watch Commanders.

Use of the MDT system to access law enforcement databases or transmit messages is restricted to official activities, business-related tasks and communications that are directly related to the business, administration or practices of the Department. In the event that a member has questions about sending a particular message or accessing a particular database, the member should seek prior approval from his/her supervisor.

Sending derogatory, defamatory, obscene, disrespectful, sexually suggestive, harassing or any other inappropriate messages on the MDT system is prohibited and may result in discipline.

It is a violation of this policy to transmit a message or access a law enforcement database under another member's name or to use the password of another member to log in to the MDT system unless directed to do so by a supervisor. Members are required to log off the MDT or secure the MDT when it is unattended. This added security measure will minimize the potential for unauthorized access or misuse.

#### 448.4.1 USE WHILE DRIVING

Use of the MDT by the vehicle operator should generally be limited to times when the vehicle is stopped. When the vehicle is in motion, the operator should only attempt to read messages



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that are likely to contain information that is required for immediate enforcement, investigative or safety needs.

Short transmissions, such as a license plate check, are permitted if it reasonably appears that it can be done safely. In no case shall an operator attempt to send or review lengthy messages while the vehicle is in motion.

### **448.5 DOCUMENTATION OF ACTIVITY**

Except as otherwise directed by the Watch Commander or other department-established protocol, all calls for service assigned by a [dispatcher should be communicated by voice over the sheriff's radio and electronically via the MDT unless security or confidentiality prevents such broadcasting.

MDT and voice transmissions are used to document the member's daily activity. To ensure accuracy:

- (a) All contacts or activity shall be documented at the time of the contact.
- (b) Whenever the activity or contact is initiated by voice, it should be documented by a [dispatcher.
- (c) Whenever the activity or contact is not initiated by voice, the member shall document it via the MDT.

#### **448.5.1 EMERGENCY ACTIVATION**

If there is an emergency activation and the member does not respond to a request for confirmation of the need for emergency assistance or confirms the need, available resources will be sent to assist in locating the member. If the location is known, the nearest available deputy should respond in accordance with the Deputy Response to Calls Policy.

Members should ensure a field supervisor and the Watch Commander are notified of the incident without delay.

Deputies not responding to the emergency shall refrain from transmitting on the sheriff's radio until a no-further-assistance broadcast is made or if they are also handling an emergency.

### **448.6 EQUIPMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **448.6.1 MALFUNCTIONING MDT**

Whenever possible, members will not use vehicles with malfunctioning MDTs. Whenever members must drive a vehicle in which the MDT is not working, they shall notify the Communications Center. It shall be the responsibility of the [dispatcher to document all information that will then be transmitted verbally over the sheriff's radio.

## Portable Audio/Video Recorders

### 450.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the use of portable audio/video recording devices by members of this department while in the performance of their duties.

This policy does not apply to surreptitious interception of electronic communications for lawful authorized investigative purposes or to mobile audio video recordings (see the Mobile Audio Video Policy).

### 450.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department may provide members with access to portable recorders, either audio or video or both, for use during the performance of their duties. The use of recorders is intended to enhance the mission of the Department by accurately capturing contacts between members of the Department and the public.

### 450.3 MEMBER PRIVACY EXPECTATION

All recordings made by members on any department-issued device at any time, and any recording made while acting in an official capacity for this department, regardless of ownership of the device it was made on, shall remain the property of the Department. Members shall have no expectation of privacy or ownership interest in the content of these recordings.

### 450.4 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Prior to going into service, each uniformed member will be responsible for making sure that he/she is equipped with a portable recorder, issued by the Department, and that the recorder is in good working order. Uniformed members should wear the recorder in a conspicuous manner.

Any member assigned to a non-uniformed position may carry an approved portable recorder at any time the member believes that such a device may be useful.

When using a recorder, the assigned member shall record his/her name, employee number and the current date and time at the beginning and the end of the shift or other period of use, regardless of whether any activity was recorded. This procedure is not required when the recording device and related software captures the user's unique identification and the date and time of each recording.

#### 450.4.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Supervisors should take custody of a portable audio/video recording device as soon as practicable when the device may have captured an incident involving the use of force, an officer-involved shooting or death or other serious incident, and ensure the data is downloaded (Penal Code § 832.18).

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### **450.5 ACTIVATION OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER**

This policy is not intended to describe every possible situation in which the portable recorder should be used, although there are many situations where its use is appropriate. Members should activate the recorder any time the member believes it would be appropriate or valuable to record an incident.

The portable recorder should be activated in any of the following situations:

- (a) All enforcement and investigative contacts including stops and field interview (FI) situations
- (b) Traffic stops including, but not limited to, traffic violations, stranded motorist assistance and all crime interdiction stops
- (c) Self-initiated activity in which a member would normally notify the Communications Center
- (d) Any other contact that becomes adversarial after the initial contact in a situation that would not otherwise require recording

Members should remain sensitive to the dignity of all individuals being recorded and exercise sound discretion to respect privacy by discontinuing recording whenever it reasonably appears to the member that such privacy may outweigh any legitimate law enforcement interest in recording. Requests by members of the public to stop recording should be considered using this same criterion. Recording should resume when privacy is no longer at issue unless the circumstances no longer fit the criteria for recording.

At no time is a member expected to jeopardize his/her safety in order to activate a portable recorder or change the recording media. However, the recorder should be activated in situations described above as soon as reasonably practicable.

#### **450.5.1 SURREPTITIOUS USE OF THE PORTABLE RECORDER**

Members of the Department may surreptitiously record any conversation during the course of a criminal investigation in which the member reasonably believes that such a recording will be lawful and beneficial to the investigation (Penal Code § 633).

Members shall not surreptitiously record another department member without a court order unless lawfully authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

#### **450.5.2 CESSATION OF RECORDING**

Once activated, the portable recorder should remain on continuously until the member reasonably believes that his/her direct participation in the incident is complete or the situation no longer fits the criteria for activation. Recording may be stopped during significant periods of inactivity such as report writing or other breaks from direct participation in the incident.

Members shall cease audio recording whenever necessary to ensure conversations are not recorded between a person in custody and the person's attorney, religious advisor or physician, unless there is explicit consent from all parties to the conversation (Penal Code § 636).

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### **450.6 PROHIBITED USE OF PORTABLE RECORDERS**

Members are prohibited from using department-issued portable recorders and recording media for personal use and are prohibited from making personal copies of recordings created while on-duty or while acting in their official capacity.

Members are also prohibited from retaining recordings of activities or information obtained while on-duty, whether the recording was created with department-issued or personally owned recorders. Members shall not duplicate or distribute such recordings, except for authorized legitimate department business purposes. All such recordings shall be retained at the Department.

Members are prohibited from using personally owned recording devices while on-duty without the express consent of the Watch Commander. Any member who uses a personally owned recorder for department-related activities shall comply with the provisions of this policy, including retention and release requirements, and should notify the on-duty supervisor of such use as soon as reasonably practicable.

Recordings shall not be used by any member for the purpose of embarrassment, harassment or ridicule.

#### **450.6.1 PROHIBITED USE OF BIOMETRIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

The installation, activation, or use of biometric surveillance systems, including facial recognition, in connection with portable recorders is prohibited (Penal Code § 832.19).

### **450.7 IDENTIFICATION AND PRESERVATION OF RECORDINGS**

To assist with identifying and preserving data and recordings, members should download, tag or mark these in accordance with procedure and document the existence of the recording in any related case report.

A member should transfer, tag or mark recordings when the member reasonably believes:

- (a) The recording contains evidence relevant to potential criminal, civil or administrative matters.
- (b) A complainant, victim or witness has requested non-disclosure.
- (c) A complainant, victim or witness has not requested non-disclosure but the disclosure of the recording may endanger the person.
- (d) Disclosure may be an unreasonable violation of someone's privacy.
- (e) Medical or mental health information is contained.
- (f) Disclosure may compromise an undercover officer or confidential informant.

Any time a member reasonably believes a recorded contact may be beneficial in a non-criminal matter (e.g., a hostile contact), the member should promptly notify a supervisor of the existence of the recording.

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### **450.8 RELEASE OF RECORDINGS**

Recordings made using portable recording devices pursuant to this policy are department records and may only be released as provided in the Release of Records and Information Policy or for other authorized legitimate department business purposes.

### **450.9 REVIEW OF RECORDINGS**

When preparing written reports, members should review their recordings as a resource. However, members shall not retain personal copies of recordings. Members should not use the fact that a recording was made as a reason to write a less detailed report.

Supervisors are authorized to review relevant recordings any time they are investigating alleged misconduct or reports of meritorious conduct or whenever such recordings would be beneficial in reviewing the member's performance.

Recorded files may also be reviewed:

- (a) Upon approval by a supervisor, by any member of the Department who is participating in an official investigation, such as a personnel complaint, administrative investigation or criminal investigation.
- (b) Pursuant to lawful process or by court personnel who are otherwise authorized to review evidence in a related case.
- (c) By media personnel with permission of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (d) In compliance with a public records request, if permitted, and in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

All recordings should be reviewed by the Custodian of Records prior to public release (see the Records Maintenance and Release Policy). Recordings that unreasonably violate a person's privacy or sense of dignity should not be publicly released unless disclosure is required by law or order of the court.

### **450.10 COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall appoint a member of the Department to coordinate the use and maintenance of portable audio/video recording devices and the storage of recordings, including (Penal Code § 832.18):

- (a) Establishing a system for downloading, storing and security of recordings.
- (b) Designating persons responsible for downloading recorded data.
- (c) Establishing a maintenance system to ensure availability of operable portable audio/video recording devices.
- (d) Establishing a system for tagging and categorizing data according to the type of incident captured.
- (e) Establishing a system to prevent tampering, deleting and copying recordings and ensure chain of custody integrity.

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- (f) Working with counsel to ensure an appropriate retention schedule is being applied to recordings and associated documentation.
- (g) Maintaining logs of access and deletions of recordings.

### **450.11 RETENTION OF RECORDINGS**

Recordings of the following should be retained for a minimum of two years (Penal Code § 832.18):

- (a) Incidents involving use of force by a deputy
- (b) Officer-involved shootings
- (c) Incidents that lead to the detention or arrest of an individual
- (d) Recordings relevant to a formal or informal complaint against a deputy or the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department

Recordings containing evidence that may be relevant to a criminal prosecution should be retained for any additional period required by law for other evidence relevant to a criminal prosecution (Penal Code § 832.18).

All other recordings should be retained for a period consistent with the requirements of the organization's records retention schedule but in no event for a period less than 180 days.

Records or logs of access and deletion of recordings should be retained permanently (Penal Code § 832.18).

#### **450.11.1 RELEASE OF AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS**

Requests for the release of audio/video recordings shall be processed in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

## Medical Marijuana

### 453.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide members of this [department/office] with guidelines for investigating the acquisition, possession, transportation, delivery, production or use of marijuana under California's medical marijuana laws.

#### 453.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Cardholder** - A person issued a current identification card.

**Compassionate Use Act (CUA)** (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5) - California law intended to provide protection from prosecution to those who are seriously ill and whose health would benefit from the use of marijuana in the treatment of illness for which marijuana provides relief. The CUA does not grant immunity from arrest but rather provides an affirmative defense from prosecution for possession of medical marijuana.

**Identification card** - A valid document issued by the California Department of Public Health to both persons authorized to engage in the medical use of marijuana and also to designated primary caregivers.

**Medical marijuana** - Marijuana possessed by a patient or primary caregiver for legitimate medical purposes.

**Medical Marijuana Program (MMP)** (Health and Safety Code § 11362.7 et seq.) - California laws passed following the CUA to facilitate the prompt identification of patients and their designated primary caregivers in order to avoid unnecessary arrests and provide needed guidance to law enforcement officers. MMP prohibits arrest for possession of medical marijuana in certain circumstances and provides a defense in others.

**Patient** - A person who is entitled to the protections of the CUA because he/she has received a written or oral recommendation or approval from a physician to use marijuana for medical purposes or any person issued a valid identification card.

**Primary caregiver** - A person designated by the patient, who has consistently assumed responsibility for the patient's housing, health or safety, who may assist the patient with the medical use of marijuana under the CUA or the MMP (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5; Health and Safety Code § 11362.7).

**Statutory amount** - No more than 8 ounces of dried, mature, processed female marijuana flowers ("bud") or the plant conversion (e.g., kief, hash, hash oil), and no more than six mature or 12 immature marijuana plants (roots, stems and stem fibers should not be considered) (Health and Safety Code § 11362.77).

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## *Medical Marijuana*

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### **453.2 POLICY**

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to prioritize resources to forgo making arrests related to marijuana that the arresting deputy reasonably believes would not be prosecuted by state or federal authorities.

California's medical marijuana laws are intended to provide protection to those who are seriously ill and whose health would benefit from the use of medical marijuana.

However, California medical marijuana laws do not affect federal laws and there is no medical exception under federal law for the possession or distribution of marijuana. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will exercise discretion to ensure laws are appropriately enforced without unreasonably burdening both those individuals protected under California law and public resources.

### **453.3 INVESTIGATION**

Investigations involving the possession, delivery, production or use of marijuana generally fall into one of several categories:

- (a) Investigations when no person makes a medicinal claim.
- (b) Investigations when a medicinal claim is made by a cardholder.
- (c) Investigations when a medicinal claim is made by a non-cardholder.

#### **453.3.1 INVESTIGATIONS WITH NO MEDICINAL CLAIM**

In any investigation involving the possession, delivery, production or use of marijuana or drug paraphernalia where no person claims that the marijuana is used for medicinal purposes, the deputy should proceed with a criminal investigation if the amount is greater than permitted for personal use under the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Health and Safety Code § 11362.1; Health and Safety Code § 11362.2). A medicinal defense may be raised at any time, so deputies should document any statements and observations that may be relevant to whether the marijuana was possessed or produced for medicinal purposes.

#### **453.3.2 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A MEDICINAL CLAIM MADE BY A CARDHOLDER**

A cardholder or designated primary caregiver in possession of an identification card shall not be arrested for possession, transportation, delivery or cultivation of medical marijuana at or below the statutory amount unless there is probable cause to believe that (Health and Safety Code § 11362.71; Health and Safety Code § 11362.78):

- (a) The information contained in the card is false or falsified.
- (b) The card has been obtained or used by means of fraud.
- (c) The person is otherwise in violation of the provisions of the MMP.
- (d) The person possesses marijuana but not for personal medical purposes.



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Deputies who reasonably believe that a person who does not have an identification card in his/her possession has been issued an identification card may treat the investigation as if the person had the card in his/her possession.

Cardholders may possess, transport, deliver or cultivate medical marijuana in amounts above the statutory amount if their doctor has concluded that the statutory amount does not meet the patient's medical needs (Health and Safety Code § 11362.71; Health and Safety Code § 11362.77). Investigations involving cardholders with more than the statutory amount of marijuana should be addressed as provided in this policy for a case involving a medicinal claim made by a non-cardholder.

### 453.3.3 INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING A MEDICINAL CLAIM MADE BY A NON-CARDHOLDER

No patient or primary caregiver should be arrested for possession or cultivation of an amount of medical marijuana if the deputy reasonably believes that marijuana is in a form and amount reasonably related to the qualified patient's current medical needs (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5). This arrest guidance also applies to sales, transportation or, delivery of medical marijuana, or maintaining/renting a drug house or building that may be a nuisance if otherwise in compliance with MMP (Health and Safety Code § 11362.765).

Deputies are not obligated to accept a person's claim of having a physician's recommendation when the claim cannot be readily verified with the physician but are expected to use their judgment to assess the validity of the person's medical-use claim.

Deputies should review any available written documentation for validity and whether it contains the recommending physician's name, telephone number, address and medical license number for verification.

Deputies should generally accept verified recommendations by a physician that statutory amounts do not meet the patient's needs (Health and Safety Code § 11362.77).

### 453.3.4 ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Deputies should consider the following when investigating an incident involving marijuana possession, delivery, production, or use:

- (a) Because enforcement of medical marijuana laws can be complex, time consuming, and call for resources unavailable at the time of initial investigation, deputies may consider submitting a report to the prosecutor for review, in lieu of making an arrest. This can be particularly appropriate when:
  1. The suspect has been identified and can be easily located at a later time.
  2. The case would benefit from review by a person with expertise in medical marijuana investigations.
  3. Sufficient evidence, such as photographs or samples, has been lawfully obtained.

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4. Other relevant factors, such as available [department/office] resources and time constraints prohibit making an immediate arrest.
- (b) Whenever the initial investigation reveals an amount of marijuana greater than the statutory amount, deputies should consider the following when determining whether the form and amount is reasonably related to the patient's needs:
1. The amount of marijuana recommended by a medical professional to be ingested.
  2. The quality of the marijuana.
  3. The method of ingestion (e.g., smoking, eating, nebulizer).
  4. The timing of the possession in relation to a harvest (patient may be storing marijuana).
  5. Whether the marijuana is being cultivated indoors or outdoors.
- (c) Before proceeding with enforcement related to collective gardens or dispensaries, deputies should consider conferring with a supervisor, an applicable state regulatory agency or other member with special knowledge in this area, and/or appropriate legal counsel (Business and Professions Code § 26010; Business and Professions Code § 26060). Licensing, zoning, and other related issues can be complex. Patients, primary caregivers, and cardholders who collectively or cooperatively cultivate marijuana for medical purposes may be licensed or may have a defense in certain circumstances (Business and Professions Code § 26032; Business and Professions Code § 26033).
- (d) Investigating members should not order a patient to destroy marijuana plants under threat of arrest.

### 453.3.5 EXCEPTIONS

This policy does not apply to, and deputies should consider taking enforcement action for the following:

- (a) Persons who engage in illegal conduct that endangers others, such as driving under the influence of marijuana in violation of the Vehicle Code (Health and Safety Code § 11362.5).
- (b) Marijuana possession in jails or other correctional facilities that prohibit such possession (Health and Safety Code § 11362.785).
- (c) Smoking marijuana (Health and Safety Code § 11362.79):
  1. In any place where smoking is prohibited by law.
  2. In or within 1,000 feet of the grounds of a school, recreation center or youth center, unless the medical use occurs within a residence.
  3. On a school bus.
  4. While in a motor vehicle that is being operated.
  5. While operating a boat.

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- (d) Use of marijuana by a person on probation or parole, or on bail and use is prohibited by the terms of release (Health and Safety Code § 11362.795).

### **453.4 FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Deputies should provide information regarding a marijuana investigation to federal law enforcement authorities when it is requested by federal law enforcement authorities or whenever the deputy believes those authorities would have a particular interest in the information.

### **453.5 INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## Bicycle Patrol Unit

### 454.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department possesses patrol bicycles for the purpose of enhancing patrol efforts in the community. Bicycle patrol has been shown to be an effective way to increase officer visibility in congested areas and their quiet operation can provide a tactical approach to crimes in progress. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the safe and effective operation of the patrol bicycle.

### 454.2 POLICY

Patrol bicycles may be used for regular patrol duty, traffic enforcement, parking control, or special events. The use of the patrol bicycle will emphasize their mobility and visibility to the community.

Bicycles may be deployed to any area at all hours of the day or night, according to Department needs and as staffing levels allow.

Requests for specific deployment of bicycle patrol deputies shall be coordinated through the Bicycle Patrol Unit supervisor or the Watch Commander.

### 454.3 TRAINING

Participants in the program must complete an initial Department approved bicycle-training course after acceptance into the program. Thereafter bicycle patrol deputies should receive twice yearly in-service training to improve skills and refresh safety, health and operational procedures. The initial training shall minimally include the following:

- Bicycle patrol strategies.
- Bicycle safety and accident prevention.
- Operational tactics using bicycles.

Bicycle patrol deputies will be required to qualify with their duty firearm while wearing bicycle safety equipment including the helmet and riding gloves.

### 454.4 UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

Deputies shall wear the department-approved uniform and safety equipment while operating the department bicycle. Safety equipment includes department-approved helmet, riding gloves, protective eyewear and approved footwear.

The bicycle patrol unit uniform consists of the standard short-sleeve uniform shirt or other department-approved shirt with department badge and patches, and department-approved bicycle patrol pants or shorts.

Optional equipment includes a radio head set and microphone, and jackets in colder weather. Turtleneck shirts or sweaters are permitted when worn under the uniform shirt.

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Bicycle patrol deputies shall carry the same equipment on the bicycle patrol duty belt as they would on a regular patrol assignment.

Deputies will be responsible for obtaining the necessary forms, citation books and other department equipment needed while on bicycle patrol.

### **454.5 CARE AND USE OF PATROL BICYCLES**

Deputies will be assigned a specially marked and equipped patrol bicycle, attached gear bag, two batteries and a charger.

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be primarily black or white in with a "POLICE" decal affixed to each side of the crossbar or the bike's saddlebag. Every such bicycle shall be equipped with front and rear reflectors front lights and a siren/horn satisfying the requirements of Vehicle Code §2800.1(b).

Bicycles utilized for uniformed bicycle patrol shall be equipped with a rear rack and/or saddle bag(s) sufficient to carry all necessary equipment to handle routine patrol calls including report writing, vehicle storage and citations.

Each bicycle gear bag shall include a first aid kit, tire pump, repair tool, tire tube, security lock, equipment information and use manuals. These items are to remain with/on the bicycle at all times.

Each bicycle shall be equipped with a steady or flashing blue warning light that is visible from the front, sides, or rear of the bicycle. (Vehicle Code § 21201.3)

Bicycle deputies shall conduct an inspection of the bicycle and equipment prior to use to insure proper working order of the equipment. Deputies are responsible for the routine care and maintenance of their assigned equipment (e.g., tire pressure, chain lubrication, overall cleaning).

If a needed repair is beyond the ability of the bicycle officer, a repair work order will be completed and forwarded to the program supervisor for repair by an approved technician.

Each bicycle will have scheduled maintenance twice yearly to be performed by a department approved repair shop/technician.

At the end of a bicycle assignment, the bicycle shall be returned clean and ready for the next tour of duty.

Electric patrol bicycle batteries shall be rotated on the assigned charger at the end of each tour of duty. During prolonged periods of non-use, each officer assigned an electric bicycle shall periodically rotate the batteries on the respective charges to increase battery life.

Deputies shall not modify the patrol bicycle, remove, modify or add components except with the expressed approval of the bicycle supervisor, or in the event of an emergency.

Vehicle bicycle racks are available should the deputy need to transport the patrol bicycle. Due to possible component damage, transportation of the patrol bicycle in a trunk or on a patrol car push-bumper is discouraged.

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Bicycles shall be properly secured when not in the deputy's immediate presence.

### **454.6 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY**

Deputies must operate the bicycle in compliance with the vehicle code under normal operation. Deputies may operate the bicycle without lighting equipment during hours of darkness when such operation reasonably appears necessary for officer safety and tactical considerations. Deputies must use caution and care when operating the bicycle without lighting equipment.

Deputies are exempt from the rules of the road under the following conditions (Vehicle Code § 21200(b)(1)):

- (a) In response to an emergency call.
- (b) While engaged in rescue operations.
- (c) In the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law.

## Foot Pursuits

### 458.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines to assist deputies in making the decision to initiate or continue the pursuit of suspects on foot.

#### 458.1.1 POLICY

It is the policy of this department when deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit that deputies must continuously balance the objective of apprehending the suspect with the risk and potential for injury to department personnel, the public or the suspect.

Deputies are expected to act reasonably, based on the totality of the circumstances. Absent exigent circumstances, the safety of department personnel and the public should be the primary consideration when determining whether a foot pursuit should be initiated or continued. Deputies must be mindful that immediate apprehension of a suspect is rarely more important than the safety of the public and department personnel.

### 458.2 DECISION TO PURSUE

The safety of department members and the public should be the primary consideration when determining whether a foot pursuit should be initiated or continued. Deputies must be mindful that immediate apprehension of a suspect is rarely more important than the safety of the public and department members.

Deputies may be justified in initiating a foot pursuit of any individual the deputy reasonably believes is about to engage in, is engaging in or has engaged in criminal activity. The decision to initiate or continue such a foot pursuit, however, must be continuously re-evaluated in light of the circumstances presented at the time.

Mere flight by a person who is not suspected of criminal activity shall not serve as justification for engaging in an extended foot pursuit without the development of reasonable suspicion regarding the individual's involvement in criminal activity or being wanted by law enforcement.

Deciding to initiate or continue a foot pursuit is a decision that a deputy must make quickly and under unpredictable and dynamic circumstances. It is recognized that foot pursuits may place department members and the public at significant risk. Therefore, no deputy or supervisor shall be criticized or disciplined for deciding not to engage in a foot pursuit because of the perceived risk involved.

If circumstances permit, surveillance and containment are generally the safest tactics for apprehending fleeing persons. In deciding whether to initiate or continue a foot pursuit, a deputy should continuously consider reasonable alternatives to a foot pursuit based upon the circumstances and resources available, such as:

- (a) Containment of the area.

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- (b) Saturation of the area with law enforcement personnel, including assistance from other agencies.
- (c) A canine search.
- (d) Thermal imaging or other sensing technology.
- (e) Air support.
- (f) Apprehension at another time when the identity of the suspect is known or there is information available that would likely allow for later apprehension, and the need to immediately apprehend the suspect does not reasonably appear to outweigh the risk of continuing the foot pursuit.

### **458.3 GENERAL GUIDELINES**

When reasonably practicable, deputies should consider alternatives to engaging in or continuing a foot pursuit when:

- (a) Directed by a supervisor to terminate the foot pursuit; such an order shall be considered mandatory
- (b) The deputy is acting alone.
- (c) Two or more deputies become separated, lose visual contact with one another, or obstacles separate them to the degree that they cannot immediately assist each other should a confrontation take place. In such circumstances, it is generally recommended that a single deputy keep the suspect in sight from a safe distance and coordinate the containment effort.
- (d) The deputy is unsure of his/her location and direction of travel.
- (e) The deputy is pursuing multiple suspects and it is not reasonable to believe that the deputy would be able to control the suspect should a confrontation occur.
- (f) The physical condition of the deputy renders him/her incapable of controlling the suspect if apprehended.
- (g) The deputy loses radio contact with the [dispatcher or with assisting or backup deputies.
- (h) The suspect enters a building, structure, confined space, isolated area or dense or difficult terrain, and there are insufficient deputies to provide backup and containment. The primary deputy should consider discontinuing the foot pursuit and coordinating containment pending the arrival of sufficient resources.
- (i) The deputy becomes aware of unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances that unreasonably increase the risk to deputies or the public.
- (j) The deputy reasonably believes that the danger to the pursuing deputies or public outweighs the objective of immediate apprehension.



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- (k) The deputy loses possession of his/her firearm or other essential equipment.
- (l) The deputy or a third party is injured during the pursuit, requiring immediate assistance, and there are no other emergency personnel available to render assistance.
- (m) The suspect's location is no longer definitely known.
- (n) The identity of the suspect is established or other information exists that will allow for the suspect's apprehension at a later time, and it reasonably appears that there is no immediate threat to department members or the public if the suspect is not immediately apprehended.
- (o) The deputy's ability to safely continue the pursuit is impaired by inclement weather, darkness or other environmental conditions.

### **458.4 RESPONSIBILITIES IN FOOT PURSUITS**

#### **458.4.1 INITIATING DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES**

Unless relieved by another deputy or a supervisor, the initiating deputy shall be responsible for coordinating the progress of the pursuit. When acting alone and when practicable, the initiating deputy should not attempt to overtake and confront the suspect but should attempt to keep the suspect in sight until sufficient deputies are present to safely apprehend the suspect.

Early communication of available information from the involved deputies is essential so that adequate resources can be coordinated and deployed to bring a foot pursuit to a safe conclusion. Deputies initiating a foot pursuit should broadcast the following information as soon as it becomes practicable and available:

- (a) Unit identifier
- (b) Location and direction of travel
- (c) Reason for the foot pursuit
- (d) Number of suspects and description
- (e) Whether the suspect is known or believed to be armed

Deputies should be mindful that radio transmissions made while running may be difficult to understand and may need to be repeated.

Absent extenuating circumstances, any deputy unable to promptly and effectively broadcast this information should terminate the pursuit. If the foot pursuit is discontinued for any reason, immediate efforts for containment should be established and alternatives considered based upon the circumstances and available resources.

When a foot pursuit terminates, the deputy will notify the Communications Center of his/her location and the status of the pursuit termination (e.g., suspect in custody, lost sight of suspect), and will direct further actions as reasonably appear necessary.

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### 458.4.2 ASSISTING DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Whenever any deputy announces that he/she is engaged in a foot pursuit, all other deputies should minimize non-essential radio traffic to permit the involved deputies maximum access to the radio frequency.

### 458.4.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Upon becoming aware of a foot pursuit, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to ascertain sufficient information to direct responding resources and to take command, control and coordination of the foot pursuit. The supervisor should respond to the area whenever possible; the supervisor does not, however, need not be physically present to exercise control over the pursuit. The supervisor shall continuously assess the situation in order to ensure the foot pursuit is conducted within established department guidelines.

The supervisor shall terminate the foot pursuit when the danger to pursuing deputies or the public appears to unreasonably outweigh the objective of immediate apprehension of the suspect.

Upon apprehension of the suspect, the supervisor should promptly proceed to the termination point to direct the post-pursuit activity.

### 458.4.4 STANISLAUS REGIONAL 911 RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon being notified or becoming aware that a foot pursuit is in progress, communication personnel shall, as soon as practicable, notify the field supervisor and provide available information. the Communications Center personnel are also responsible for the following:

- (a) Clear the radio channel of non-emergency traffic.
- (b) Repeat the transmissions of the pursuing deputy as needed.
- (c) Relay all pertinent information to responding personnel.
- (d) Contact additional resources as directed by a supervisor.
- (e) Coordinate response of additional resources to assist with the foot pursuit.

### 458.5 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The initiating deputy shall complete appropriate crime/arrest reports documenting, at minimum:

- (a) Date and time of the foot pursuit.
- (b) Initial reason and circumstances surrounding the foot pursuit.
- (c) Course and approximate distance of the foot pursuit.
- (d) Alleged offenses.
- (e) Involved vehicles and deputies.
- (f) Whether a suspect was apprehended as well as the means and methods used.
  - 1. Any use of force shall be reported and documented in compliance with the Use of Force Policy.

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- (g) Arrestee information, if applicable.
- (h) Any injuries and/or medical treatment.
- (i) Any property or equipment damage.
- (j) Name of the supervisor at the scene or who handled the incident.

Assisting deputies taking an active role in the apprehension of the suspect shall complete supplemental reports as necessary or as directed.

The supervisor reviewing the report will make a preliminary determination that the pursuit appears to be in compliance with this policy or that additional review and/or follow-up is warranted.

In any case in which a suspect is not apprehended and there is insufficient information to support further investigation, a supervisor may authorize that the initiating deputy need not complete a formal report.

## Unmanned Aerial System

### 461.1 PREFACE

The following procedures are intended to promote the safe, efficient and lawful operation of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (SCSD) small Unmanned Aerial System (sUAS). Safety, above all else, is the primary concern in each and every operation, regardless of the nature of the mission.

### 461.2 PHILOSOPHY AND MISSION STATEMENT

It shall be the mission of those personnel of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department who are trained in the use of sUAS, to use this resource to protect lives and property of citizens of Stanislaus County and first responders in a constitutionally and legally sound manner and in compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations. The use of a sUAS can be utilized in circumstances which would save life and property, as well as being able to detect possible dangers that could not otherwise be seen.

The sUAS can support first responders in any all-hazards incidents which would benefit from an aerial perspective. These uses would include Search and Rescue missions, Explosive Ordnance Detection missions, disaster response, barricaded suspects, hostage situations and other high-risk tactical operations, hazardous materials spills, natural disasters, terrorist related events, fire related incidents, contained suspect apprehension assistance, assist other specializes units in regards to officer/public safety, and crime scene preservation. The sUAS would also be utilized for training missions.

Both public and private operators of unmanned aircraft systems have a responsibility to not infringe on the rights or property of the citizens of California. Any data, information, photographs, video or recordings of individuals, both in public and private, should be minimized and retained in a manner consistent with current privacy standards.

### 461.3 PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND PRIVACY

Air Support Lieutenant, sUAS Sergeant(s) operators and observers will have the protection of citizens' civil rights and reasonable expectations of privacy as a key component of any decision made to deploy the sUAS. sUAS operators and observers will ensure, and will be held accountable for ensuring, that operations of the

sUAS intrude to a minimal extent upon the citizens of Stanislaus County. To accomplish this primary goal we will:

- (a) When the sUAS is being flown, the onboard cameras will be turned so as to be facing away from occupied structures, to minimize the inadvertent video or still images of uninvolved persons.
- (b) All video and still images will be maintained in strict compliance with SCSD policies and procedures.
- (c) The authorized missions for the SCSD sUAS are:

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1. Video/photographs crime scenes
  2. HAZMAT Response
  3. Search and Rescue Missions
  4. Barricaded Suspects and other high-risk tactical operations
  5. Disaster Response (Flood, earthquakes, etc.)
  6. Training missions as authorized by the Training Certificate of Authorization
  7. Fire Response
- (d) The SCSD sUAS program will operate strictly within the law and regulations. If in doubt, prior to operating the sUAS, we will ensure that warrants are applied for and obtained. We will balance all operations with the need to accomplish the mission while maintaining public privacy and the freedom from intrusion.

### **461.4 ADMINISTRATION**

#### **461.4.1 OPERATIONS MANUAL**

The policies and procedures contained in this manual are issued by authority of the Sheriff of Stanislaus County. As such, it is an official document of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

This manual is not intended to be all-inclusive, but as a supplement to other department guidelines, Federal Aviation Administration regulations, Certificate of Authorization COA, Part 107 and the aircraft manufacturer's approved flight manual.

The Operations Manual has been written to address sUAS operations as they existed when it was drafted. Equipment, personnel, environment (internal and external) change over time. The management of change involves a systematic approach to monitoring organizational change and is a critical part of the risk management process. Given this, it is essential that this manual be continually updated as necessary. The entire manual will be reviewed, at a minimum, annually to assure it is up-to-date. Any changes to the manual will be communicated as currently dictated by department policy.

A copy of the manual will be issued to every person having sUAS responsibilities and will be posted on the G-Drive.

#### **461.4.2 ORGANIZATION**

The sUAS unit shall be comprised of those personnel approved by the Air Support Lieutenant and includes uUAS Sergeant(s), operators, observers and others deemed necessary, such as information personnel and those who have an assignment as part of the Mobile Field Force sUAS unit.

The sUAS unit will be primarily comprised of Air Support and qualified, trained Sheriff's Office personnel.

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### 461.4.3 PERSONNEL

sUAS Commander: The Lieutenant assigned to Air Support is responsible for the overall direction and performance of the sUAS unit and will exercise command and control over both.

The Air Support Sergeant(s) are responsible for the day-to-day supervision and of sUAS unit.

UAS Sergeant Responsibilities:

- (a) Maintain all training, flight and maintenance records for each operator and observer as well as individual airframes.
- (b) Maintain contact with the FAA and familiarity with the pertinent FAA regulations.
- (c) Evaluate airframes based on mission needs.
- (d) Maintain sUAS page on website to solicit community feedback.
- (e) Conduct and monitor sUAS training.
- (f) Make sure all members have a Part 107 License.

### 461.4.4 OPERATORS

To be considered for selection as an operator, applicants are not required to already possess a Part 107 Certificate. However, applicants must pass the part 107 knowledge in order to be accepted into the sUAS unit.

Operators interacting with Air Traffic Control (ATC) shall have sufficient expertise to perform that task readily. Operators must have an understanding of, and comply with, FAA Regulations applicable to the airspace where the sUAS will operate.

An operator's primary duty is the safe and effective operation of the SCSD's sUAS in accordance with the manufacturer's approved flight manual, FAA regulations and Agency policy and procedures. Operators must remain knowledgeable of all FAA regulations, sUAS manufacturer's flight manual and bulletins and SCSD policy and procedures.

Operators may be temporarily removed from flight status at any time by the sUAS Sergeant(s), for reasons including performance, proficiency, physical condition, etc. Should this become necessary, the operator will be notified verbally and in writing of the reason, further action to be taken and expected duration of such removal.

The department sUAS Sergeant(s) shall maintain a file for each operator which shall include copies of FAA certifications, training records, etc. This file will be reviewed in accordance with current SCSD policy and procedures.

### 461.4.5 OBSERVERS

Observers must have been provided with sufficient training to communicate clearly to the operator any turning instructions required to stay clear of conflicting traffic. Observers will receive training on rules and responsibilities described in 14 CFR 91.111, operating near other aircraft, 14 CFR 91.13, Right-of-Way Rules, cloud clearance, in-flight visibility, and the pilot controller glossary, including standard ATC phraseology and communication.

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An observer's primary duty is to operate the sUAS equipment, including cameras, FLIR, radio communications with patrol units, as well as be an observer for anything that may affect the operator's primary duty (see and avoid).

The Department sUAS Coordinator shall maintain a file for each observer which shall include copies of FAA certifications, training records, etc. This file can be reviewed in accordance with current SCSD policy and procedures.

### 461.4.6 FACILITIES

UAS operations will be housed at the SOC or with designated Operator(s), as determined by the Air Support Lieutenant.

Personnel will not leave the designated facility without ensuring the sUAS equipment is secured.

All personnel are equally responsible for maintaining the facility in a neat, clean and orderly fashion.

### 461.4.7 SCHEDULING

To maintain a level of proficiency with the sUAS, operators will be required, as part of their acceptance into the sUAS unit, to attend training every two months. Training will be coordinated through the sUAS unit and announced in advance for scheduling purposes.

### 461.4.8 MISCELLANEOUS

Inquiries from the news media will be forwarded to the Public Information Officer. Operators/Observers shall follow currently established department policy regarding interactions and inquiries from the media.

Requests for sUAS support from other government agencies within or outside the County of Stanislaus will be responded to by the Lieutenant of OES/MFF and assessed by the sUAS Sergeant(s). Should it be determined the sUAS request could result in a threat to life or property, the OES/MFF Lieutenant is authorized to decline the request. Proper policy and procedure, as well as FAA regulations, shall be followed when accepting mutual aid support for the sUAS.

## **461.5 SAFETY**

### 461.5.1 SAFETY POLICY

The SCSD is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy workplace, including:

- (a) The ongoing pursuit of an accident-free workplace, including no harm to people, no damage to equipment, the environment or property.
- (b) A culture of open reporting of all safety hazards in which management will not initiate disciplinary action against any personnel who, in good faith, disclose a hazard or safety occurrence due to unintentional conduct.
- (c) Support for safety training and awareness programs.

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- (d) Conduct regular audits of safety policies, procedures and practices.
- (e) Monitor the sUAS community to ensure best safety practices are incorporated into the organization.

It is the duty of every member within the sUAS unit to contribute to the goal of continued safe operations. This contribution may come in many forms and includes always operating in the safest manner practicable and never taking unnecessary risks. Any safety hazard, whether procedural, operational or maintenance related should be identified as soon as possible after, if not before, an incident occurs. Any suggestions in the interest of safety should be made to the sUAS unit chain of command.

If any member observes or has knowledge of an unsafe or dangerous act committed by another member, the sUAS Commander is to be notified immediately so that corrective action may be taken.

### 461.5.2 OPERATIONAL HAZARD AND OCCURRENCE REPORT (OHOR) AND INVESTIGATIONS

Occurrences are unplanned safety related events, including accidents and incidents that could impact safety. A hazard is something that has the potential to cause harm. The systematic identification and control of all major hazards is foundational to safety.

The OHOR concept provides a mechanism to report hazards and occurrences, real and perceived, to those responsible for sUAS operations.

There is no specific format for the OHOR as the information provided is what is important, not the format, and should be used without hesitation to report any anticipated, current, or experienced safety hazard, or occurrence. Further, the OHOR can be submitted anonymously and to whatever level in the chain of command, to get the matter proper attention, without fear of reprisal.

Written memorandums fully explaining the problem will be given to the sUAS Lieutenant.

Every hazard and/or occurrence will be investigated, with the results and corrective action taken communicated to all members. The investigation will be conducted by a supervisor, under the direction of the OES/MFF Commander, or any other member of the department who has the technical skill necessary to thoroughly conduct the investigation. The services of an independent subject matter expert may be necessary in some cases to assure a thorough and complete investigation.

Hazards requiring immediate attention will be brought to the attention of the Air Support Commander or direct supervisor, verbally, without delay.

All members are authorized to take action to correct a hazard, in that member's opinion, delay will result in accident or injury. The sUAS unit chain of command will be notified immediately in such situations.

### 461.5.3 SAFETY OFFICER - OPERATOR/OBSERVER/SUPERVISOR

In regards to safety, all members of the sUAS unit are responsible for the following:



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- (a) Ensure all flight operations personnel understand applicable regulatory requirements, standards and organizational safety policies and procedures.
- (b) Observe and control safety systems by monitoring all operations.
- (c) Review standards and the practices of departmental personnel as they impact operational safety.
- (d) Communicate all reported safety related problems and the corrective action taken. If there were any in-flight problems, or learned experiences, the proper procedures for handling that problem should be discussed.
- (e) Copy and circulate pertinent safety information.
- (f) Copy and circulate emergency safety bulletins.
- (g) It is emphasized again that safety is the responsibility of ALL members of the sUAS unit.

### 461.5.4 SAFETY TRAINING

All members shall receive training in the following subjects prior to operating the sUAS:

- (a) Agency commitment to safety
- (b) Agency policy
- (c) sUAS members' role in safety and Emergency procedures

All members shall review the Department Safety Policy and Procedures on an annual basis and that review shall be noted in their training history.

### 461.5.5 MEDICAL FACTORS

Operator and Observers shall only deploy the sUAS when rested and emotionally prepared for the tasks at hand.

Physical illness, exhaustion, emotional problems, etc., can seriously impair judgment, memory and alertness. The safest rule is not to act as an operator or observer when suffering from any of the above. Members are expected to "stand down" when these problems could reasonably be expected to affect their ability to perform flight duties. A self-assessment of physical condition shall be made by all members during pre-flight activities.

Performance can be seriously hampered by prescription and over-the-counter drugs. The sUAS Commander will be advised anytime such drugs are being taken. If it is determined that the medication being taken could hamper and/or impair an operator or observer, that member shall be prohibited from the deployment or exercise.

No member shall act as an operator or observer within eight hours after consumption of any alcoholic beverage.

## **461.6 TRAINING**

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### 461.6.1 OBJECTIVE

The key to continued safe operations is by maintaining a professional level of competency. The first step in this process is establishing minimum qualifications for selecting members, and the second step involves training those personnel.

### 461.6.2 INSTRUCTORS

If any members are FAA certified flight instructors, they will be given instructor duties. Such duties can include developing training courses; provide training and student evaluation and documentation.

Duties of instructing new members shall fall upon those who have the most flight time and knowledge of sUAS operations. Instructors will be designated based on experience and competency with the sUAS operation and approved by the sUAS Sergeant(s).

### 461.6.3 TRAINING PLANS

All members will have a training plan on file that outlines training objectives for the upcoming year. This training plan will be held in conjunction with the member's normal training file per department policy.

The approved training plan will be developed jointly by the supervisor, sUAV members and FAA requirements.

All deployments or exercises will be documented and count toward a member's training.

It is the member's responsibility to verify their training file contains all pertinent information.

### 461.6.4 INITIAL TRAINING (PER UAS INTERIM OPERATIONAL APPROVAL GUIDANCE 08-0 L)

Upon acceptance to the UAS unit, the new member shall acquire an Part 107 certificate.

Observers must have completed sufficient training to communicate to the pilot any instructions required to remain clear of conflicting traffic. This training, at a minimum, shall include knowledge of the rules and responsibilities described in 14 CFR 91.111, Operating Near Other Aircraft; 14 CFR 91.113, Right-of-Way Rules: Except Water Operations; and 14 CFR 91.155, Basic VFR Weather Minimums; knowledge of air traffic and radio communications, including the use of approved ATC/pilot phraseology; and knowledge of appropriate sections of the Aeronautical Information Manual.

Before a member can be authorized to conduct flight operations as a sUAS operator, they must complete at least eight hours of flight training with the sUAS instructors to show proficiency of the flight training exercises and the airframe. This must be accomplished to show their ability and knowledge of the sUAS.

### 461.6.5 RECURRENT TRAINING

All members within the unit shall maintain proficiency in their operator/observer abilities. Members who do not have any documented training or flight time within a span of 90 days will have to show proficiency before being an operator/observer during a deployment or exercise.

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Recurrent training is not limited to actual operating/observer skills but includes knowledge of all pertinent UAS/aviation matters.

Failure to prove proficiency can result in removal from sUAS responsibilities.

### 461.6.6 MISCELLANEOUS

Depending on the nature of the training request, all efforts will be made to accommodate the hours of training so as little impact is made to staffing levels.

All requests for training shall be approved through the member's chain of command and timekeeping during those training hours will be marked by the member's supervisor.

Members are encouraged to attend and forward information on FAA sponsored safety seminars. This may be done while on-duty with the approval of their chain of command.

Training shall only be conducted at approved locations.

## **461.7 GENERAL OPERATING PROCEDURES**

### 461.7.1 REQUESTS FOR SUAS SUPPORT

Requests for sUAS support shall be made through

- (a) Regional 911 Dispatch will forward the request to the CDO or Watch Commander during non-business hours.
- (b) Directly to the Air Support Lieutenant
- (c) sUAS Sergeant(s)

Requests for sUAS support can be made at any time during the day or night.

Final approval will be made by the Air Support Lieutenant.

### 461.7.2 CALL-OUT PROCEDURE

The Air Support Lieutenant will screen all initial requests to use a sUAS from patrol, special teams or investigation units.

The Air Support Lieutenant will contact the sUAS Unit Sergeant(s) or designated representative who will screen the request using the following factors:

- (a) Is the proposed use of the sUAS within the capabilities of the UAS equipment and personnel to perform?
- (b) Does the proposed use of the sUAS fall within the FAA and department policies and regulations for sUAS usage?
- (c) Can the sUAS be deployed safely given current weather conditions?
- (d) If the sUAS deployment requires a warrant, has one been requested and approved?
- (e) Are sufficient trained and qualified personnel available to safely operate the sUAS?

The Air Support Lieutenant will either accept or decline the request for sUAS support. If the request is denied, the sUAS Sergeant(s) will provide a reason for declining the support request

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to requestor. If Air Support accepts the support request, a sUAS operator will be assigned who will be provided all available mission information.

The sUAS Sergeant(s) will contact a certified observer from the list of available trained observers and arrange for the observer to meet the operator at the scene. The sUAS operator is responsible for transporting the UAS and all required equipment. Upon arriving at the requested location, the sUAS operator will contact the on-scene Incident Commander and will check in and receive a briefing on the mission requested. The sUAS operator will make an on-scene determination of the ability of the sUAS to perform the requested mission safely and within department and FAA policies and procedures.

If the sUAS operator determines that the use of the sUAS would violate department policy or directives, the sUAS operator will inform the Incident Commander of the potential conflict along with recommendations for modifying the requested mission to conform to the department policies and procedures. As this is a change from the original approved mission, the sUAS operator will contact the sUAS unit chain of command for direction on how to proceed. As soon as possible after the completion of the mission, the sUAS operator will make a full report of the circumstances and their concern through the chain of command.

UAS operators will have sole discretion for declaring safety or violation of FAA rules. If the UAS operator determines that a requested mission would violate FAA rules or endanger civilians, the sUAS operator will respectfully inform the Incident Commander of the reasons for refusing to operate the sUAS and contact the sUAS chain of command immediately. The sUAS will not be flown in this circumstance and the authority of the sUAS operator is absolute.

If the sUAS operator determines that the requested mission will potentially damage the sUAS or its associated equipment, the sUAS operator will inform the Incident Commander of their concern and suggest mission parameters changes. The sUAS operator is the final authority regarding sUAS operations.

### 461.7.3 DEPLOYMENT PRIORITIES

The sUAS shall not be used for the purpose of random surveillance.

If several separate requests for sUAS support are received simultaneously, they shall be prioritized.

In general terms, requests for sUAS support are prioritized as:

- (a) Life Safety
- (b) Evidence/Documentation

### 461.7.4 FLIGHT BOUNDARIES

Although there may be requests for sUAS support outside the County of Stanislaus, the certificate of authorization for our sUAS restricts sUAS deployment outside the County of Stanislaus and further restricts the proximity of flight to other locations.

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Information regarding flight boundaries can be found in the FAA COA and the use of a VFR Terminal Area Chart.

### 461.7.5 MINIMUM PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS

Due to the nature of the law enforcement mission, the minimum personnel required on ALL missions will be an operator and observer. Under no circumstances will an operator attempt to complete a deployment alone.

Although training is not considered a mission, an observer shall be used.

### 461.7.6 FLIGHT TIME LIMITATIONS

During any 24 consecutive hours, the total flight time of any pilot may not exceed 10 hours, which shall include any other unmanned flying by that pilot. A pilot's flight time may exceed the flight time limits if the assigned flight time occurs during a regularly assigned duty period of no more than 14 hours and:

- (a) If this duty period is immediately preceded by and followed by a required rest period of at least 10 consecutive hours of rest.
- (b) If the flight time is assigned during this period, which total flight time when added to any other unmanned flying by the pilot may not exceed 10 hours.
- (c) If the combined duty and rest periods equal 24 hours:
  - 1. Each flight assignment must provide for at least 10 consecutive hours of rest during the 24-hour period that precedes the planned end of the agency flight.
  - 2. When a pilot has exceeded the daily sUAS flight time limitations in this section, because of circumstances beyond control of the agency or pilot, the pilot must have a rest period before being assigned or accepting an assignment for flight time, of at least: Twelve (12) consecutive hours of rest if the flight time limitation is exceeded by more than 30 minutes.

### 461.7.7 PERSONNEL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DEPLOYMENTS. OPEN COMMUNICATION ACHIEVES SAFE SPERATIONS.

Operator

- (a) The operator is directly responsible for, and is the final authority over the actual operation of the sUAS.
- (b) Operators have absolute authority to reject a flight based on personnel safety or violation of FAA regulations. No member of the Sheriff's Office, regardless of rank, shall order an operator to make a flight when, in the opinion of the operator, it poses a risk to personnel or is in violation of FAA regulations.
- (c) Operators are responsible for compliance with this manual, department policy and procedure and FAA regulations.
- (d) The operator's main duty during the deployment of the sUAS is to operate the sUAS safely while accomplishing the goals of the deployment.
- (e) Operators shall see-and-avoid any obstacle that will lessen safety during the mission.

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- (f) Operators shall be responsive to the requests of the observer in order to accomplish the deployment.
- (g) Operators shall be responsible for documentation for mission training and updating of the flight book.

### Observer

- (a) Observers shall see-and-avoid any obstacle that will lessen safety during the mission.
- (b) Observers are responsible for the law enforcement aspect of the deployment.
- (c) Observers shall operate any attachments to the sUAS, allowing the operator to maintain complete focus on the operation of the sUAS.
- (d) Observers shall remain alert for suspicious persons or activities on the ground and coordinate response by ground units.
- (e) Observers shall monitor the radio updates.
- (f) Observers shall assist the operator in the main objective of safe operations of the UAS.

### 461.7.8 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

Operators/Observers will take into consideration the current weather conditions when planning to deploy, and wear appropriate clothing to deploy comfortably.

There are no documented issues with the use of the radio or cellular phones during the deployment of the sUAS, but the operator/observer should, at all times, take into consideration safe operation of the sUAS when using the radio or another device. (Use of the radio or other device is strictly prohibited by the operator during flight per the COA.)

Operators/Observers shall wear clothing that easily identifies them as Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office personnel.

### **461.8 PRE FLIGHT/POST FLIGHT ACTIONS**

#### 461.8.1 INSPECTIONS

Operators/Observers are both responsible for a thorough pre-flight inspection of the sUAS.

Before and after each deployment (whether an incident or training), the operator and observer shall conduct a thorough inspection of the sUAS in accordance with the instructions contained in the manufacture's user's manual.

Any issues found that will put in jeopardy the safe operation of the sUAS shall be documented and resolved immediately prior to flight.

It has been recognized that the use of a checklist is a significant method to combat sUAS accidents. A pre-flight and post-flight checklist is contained in the Base Station and will be utilized prior to each flight.

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Any physical equipment that cannot be resolved on-site, and which have an impact on safety or the mission, will override the deployment. These issues will be resolved before flight.

### 461.8.2 WEATHER

Before each deployment, the operator/observer will ensure that he/she gathers enough information to make themselves familiar with the weather situation existing throughout the area of deployment. The operator shall utilize FAA approved weather resources to obtain the latest and most current weather conditions.

Operators/Observers should use the Beaufort Scale when making deployment decisions in regards to wind conditions. This scale can be located in the manufacture's user manual.

The weather conditions reported for the operation shall be recorded in the flight log.

The operator shall ensure that the flight will occur within FAA VFR weather requirements.

### 461.8.3 DOCUMENTATION AND EVIDENCE

Inspection and weather will be documented prior to flight within the log book.

After each flight, the operator will complete a statement documenting the sUAS operations.

After each deployment, video obtained by the sUAS Operation (if deemed necessary for evidentiary purposes) will be submitted to evidence in accordance with Sheriff's Office policies and procedures.

Aerial photography (still or video) shall be stored in accordance to department policy and procedure for up to three years.

The operator of the UAS is responsible for evidence handling as well as writing any supporting documentation as needed for the incident.

### 461.8.4 PLANNING

The operator/observer shall familiarize themselves with all available information concerning the deployment including, but not limited to, the weather conditions, hazards, description of the incident, deployment goals, etc.

Operators will ensure that the location for take-off and emergency landing is adequate for a safe deployment.

- (a) The take-off/landing location should be clearly marked and identifiable.
- (b) At least one emergency landing area should be identified per deployment.
- (c) Operators will ensure that they are aware of their surroundings in the event that an emergency landing is necessary. This includes the ability to recover the sUAS.

### 461.8.5 CHECKLISTS

Operators shall utilize the checklists to ensure the highest level of safety for deployment.

Prior to flight, the flight log shall be initiated.

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### 461.8.6 MAINTENANCE

Although there are few parts on the sUAS that need servicing, it is necessary that the manufacturer's maintenance schedule is followed and properly documented.

Any issues that arise during maintenance that cannot be resolved by routine methods shall be forwarded to the manufacturer for further technical support.

### 461.8.7 OTHER

Operators/Observers will ensure that no items are attached to the sUAS prior to flight that are not required for safe operation and to complete the mission goal.



## Automated License Plate Readers (ALPRs)

### 462.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for the capture, storage and use of digital data obtained through the use of Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology.

### 462.2 ADMINISTRATION

The ALPR technology, also known as License Plate Recognition (LPR), allows for the automated detection of license plates. It is used by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to convert data associated with vehicle license plates for official law enforcement purposes, including identifying stolen or wanted vehicles, stolen license plates and missing persons. It may also be used to gather information related to active warrants, homeland security, electronic surveillance, suspect interdiction and stolen property recovery.

All installation and maintenance of ALPR equipment, as well as ALPR data retention and access, shall be managed by the Administration Division Commander. The Administration Division Commander will assign members under his/her command to administer the day-to-day operation of the ALPR equipment and data.

#### 462.2.1 ALPR ADMINISTRATOR

The Administration Division Commander shall be responsible for developing guidelines and procedures to comply with the requirements of Civil Code § 1798.90.5 et seq. This includes, but is not limited to (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53):

- (a) A description of the job title or other designation of the members and independent contractors who are authorized to use or access the ALPR system or to collect ALPR information.
- (b) Training requirements for authorized users.
- (c) A description of how the ALPR system will be monitored to ensure the security of the information and compliance with applicable privacy laws.
- (d) Procedures for system operators to maintain records of access in compliance with Civil Code § 1798.90.52.
- (e) The title and name of the current designee in overseeing the ALPR operation.
- (f) Working with the Custodian of Records on the retention and destruction of ALPR data.
- (g) Ensuring this policy and related procedures are conspicuously posted on the department's website.

### 462.3 OPERATIONS

Use of an ALPR is restricted to the purposes outlined below. Department members shall not use, or allow others to use the equipment or database records for any unauthorized purpose (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

- (a) An ALPR shall only be used for official law enforcement business.

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- (b) An ALPR may be used in conjunction with any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation. Reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required before using an ALPR.
- (c) While an ALPR may be used to canvass license plates around any crime scene, particular consideration should be given to using ALPR-equipped cars to canvass areas around homicides, shootings and other major incidents. Partial license plates reported during major crimes should be entered into the ALPR system in an attempt to identify suspect vehicles.
- (d) No member of this department shall operate ALPR equipment or access ALPR data without first completing department-approved training.
- (e) No ALPR operator may access department, state or federal data unless otherwise authorized to do so.
- (f) If practicable, the deputy should verify an ALPR response through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) before taking enforcement action that is based solely on an ALPR alert.

### **462.4 ALPR DATA COLLECTION AND RETENTION**

All data and images gathered by an ALPR are for the official use of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and because such data may contain confidential CLETS information, it is not open to public review. ALPR information gathered and retained by Vigilant Solutions may be used and shared with prosecutors or others only as permitted by law.

### **462.5 ACCOUNTABILITY AND REMOVE SAFEGUARDS**

All saved data will be closely safeguarded and protected by both procedural and technological means. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will observe the following safeguards regarding access to and use of stored data with Vigilant Solutions:

- (a) Persons approved to access ALPR data under these guidelines are permitted to access the data for legitimate law enforcement purposes only, such as when the data relate to a specific criminal investigation or department-related civil or administrative action. Our Agency agrees to use the ALPR data as a pointer system and not as the source of probable cause for law enforcement actions.
- (b) Such ALPR data may be released to other authorized and verified law enforcement officials and agencies at any time for legitimate law enforcement purposes.
- (c) ALPR system audits should be conducted on a regular basis.

### **462.6 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that members receive department-approved training for those authorized to use or access the ALPR system (Civil Code § 1798.90.51; Civil Code § 1798.90.53).

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### **462.6 POLICY**

The policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is to utilize ALPR technology to capture and store digital license plate data and images while recognizing the established privacy rights of the public.

All data and images gathered by the ALPR are for the official use of this department. Because such data may contain confidential information, it is not open to public review.

### **462.7 RELEASING ALPR DATA**

The ALPR data may be shared only with other law enforcement or prosecutorial agencies for official law enforcement purposes or as otherwise permitted by law.

Requests for ALPR data by non-law enforcement or non-prosecutorial agencies will be processed as provided in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy (Civil Code § 1798.90.55).

## Chapter 5 - Traffic Operations

## Traffic Function and Responsibility

### 500.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The ultimate goal of traffic law enforcement is to reduce traffic collisions. This may be achieved through the application of such techniques as geographic/temporal assignment of personnel and equipment and the establishment of preventive patrols to deal with specific categories of unlawful driving behavior. Traffic enforcement techniques are based on accident data, enforcement activity records, traffic volume, and traffic conditions. This department provides enforcement efforts toward violations, not only in proportion to the frequency of their occurrence in accident situations, but also in terms of traffic-related needs.

### 500.2 TRAFFIC DEPUTY DEPLOYMENT

Several factors are considered in the development of deployment schedules for deputies of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. Information provided by the California Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS) is a valuable resource for traffic accident occurrences and therefore deputy deployment. Some of the factors for analysis include:

- Location
- Time
- Day
- Violation factors

All deputies assigned to patrol or traffic enforcement functions will emphasize enforcement of accident causing violations during high accident hours and at locations of occurrence. All deputies will take directed enforcement action on request, and random enforcement action when appropriate against violators as a matter of routine. All deputies shall maintain high visibility while working general enforcement, especially at high accident locations.

Other factors to be considered for deployment are requests from the public, construction zones or special events.

### 500.3 ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement actions are commensurate with applicable laws and take into account the degree and severity of the violation committed. This department does not establish ticket quotas and the number of arrests or citations issued by any deputy shall not be used as the sole criterion for evaluating deputy overall performance (Vehicle Code § 41603). The visibility and quality of a deputy's work effort will be commensurate with the philosophy of this policy. Several methods are effective in the reduction of collisions:

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### 500.3.1 WARNINGS

Warnings or other non-punitive enforcement actions should be considered in each situation and substituted for arrests or citations when circumstances warrant, especially in the case of inadvertent violations.

### 500.3.2 CITATIONS

Citations may be issued when a deputy believes it is appropriate. It is essential that deputies fully explain the rights and requirements imposed on motorists upon issuance of a citation for a traffic violation. Deputies should provide the following information at a minimum:

- (a) Explanation of the violation or charge
- (b) Court appearance procedure including the optional or mandatory appearance by the motorist
- (c) Notice of whether the motorist can enter a plea and pay the fine by mail or at the court

### 500.3.3 PHYSICAL ARREST

Physical arrest can be made on a number of criminal traffic offenses outlined in the Vehicle Code or Penal Code. These physical arrest cases usually deal with, but are not limited to:

- (a) Vehicular manslaughter
- (b) Felony and misdemeanor driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs
- (c) Felony or misdemeanor hit-and-run
- (d) Refusal to sign notice to appear
- (e) Any other misdemeanor at the discretion of the deputy, such as reckless driving with extenuating circumstances

## **500.4 SUSPENDED OR REVOKED DRIVERS LICENSES**

If a deputy contacts a traffic violator for driving on a suspended or revoked license, the deputy may issue a traffic citation pursuant to Vehicle Code § 14601.

If a computer check of a traffic violator's license status reveals a suspended or revoked driver license and the traffic violator still has his or her license in possession, the license shall be seized by the deputy. The deputy shall verbally advise the traffic violator of the suspension or revocation and issue the citation. The deputy will be responsible for filling out the Verbal Notice form (DMV form DL-310) and causing that form and license to be forwarded to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

## **500.5 HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS**

The Department has provided American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Class II high-visibility vests to increase the visibility of department members who may be exposed to hazards presented by passing traffic, maneuvering or operating vehicles, machinery and equipment (23 CFR 655.601; 8 CCR 1598).

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Although intended primarily for use while performing traffic related assignments, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time increased visibility would improve the safety or efficiency of the member.

### 500.5.1 REQUIRED USE

Except when working in a potentially adversarial or confrontational role, such as during vehicle stops, high-visibility vests should be worn at any time it is anticipated that an employee will be exposed to the hazards of approaching traffic or construction and recovery equipment. Examples of when high-visibility vests should be worn include traffic control duties, accident investigations, lane closures and while at disaster scenes, or anytime high visibility is desirable. When emergency conditions preclude the immediate donning of the vest, deputies should retrieve and wear the vest as soon as conditions reasonably permit. Use of the vests shall also be mandatory when directed by a supervisor.

Vests maintained in the investigation units may be used any time a plainclothes deputy might benefit from being readily identified as a member of law enforcement.

### 500.5.2 CARE AND STORAGE OF HIGH-VISIBILITY VESTS

High-visibility vests shall be maintained in the trunk of each patrol and investigation unit, in the side box of each sheriff's motorcycle and in the saddlebag or gear bag of each sheriff's bicycle. Each vest should be stored inside the re-sealable plastic bag provided to protect and maintain the vest in a serviceable condition. Before going into service each employee shall ensure a serviceable high-visibility vest is properly stored.

A supply of high-visibility vests will be maintained in the equipment room for replacement of damaged or unserviceable vests. The Training Manager should be promptly notified whenever the supply of vests in the equipment room needs replenishing.

## Traffic Collision Reporting

### 502.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department prepares traffic collision reports in compliance with the California Highway Patrol Collision Investigation Manual (CIM) and as a public service makes traffic collision reports available to the community with some exceptions.

### 502.2 RESPONSIBILITY

The Watch Commander will be responsible for distribution of the Collision Investigation Manual. The Watch Commander will receive all changes in the state manual and ensure conformity with this policy.

### 502.3 TRAFFIC COLLISION REPORTING

All traffic collision reports taken by members of this department shall be forwarded to the supervisor for approval and data entry into the Records Bureau Management System. The Lieutenant/Chief will be responsible for regular reports on traffic collision statistics to be forwarded to the Operations Division Commander, or other persons as required.

### 502.4 REPORTING SITUATIONS

In compliance with the Collision Investigation Manual, traffic collision reports are not required to be taken for traffic collisions occurring on private property unless there is a death or injury to any person involved, or a hit-and-run violation. A CHP 555-03 (property damage only) report may be completed at the discretion of any supervisor

#### 502.4.1 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS INVOLVING COUNTY VEHICLES

Traffic collision investigation reports shall be taken when a County-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision upon a roadway or highway wherein any damage or injury results. A general information report may be taken in lieu of a traffic collision report (CHP 555 form) at the direction of a supervisor when the collision occurs on private property or does not involve another vehicle. Whenever there is damage to a County vehicle, a Vehicle Damage Report shall be completed and forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander.

Photographs of the collision scene and vehicle damage shall be taken at the discretion of the traffic investigator or any supervisor.

#### 502.4.2 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

When an employee of this department, either on-duty or off-duty, is involved in a traffic collision within the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department resulting in a serious injury or fatality, the Lieutenant or the Watch Commander, may notify the California Highway Patrol for assistance.

The term serious injury is defined as any injury that may result in a fatality.



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### 502.4.3 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH OTHER COUNTY EMPLOYEES OR OFFICIALS

The Lieutenant or on-duty Watch Commander may request assistance from the California Highway Patrol for the investigation of any traffic collision involving any County official or employee where a serious injury or fatality has occurred.

### 502.4.4 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

In compliance with the Collision Investigation Manual, traffic collision reports shall not be taken for traffic collisions occurring on private property unless there is a death or injury to any person involved, or a hit-and-run violation. An Incident Report may be taken at the discretion of any supervisor.

### 502.4.5 TRAFFIC COLLISIONS ON ROADWAYS OR HIGHWAYS

Traffic collision reports shall be taken when they occur on a roadway or highway within the jurisdiction of this department under any of the following circumstances:

- (a) When there is a death or injury to any persons involved in the collision
- (b) When there is an identifiable violation of the Vehicle Code for which a citation issuance is anticipated.
- (c) When a report is requested by any involved driver

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) will respond to the following incidents:

- (a) Fatal or serious injury (possibility of the victim dying) accidents in the contract cities (Riverbank, Patterson, Waterford and Hughson), or at either Woodward Reservoir or Modesto Reservoir.
- (b) Serious injury DUIs that will potentially generate felony charges.
- (c) Any accident that the Watch Commander or Command Duty Officer (CDO) feels requires a major investigation (after consulting with the MAIT Sergeants).

## Vehicle Towing and Release

### 510.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides the procedures for towing a vehicle by or at the direction of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. Nothing in this policy shall require the [Department/Office] to tow a vehicle.

### 510.2 STORAGE AND IMPOUNDS

When circumstances permit, for example when towing a vehicle for parking or registration violations, the handling employee should, prior to having the vehicle towed, make a good faith effort to notify the owner of the vehicle that it is subject to removal. This may be accomplished by personal contact, telephone or by leaving a notice attached to the vehicle at least 24 hours prior to removal. If a vehicle presents a hazard, such as being abandoned on the roadway, it may be towed immediately.

The responsibilities of those employees towing, storing or impounding a vehicle are listed below.

#### 510.2.1 VEHICLE STORAGE REPORT

[Department/Office] members requesting towing, storage or impound of a vehicle shall complete CHP Form 180 and accurately record the mileage and a description of property within the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 22850). A copy of the storage report should to be given to the tow truck operator and the original shall be submitted to the Records Bureau as soon as practicable after the vehicle is stored.

#### 510.2.2 REMOVAL FROM TRAFFIC COLLISION SCENES

When a vehicle has been involved in a traffic collision and must be removed from the scene, the deputy shall have the driver select a towing company, if possible, and shall relay the request for the specified towing company to the dispatcher. When there is no preferred company requested, a company will be selected from the rotational list of towing companies in the Communications Center.

If the owner is incapacitated, or for any reason it is necessary for the [Department/Office] to assume responsibility for a vehicle involved in a collision, the deputy shall request the dispatcher to call the official towing garage for the County of Stanislaus. The deputy will then store the vehicle using a CHP Form 180.

#### 510.2.3 STORAGE AT ARREST SCENES

Whenever a person in charge or in control of a vehicle is arrested, it is the policy of this [department/office] to provide reasonable safekeeping by storing the arrestee's vehicle subject to the exceptions described below. The vehicle, however, shall be stored whenever it is needed for the furtherance of the investigation or prosecution of the case, or when the community caretaker doctrine would reasonably suggest that the vehicle should be stored (e.g., traffic hazard, high-crime area).

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The following are examples of situations where consideration should be given to leaving a vehicle at the scene in lieu of storing, provided the vehicle can be lawfully parked and left in a reasonably secured and safe condition:

- Traffic-related warrant arrest.
- Situations where the vehicle was not used to further the offense for which the driver was arrested.
- Whenever the licensed owner of the vehicle is present, willing, and able to take control of any vehicle not involved in criminal activity.
- Whenever the vehicle otherwise does not need to be stored and the owner requests that it be left at the scene. In such cases, the owner shall be informed that the [Department/Office] will not be responsible for theft or damages.

### 510.2.4 IMPOUNDMENT AT SOBRIETY CHECKPOINTS

Whenever a driver is stopped at a sobriety checkpoint and the only violation is that the operator is driving without a valid driver's license, the deputy shall make a reasonable attempt to identify the registered owner of the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 2814.2). The deputy shall release the vehicle to the registered owner if the person is a licensed driver, or to another licensed driver authorized by the registered owner, provided the vehicle is claimed prior to the conclusion of the checkpoint operation.

If the vehicle is released at the checkpoint, the deputy shall list on his/her copy of the notice to appear the name and driver's license number of the person to whom the vehicle is released.

When a vehicle cannot be released at the checkpoint, it shall be towed (Vehicle Code § 22651(p)). When a vehicle is removed at the checkpoint, it shall be released during the normal business hours of the storage facility to the registered owner or his/her agent upon presentation of a valid driver's license and current vehicle registration.

### 510.2.5 DRIVING A NON-CITY VEHICLE

Vehicles which have been towed by or at the direction of the [Department/Office] should not be driven by sheriff's personnel unless it is necessary to move a vehicle a short distance to eliminate a hazard, prevent the obstruction of a fire hydrant or to comply with posted signs.

### 510.2.6 DISPATCHER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Upon receiving a request for towing, the dispatcher shall promptly telephone the specified authorized towing service. The deputy shall be advised when the request has been made and the towing service has been dispatched.

When there is no preferred company requested, the dispatcher shall call the next firm in rotation from the list of approved towing companies and shall make appropriate entries on that form to ensure the following firm is called on the next request.

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### 510.2.7 RECORDS BUREAU RESPONSIBILITY

Records personnel shall promptly enter pertinent data from the completed storage form (CHP Form 180) into the Stolen Vehicle System and return the form to the Watch Commander for approval (Vehicle Code § 22651.5(b); Vehicle Code § 22851.3(b); Vehicle Code § 22854.5).

Approved storage forms shall be promptly placed into the auto-file so that they are immediately available for release or review should inquiries be made.

Within 48 hours, excluding weekends and holidays, of the storage of any such vehicle it shall be the responsibility of the Records Bureau to determine the names and addresses of any individuals having an interest in the vehicle through DMV or CLETS computers. Notice shall be sent to all such individuals by first-class mail (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(d); Vehicle Code § 22852(a); Vehicle Code § 14602.6(a)(2)). The notice shall include the following (Vehicle Code § 22852(b)):

- (a) The name, address, and telephone number of this [Department/Office].
- (b) The location of the place of storage and description of the vehicle, which shall include, if available, the name or make, the manufacturer, the license plate number, and the mileage.
- (c) The authority and purpose for the removal of the vehicle.
- (d) A statement that, in order to receive their post-storage hearing, the owners, or their agents, shall request the hearing in person, in writing, or by telephone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice.

### 510.3 TOWING SERVICES

The County of Stanislaus periodically selects a firm to act as the official tow service and awards a contract to that firm. This firm will be used in the following situations:

- (a) When it is necessary to safeguard a vehicle due to the inability of the owner or operator to take the required action.
- (b) When a vehicle is being held as evidence in connection with an investigation.
- (c) When it is otherwise necessary to store a motor vehicle. This would include situations involving the recovery of stolen or abandoned vehicles, and the removal of vehicles obstructing traffic in violation of state or local regulations.

### 510.4 VEHICLE INVENTORY

All property in a stored or impounded vehicle shall be inventoried and listed on the vehicle storage form. This includes the trunk and any compartments or containers, even if closed and/or locked. Members conducting inventory searches should be as thorough and accurate as practical in preparing an itemized inventory. These inventory procedures are for the purpose of protecting an owner's property while in sheriff's custody, to provide for the safety of deputies, and to protect the [Department/Office] against fraudulent claims of lost, stolen, or damaged property.

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### **510.5 SECURITY OF VEHICLES AND PROPERTY**

Unless it would cause an unreasonable delay in the completion of a vehicle impound/storage or create an issue of officer safety, deputies should make reasonable accommodations to permit a driver/owner to retrieve small items of value or personal need (e.g., cash, jewelry, cell phone, prescriptions) that are not considered evidence or contraband.

If a search of a vehicle leaves the vehicle or any property contained therein vulnerable to unauthorized entry, theft, or damage, personnel conducting the search shall take such steps as are reasonably necessary to secure and/or preserve the vehicle or property from such hazards.

### **510.6 RELEASE OF VEHICLE**

The [Department/Office] will maintain a listed, 24-hour telephone number to provide information regarding impoundment of vehicles and the right of the registered owner to request a storage hearing. Releases for towed vehicles will be made available during regular, non-emergency business hours (Vehicle Code § 14602.6).

- (a) Vehicles removed pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22850 shall be released after proof of current registration is provided by the owner or the person in control of the vehicle and after all applicable fees are paid (Vehicle Code § 22850.3; Vehicle Code § 22850.5).
- (b) Vehicles removed that require payment of parking fines or proof of valid driver's license shall only be released upon presentation of proof of compliance, proof of payment, completion of affidavit, and payment of applicable fees related to the removal (Vehicle Code § 22651 et seq., Vehicle Code § 22652 et seq., Vehicle Code § 22850.3; Vehicle Code § 22850.5).
- (c) A vehicle removed pursuant to Vehicle Code § 14602.6(a) shall be released to the registered owner or his/her agent with proof of current registration, proof of a valid driver's license, and applicable fees paid prior to the end of the 30-day impoundment period under any of the following circumstances:
  - 1. The vehicle was stolen.
  - 2. If the driver reinstates his/her driver's license or acquires a license and provides proof of proper insurance.
  - 3. Any other circumstance as set forth in Vehicle Code § 14602.6.
  - 4. When there is no remaining community caretaking need to continue impound of the vehicle or the continued impound would not otherwise comply with the Fourth Amendment.
- (d) An autonomous vehicle removed under authority of Vehicle Code § 22651(o)(1)(D) shall be released to the registered owner or person in control of the autonomous vehicle if the requirements of Vehicle Code § 22651(o)(3)(B) are met.

Personnel whose duties include releasing towed vehicles should consult the Vehicle Code under which the vehicle was towed or impounded for any specific requirements prior to release.

Employees who suspect that a vehicle was impounded in error should promptly advise a supervisor. Supervisors should approve, when appropriate, the release of the vehicle without

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requiring the registered owner or his/her agent to request a hearing, as described in the Vehicle Impound Hearings Policy.

## Vehicle Impound Hearings

### 512.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes a procedure for the requirement to provide vehicle storage or impound hearings pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22852.

### 512.2 STORED OR IMPOUND HEARING

When a vehicle is stored or impounded by any member of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, a hearing will be conducted upon the request of the registered or legal owner of the vehicle or his/her agent (Vehicle Code §§ 22650(a) and 22852(a)).

The hearing shall be conducted within 48 hours of the request, excluding weekends and holidays. The hearing officer must be a person other than the person who directed the storage or impound of the vehicle (Vehicle Code § 22852(c)).

#### 512.2.1 HEARING PROCEDURES

The vehicle storage hearing is an informal process to evaluate the validity of an order to store or impound a vehicle. The employee who caused the storage or removal of the vehicle does not need to be present for this hearing.

All requests for a hearing on a stored or impounded vehicle shall be submitted in person, in writing or by telephone within 10 days of the date appearing on the notice (Vehicle Code § 22852(b)). The Lieutenant will generally serve as the hearing officer. The person requesting the hearing may record the hearing at his/her own expense.

The failure of either the registered or legal owner or interested person or his/her agent to request a hearing in a timely manner or to attend a scheduled hearing shall be considered a waiver of and satisfaction of the post-storage hearing requirement (Vehicle Code § 22851.3(e)(2); Vehicle Code § 22852(d)).

Any relevant evidence may be submitted and reviewed by the hearing officer to determine if reasonable grounds have been established for the storage or impound of the vehicle. The initial burden of proof established by a preponderance of the evidence that the storage/impound was based on probable cause rests with the Department.

After consideration of all information, the hearing officer shall determine the validity of the storage or impound of the vehicle in question and then render a decision. The hearing officer shall also consider any mitigating circumstances attendant to the storage that reasonably would warrant the release of the vehicle or a modification or reduction of the period the vehicle is impounded (Vehicle Code § 14602.6(b); Vehicle Code § 14602.8(b)).

Aside from those mitigating circumstances enumerated in the Vehicle Code, the registered owner's lack of actual knowledge that the driver to whom the vehicle was loaned was not validly licensed may constitute a mitigating circumstance under Vehicle Code § 14602.6(b) or 14602.8(b), warranting release of the vehicle. This mitigating circumstance exception is not limited to situations

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## *Vehicle Impound Hearings*

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where the owner made a reasonable inquiry as to the licensed status of the driver before lending the vehicle.

The legislative intent and this department's policy is to prevent unlicensed driving pursuant to Vehicle Code §14602.6. If this purpose is not furthered by the continued impoundment of a vehicle, release is most often appropriate.

- (a) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage or impound have been established, the hearing officer shall advise the inquiring party of the decision and that the inquiring party may pursue further civil remedies if desired.
  - 1. If mitigating circumstances are found to be relevant, the hearing officer shall make reasonable adjustments to the impound period, storage or assessment of fees as warranted.
- (b) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage or impound have not been established or sufficient mitigating circumstances exist, the vehicle in storage shall be released immediately. Towing and storage fees will be paid at the Department's expense (Vehicle Code § 22852(e)).
- (c) If a decision is made that reasonable grounds for storage have not been established or sufficient mitigating circumstances exist, and the vehicle has been released with fees having been paid, the receipt for such fees will be forwarded with a letter to the appropriate Division Commander. The hearing officer will recommend to the appropriate Division Commander that the fees paid by the registered or legal owner of the vehicle in question or their agent be reimbursed by the Department.



## Impaired Driving

### 514.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance to those department members who play a role in the detection and investigation of driving under the influence (DUI).

### 514.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is committed to the safety of the roadways and the community and will pursue fair but aggressive enforcement of California's impaired driving laws.

### 514.3 FIELD TESTS

The Lieutenant should identify standardized FSTs and any approved alternate tests for deputies to use when investigating violations of DUI laws.

### 514.4 CHEMICAL TESTS

A person implies consent to a chemical test or tests, and to providing the associated chemical sample, under any of the following (Vehicle Code § 23612):

- (a) The person is arrested for driving a vehicle while under the influence, pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23152.
- (b) The person is under 21 years of age and is arrested by a deputy having reasonable cause to believe that the person's blood alcohol content is 0.05 or more (Vehicle Code § 23140).
- (c) The person is under 21 years of age and detained by a deputy having reasonable cause to believe that the person was driving a vehicle while having a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more (Vehicle Code § 23136).
- (d) The person was operating a vehicle while under the influence and proximately caused bodily injury to another person (Vehicle Code § 23153).

If a person withdraws this implied consent, or is unable to withdraw consent (e.g., the person is unconscious), the deputy should consider implied consent revoked and proceed as though the person has refused to provide a chemical sample.

#### 514.4.1 CHOICE OF TESTS

Deputies shall respect a viable choice of chemical test made by an arrestee, as provided for by law (e.g., breath will not be acceptable for suspected narcotics influence).

A person arrested for DUI has the choice of whether the test is of his/her blood or breath, and the deputy shall advise the person that he/she has that choice. If the person arrested either is incapable, or states that he/she is incapable, of completing the chosen test, the person shall submit to the remaining test.

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If the person chooses to submit to a breath test and there is reasonable cause to believe that the person is under the influence of a drug or the combined influence of alcohol and any drug, the deputy may also request that the person submit to a blood test. If the person is incapable of completing a blood test, the person shall submit to and complete a urine test (Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(2)(C)).

### 514.4.2 BREATH SAMPLES

The Lieutenant should ensure that all devices used for the collection and analysis of breath samples are properly serviced and tested, and that a record of such service and testing is properly maintained.

Deputies obtaining a breath sample should monitor the device for any sign of malfunction. Any anomalies or equipment failures should be noted in the appropriate report and promptly reported to the Lieutenant.

When the arrested person chooses a breath test, the handling deputy shall advise the person that the breath-testing equipment does not retain a sample, and the person may, if desired, provide a blood or urine specimen, which will be retained to facilitate subsequent verification testing (Vehicle Code § 23614).

The deputy should also require the person to submit to a blood test if the deputy has a clear indication that a blood test will reveal evidence of any drug or the combined influence of an alcoholic beverage and any drug. Evidence of the deputy's belief shall be included in the deputy's report (Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(2)(C)).

### 514.4.3 BLOOD SAMPLES

Only persons authorized by law to draw blood shall collect blood samples (Vehicle Code § 23158). The blood draw should be witnessed by the assigned deputy. No deputy, even if properly certified, should perform this task.

Deputies should inform an arrestee that if he/she chooses to provide a blood sample, a separate sample can be collected for alternate testing. Unless medical personnel object, two samples should be collected and retained as evidence, so long as only one puncture is required.

The blood sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

If an arrestee cannot submit to a blood draw because he/she has a bleeding disorder or has taken medication that inhibits coagulation, he/she shall not be required to take a blood test. Such inability to take a blood test should not be considered a refusal. However, that arrestee may be required to complete another available and viable test.

### 514.4.4 URINE SAMPLES

If a urine test will be performed, the arrestee should be promptly transported to the appropriate testing site. The deputy shall follow any directions accompanying the urine evidence collection kit.

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Urine samples shall be collected and witnessed by a deputy or jail staff member of the same sex as the individual giving the sample. The arrestee should be allowed sufficient privacy to maintain his/her dignity, to the extent possible, while still ensuring the accuracy of the sample (Vehicle Code § 23158(i)).

The sample shall be packaged, marked, handled, stored and transported as required by the testing facility.

### 514.4.5 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS

Deputies requesting that a person submit to chemical testing shall provide the person with the mandatory warning pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(1)(D) and Vehicle Code § 23612(a)(4).

### 514.4.6 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING

Deputies may use a preliminary alcohol screening (PAS) test to assist in establishing reasonable cause to believe a person is DUI. The deputy shall advise the person that the PAS test is being requested to assist in determining whether the person is under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or a combination of the two. Unless the person is under the age of 21, he/she shall be advised that the PAS test is voluntary. The deputy shall also advise the person that submitting to a PAS test does not satisfy his/her obligation to submit to a chemical test as otherwise required by law (Vehicle Code § 23612).

### 514.4.7 PRELIMINARY ALCOHOL SCREENING FOR A PERSON UNDER AGE 21

If a deputy lawfully detains a person under 21 years of age who is driving a motor vehicle and the deputy has reasonable cause to believe that the person has a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more, the deputy shall request that the person take a PAS test to determine the presence of alcohol in the person, if a PAS test device is immediately available. If a PAS test device is not immediately available, the deputy may request the person to submit to chemical testing of his/her blood, breath or urine, conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 23612 (Vehicle Code § 13388).

If the person refuses to take or fails to complete the PAS test or other chemical test, or if the result of either test reveals a blood alcohol content of 0.01 or more, the deputy shall proceed to serve the person with a notice of order of suspension pursuant to this policy (Vehicle Code § 13388).

## **514.5 REFUSALS**

When an arrestee refuses to provide a viable chemical sample, deputies should:

- (a) Advise the person of the requirement to provide a sample (Vehicle Code § 23612).
- (b) Audio- and/or video-record the admonishment when it is practicable.
- (c) Document the refusal in the appropriate report.

Upon refusal to submit to a chemical test as required by law, deputies shall personally serve the notice of order of suspension upon the person and take possession of any state-issued license to operate a motor vehicle that is held by that person (Vehicle Code § 23612(e); Vehicle Code § 23612(f)).

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### 514.5.1 BLOOD SAMPLE WITHOUT CONSENT

A blood sample may be obtained from a person who refuses a chemical test when any of the following conditions exist:

- (a) A search warrant has been obtained (Penal Code § 1524).
- (b) The deputy can articulate that exigent circumstances exist. Exigency does not exist solely because of the short time period associated with the natural dissipation of alcohol or controlled or prohibited substances in the person's bloodstream. Exigency can be established by the existence of special facts such as a lengthy time delay in obtaining a blood sample due to an accident investigation or medical treatment of the person.

### 514.5.2 FORCED BLOOD SAMPLE

If an arrestee indicates by word or action that he/she will physically resist a blood draw, the deputy should request a supervisor to respond.

The responding supervisor should:

- (a) Evaluate whether using force to obtain a blood sample is appropriate under the circumstances.
- (b) Ensure that all attempts to obtain a blood sample through force cease if the person agrees to, and completes a viable form of testing in a timely manner.
- (c) Advise the person of his/her duty to provide a sample (even if this advisement was previously done by another deputy) and attempt to persuade the individual to submit to such a sample without physical resistance.
  - 1. This dialogue should be recorded on audio and/or video if practicable.
- (d) Ensure that the blood sample is taken in a medically approved manner.
- (e) Ensure the forced blood draw is recorded on audio and/or video when practicable.
- (f) Monitor and ensure that the type and level of force applied appears reasonable under the circumstances:
  - 1. Unless otherwise provided in a warrant, force should generally be limited to handcuffing or similar restraint methods.
  - 2. In misdemeanor cases, if the arrestee becomes violent or more resistant, no additional force will be used and a refusal should be noted in the report.
  - 3. In felony cases, force which reasonably appears necessary to overcome the resistance to the blood draw may be permitted.
- (g) Ensure the use of force and methods used to accomplish the collection of the blood sample are documented in the related report.

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If a supervisor is unavailable, deputies are expected to use sound judgment and perform as a responding supervisor, as set forth above.

### **514.5.3 STATUTORY NOTIFICATIONS UPON REFUSAL**

Upon refusal to submit to a chemical test as required by law, deputies shall personally serve the notice of order of suspension upon the arrestee and take possession of any state-issued license to operate a motor vehicle that is held by that individual (Vehicle Code § 23612(e); Vehicle Code § 23612(f)).

### **514.6 RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Records Manager will ensure that all case-related records are transmitted according to current records procedures and as required by the prosecuting attorney's office.

### **514.7 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

The Records Manager will ensure that all appropriate reports and documents related to administrative license suspensions are reviewed and forwarded to DMV.

Any deputy who receives notice of required attendance to an administrative license suspension hearing should promptly notify the prosecuting attorney.

A deputy called to testify at an administrative hearing should document the hearing date and DMV file number in a supplemental report. Specific details of the hearing generally should not be included in the report unless errors, additional evidence or witnesses are identified.

### **514.8 TRAINING**

The Training Manager should ensure that deputies participating in the enforcement of DUI laws receive regular training. Training should include, at minimum, current laws on impaired driving, investigative techniques and rules of evidence pertaining to DUI investigations. The Training Manager should confer with the prosecuting attorney's office and update training topics as needed.

### **514.9 ARREST AND INVESTIGATION**

#### **514.9.1 WARRANTLESS ARREST**

In addition to the arrest authority granted to deputies pursuant to Penal Code § 836, a deputy may make a warrantless arrest of a person that the deputy has reasonable cause to believe has been driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or any drug, or under the combined influence of the same when (Vehicle Code § 40300.5):

- (a) The person is involved in a traffic accident.
- (b) The person is observed in or about a vehicle that is obstructing the roadway.
- (c) The person will not be apprehended unless immediately arrested.
- (d) The person may cause injury to him/herself or damage property unless immediately arrested.

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- (e) The person may destroy or conceal evidence of a crime unless immediately arrested.

### 514.9.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITIES

The deputy serving the arrested person with a notice of an order of suspension shall immediately (Vehicle Code § 23612):

- (a) Forward a copy of the completed notice of suspension or revocation form and any confiscated driver's license to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).
- (b) Forward a sworn report to DMV that contains the required information in Vehicle Code § 13380.
- (c) Forward the results to the appropriate forensic laboratory if the person submitted to a blood or urine test.

## Traffic Citations

### 516.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy outlines the responsibility for traffic citations, the procedure for dismissal, correction, and voiding of traffic citations.

### 516.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Lieutenant shall be responsible for the development and design of all Department traffic citations in compliance with state law and the Judicial Council.

The Records Bureau shall be responsible for the supply and accounting of all traffic citations issued to employees of this department.

### 516.3 DISMISSAL OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Employees of this department do not have the authority to dismiss a citation once it has been issued. Only the court has the authority to dismiss a citation that has been issued (Vehicle Code § 40500(d)). Any request from a recipient to dismiss a citation shall be referred to the Operations Division Commander. Upon a review of the circumstances involving the issuance of the traffic citation, the Operations Division Commander may recommend dismissal of the traffic citation. If approved, the citation will be forwarded to the appropriate court with a request for dismissal. All recipients of traffic citations whose request for the dismissal of a traffic citation has been denied shall be referred to the appropriate court.

Should a deputy determine during a court proceeding that a traffic citation should be dismissed in the interest of justice or where prosecution is deemed inappropriate the deputy may request the court to dismiss the citation. Upon dismissal of the traffic citation by the court, the deputy shall notify his/her immediate supervisor of the circumstances surrounding the dismissal and shall complete any paperwork as directed or required. The citation dismissal shall then be forwarded to the Operations Division Commander for review.

### 516.4 VOIDING TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Voiding a traffic citation may occur when a traffic citation has not been completed or where it is completed, but not issued. All copies of the citation shall be presented to a supervisor to approve the voiding of the citation. The citation and copies shall then be forwarded to the Traffic Bureau.

### 516.5 CORRECTION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS

When a traffic citation is issued and in need of correction, the deputy issuing the citation shall complete a citation amendment form and submit the form to the Records Bureau Division

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## *Traffic Citations*

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### **516.6 DISPOSITION OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

The court and file copies of all traffic citations issued by members of this [department/office] shall be forwarded to the employee's immediate supervisor for review. The citation copies shall then be filed with the Records Bureau.

Upon separation from employment with this [department/office], all employees issued traffic citation books shall return any unused citations to the Records Bureau.

### **516.7 NOTICE OF PARKING VIOLATION APPEAL PROCEDURE**

Disposition of notice of parking violation appeals is conducted pursuant to Vehicle Code § 40215.

#### **516.7.1 APPEAL STAGES**

Appeals may be pursued sequentially at three different levels (Vehicle Code § 40215; Vehicle Code § 40230):

- (a) Administrative reviews are conducted by the Traffic Bureau who will review written/documentary data. Requests for administrative reviews are available at the front desk or Traffic Bureau of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. These requests are informal written statements outlining why the notice of parking violation should be dismissed. Copies of documentation relating to the notice of parking violation and the request for dismissal must be mailed to the current mailing address of the processing agency.
- (b) If the appellant wishes to pursue the matter beyond administrative review, an administrative hearing may be conducted in person or by written application, at the election of the appellant. Independent referees review the existent administrative file, amendments, and/or testimonial material provided by the appellant and may conduct further investigation or follow-up on their own.
- (c) If the appellant wishes to pursue the matter beyond an administrative hearing, a Superior Court review may be presented in person by the appellant after an application for review and designated filing fees have been paid to the Superior Court of California.

#### **516.7.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS**

Administrative review or appearance before a hearing examiner will not be provided if the mandated time limits are not adhered to by the violator.

- (a) Requests for an administrative review must be postmarked within 21 calendar days of issuance of the notice of parking violation, or within 14 calendar days of the mailing of the Notice of Delinquent Parking (Violation Vehicle Code § 40215(a)).
- (b) Requests for administrative hearings must be made no later than 21 calendar days following the notification mailing of the results of the administrative review (Vehicle Code § 40215(b)).
- (c) An administrative hearing shall be held within 90 calendar days following the receipt of a request for an administrative hearing, excluding time tolled pursuant to Vehicle Code



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§ 40200 - 40225. The person requesting the hearing may request one continuance, not to exceed 21 calendar days (Vehicle Code § 40215).

- (d) Registered owners of vehicles may transfer responsibility for the violation via timely affidavit of non-liability when the vehicle has been transferred, rented or under certain other circumstances (Vehicle Code § 40209 and Vehicle Code § 40210).

### 516.7.3 COSTS

- (a) There is no cost for an administrative review.
- (b) Appellants must deposit the full amount due for the citation before receiving an administrative hearing, unless the person is indigent, as defined in Vehicle Code § 40220, and provides satisfactory proof of inability to pay (Vehicle Code § 40215).
- (c) An appeal through Superior Court requires prior payment of filing costs, including applicable court charges and fees. These costs will be reimbursed to the appellant in addition to any previously paid fines if appellant's liability is overruled by the Superior Court.

## Disabled Vehicles

### 520.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Vehicle Code § 20018 provides that all law enforcement agencies having responsibility for traffic enforcement may develop and adopt a written policy to provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles within their primary jurisdiction.

### 520.2 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY

When an on-duty deputy observes a disabled vehicle on the roadway, the deputy should make a reasonable effort to provide assistance. If that deputy is assigned to a call of higher priority, the dispatcher should be advised of the location of the disabled vehicle and the need for assistance. The dispatcher should then notify CHP or assign another available deputy to respond for assistance as soon as practical.

### 520.3 EXTENT OF ASSISTANCE

In most cases, a disabled motorist will require assistance. After arrangements for assistance are made, continued involvement by department personnel will be contingent on the time of day, the location, the availability of departmental resources, and the vulnerability of the disabled motorist.

#### 520.3.1 MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Department personnel should not make mechanical repairs to a disabled vehicle. The use of push bumpers to relocate vehicles to a position of safety is not considered a mechanical repair.

#### 520.3.2 RELOCATION OF DISABLED VEHICLES

The relocation of disabled vehicles by members of this department by pushing or pulling a vehicle should only occur when the conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to reduce a hazard presented by the disabled vehicle.

#### 520.3.3 RELOCATION OF DISABLED MOTORIST

The relocation of a disabled motorist should only occur with the person's consent and should be suggested when conditions reasonably indicate that immediate movement is necessary to mitigate a potential hazard. The department member may stay with the disabled motorist or transport him/her to a safe area to await pickup.

### 520.4 PUBLIC ACCESS TO THIS POLICY

This written policy is available upon request.

## 72-Hour Parking Violations

### 524.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides procedures for the marking, recording, and storage of vehicles parked in violation of the Stanislaus County Ordinance regulating 72-hour parking violations and abandoned vehicles under the authority of Vehicle Code §§ 22652.6 and 22669.

### 524.2 MARKING VEHICLES

Vehicles suspected of being in violation of the County of Stanislaus 72-Hour Parking Ordinance shall be marked and noted on the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department Marked Vehicle Card. No case number is required at this time.

A visible chalk mark or other method of marking should be placed on the left rear tire tread at the fender level unless missing tires or other vehicle conditions prevent marking. Any deviation in markings shall be noted on the Marked Vehicle Card. The investigating employee should make a good faith effort to notify the owner of any vehicle subject to towing prior to having the vehicle removed. This may be accomplished by personal contact, telephone or by leaving notice attached to the vehicle at least 24 hours prior to removal.

All Marked Vehicle Cards shall be submitted to the Records Bureau for computer data entry.

If a marked vehicle has been moved or the markings have been removed during a 72-hour investigation period, the vehicle shall be marked again for the 72-hour parking violation and a Marked Vehicle Card completed and forwarded to the Traffic Bureau.

Parking citations for the 72-hour parking ordinance shall not be issued when the vehicle is stored for the 72-hour parking violation.

#### 524.2.1 MARKED VEHICLE FILE

The Records Bureau shall be responsible for maintaining a file for all Marked Vehicle Cards.

Individual officers shall be responsible for the follow up investigation of all 72-hour parking violations noted on the Marked Vehicle Cards.

#### 524.2.2 VEHICLE STORAGE

Any vehicle in violation shall be stored by the authorized towing service and a vehicle storage report shall be completed by the deputy authorizing the storage of the vehicle.

The storage report form shall be submitted to the Records Bureau immediately following the storage of the vehicle. It shall be the responsibility of the Records Bureau to immediately notify the Stolen Vehicle System (SVS) of the Department of Justice in Sacramento ( Vehicle Code § 22851.3(b)). Notification may also be made to the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS)(Vehicle Code § 22854.5).

Within 48 hours of the storage of any such vehicle, excluding weekends and holidays, it shall be the responsibility of the Records Bureau to determine the names and addresses of any individuals

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## *72-Hour Parking Violations*

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having an interest in the vehicle through DMV or CLETS computers. Notice to all such individuals shall be sent first-class or certified mail pursuant to Vehicle Code § 22851.3(d).

## Chapter 6 - Investigation Operations

## Investigation and Prosecution

### 600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines and requirements pertaining to the handling and disposition of criminal investigations.

### 600.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to investigate crimes thoroughly and with due diligence, and to evaluate and prepare criminal cases for appropriate clearance or submission to a prosecutor.

### 600.3 DISCONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATIONS

The investigation of a criminal case or efforts to seek prosecution should only be discontinued if one of the following applies:

- (a) All reasonable investigative efforts have been exhausted, no reasonable belief that the person who committed the crime can be identified, and the incident has been documented appropriately.
- (b) The perpetrator of a misdemeanor has been identified and a warning is the most appropriate disposition.
  - 1. In these cases, the investigator shall document that the person was warned and why prosecution was not sought.
  - 2. Warnings shall not be given for felony offenses or other offenses identified in this policy or by law that require an arrest or submission of a case to a prosecutor.
- (c) The case has been submitted to the appropriate prosecutor but no charges have been filed. Further investigation is not reasonable nor has the prosecutor requested further investigation.
- (d) The case has been submitted to the appropriate prosecutor, charges have been filed, and further investigation is not reasonable, warranted or requested, and there is no need to take the suspect into custody.
- (e) Suspects have been arrested, there are no other suspects, and further investigation is either not warranted or requested.
- (f) Investigation has proven that a crime was not committed (see the Sexual Assault Investigations Policy for special considerations in these cases).

The Domestic Violence, Child Abuse Sexual Assault Investigations and Adult Abuse policies may also require an arrest or submittal of a case to a prosecutor.

### 600.4 COMPUTERS AND DIGITAL EVIDENCE

The collection, preservation, transportation and storage of computers, cell phones and other digital devices may require specialized handling to preserve the value of the related evidence. If it is anticipated that computers or similar equipment will be seized, deputies should request that

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computer forensic examiners assist with seizing computers and related evidence. If a forensic examiner is unavailable, deputies should take reasonable steps to prepare for such seizure and use the resources that are available.

### **600.5 INVESTIGATIVE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET SOURCES**

Use of social media and any other Internet source to access information for the purpose of criminal investigation shall comply with applicable laws and policies regarding privacy, civil rights and civil liberties. Information gathered via the Internet should only be accessed by members while on-duty and for purposes related to the mission of this department. If a member encounters information relevant to a criminal investigation while off-duty or while using his/her own equipment, the member should note the dates, times and locations of the information and report the discovery to his/her supervisor as soon as practicable. The member, or others who have been assigned to do so, should attempt to replicate the finding when on-duty and using department equipment. Information obtained via the Internet should not be archived or stored in any manner other than department-established record keeping systems (see the Records Maintenance and Release and the Criminal Organizations policies).

### **600.6 CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS INTERCEPTION TECHNOLOGY**

The Investigations Division Commander is responsible for ensuring the following for cellular communications interception technology operations (Government Code § 53166):

- (a) Security procedures are developed to protect information gathered through the use of the technology.
- (b) A usage and privacy policy is developed that includes:
  - 1. The purposes for which using cellular communications interception technology and collecting information is authorized.
  - 2. Identification by job title or other designation of employees who are authorized to use or access information collected through the use of cellular communications interception technology.
  - 3. Training requirements necessary for those authorized employees.
  - 4. A description of how the Department will monitor the use of its cellular communications interception technology to ensure the accuracy of the information collected and compliance with all applicable laws.
  - 5. Process and time period system audits.
  - 6. Identification of the existence of any memorandum of understanding or other agreement with any other local agency or other party for the shared use of cellular communications interception technology or the sharing of information collected through its use, including the identity of signatory parties.
  - 7. The purpose of, process for and restrictions on the sharing of information gathered through the use of cellular communications interception technology with other local agencies and persons.

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8. The length of time information gathered through the use of cellular communications interception technology will be retained, and the process the local agency will utilize to determine if and when to destroy retained information.

Members shall only use approved devices and usage shall be in compliance with department security procedures, the department's usage and privacy procedures and all applicable laws.



# Sexual Assault Investigations

## 602.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the investigation of sexual assaults. These guidelines will address some of the unique aspects of such cases and the effects that these crimes have on the victims.

Mandatory notifications requirements are addressed in the Child Abuse and Adult Abuse policies.

### 602.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Sexual assault** - Any crime or attempted crime of a sexual nature, to include, but not limited to, offenses defined in Penal Code § 243.4, Penal Code § 261 et seq., and Penal Code § 285 et seq.

**Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)** - A multidisciplinary team generally comprised of advocates; law enforcement officers; forensic medical examiners, including sexual assault forensic examiners (SAFEs) or sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) if possible; forensic laboratory personnel; and prosecutors. The team is designed to coordinate a broad response to sexual assault victims.

## 602.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that its members, when responding to reports of sexual assaults, will strive to minimize the trauma experienced by the victims, and will aggressively investigate sexual assaults, pursue expeditious apprehension and conviction of perpetrators, and protect the safety of the victims and the community.

## 602.3 QUALIFIED INVESTIGATORS

Qualified investigators should be available for assignment of sexual assault investigations. These investigators should:

- (a) Have specialized training in, and be familiar with, interview techniques and the medical and legal issues that are specific to sexual assault investigations.
- (b) Conduct follow-up interviews and investigation.
- (c) Present appropriate cases of alleged sexual assault to the prosecutor for review.
- (d) Coordinate with other enforcement agencies, social service agencies and medical personnel as needed.
- (e) Provide referrals to therapy services, victim advocates and support for the victim.
- (f) Participate in or coordinate with SART.

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## *Sexual Assault Investigations*

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### **602.4 REPORTING**

In all reported or suspected cases of sexual assault, a report should be written and assigned for follow-up investigation. This includes incidents in which the allegations appear unfounded or unsubstantiated.

### **602.5 RELEASING INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC**

In cases where the perpetrator is not known to the victim, and especially if there are multiple crimes where more than one appear to be related, consideration should be given to releasing information to the public whenever there is a reasonable likelihood that doing so may result in developing helpful investigative leads. The Investigations supervisor should weigh the risk of alerting the suspect to the investigation with the need to protect the victim and the public, and to prevent more crimes.

### **602.6 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, periodic training should be provided to:

- (a) Members who are first responders. Training should include:
  - 1. Initial response to sexual assaults.
  - 2. Legal issues.
  - 3. Victim advocacy.
  - 4. Victim's response to trauma.
  - 5. Proper use and handling of the California standardized SAFE kit (Penal Code § 13823.14).
- (b) Qualified investigators, who should receive advanced training on additional topics. Advanced training should include:
  - 1. Interviewing sexual assault victims.
  - 2. SART.
  - 3. Medical and legal aspects of sexual assault investigations.
  - 4. Serial crimes investigations.
  - 5. Use of community and other federal and state investigative resources, such as the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (ViCAP).
  - 6. Techniques for communicating with victims to minimize trauma.

### **602.7 VICTIM INTERVIEWS**

The primary considerations in sexual assault investigations, which begin with the initial call to the Communications Center, should be the health and safety of the victim, the preservation of evidence, and preliminary interviews to determine if a crime has been committed and to attempt to identify the suspect.

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Whenever possible, a member of SART should be included in the initial victim interviews. An in-depth follow-up interview should not be conducted until after the medical and forensic examinations are completed and the personal needs of the victim have been met (e.g., change of clothes, bathing). The follow-up interview may be delayed to the following day based upon the circumstances. Whenever practicable, the follow-up interview should be conducted by a qualified investigator.

No opinion of whether the case is unfounded shall be included in the report.

Victims shall not be asked or required to take a polygraph examination (34 USC § 10451; Penal Code § 637.4).

Victims should be apprised of applicable victim's rights provisions, as outlined in the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy.

### 602.7.1 VICTIM RIGHTS

Whenever there is an alleged sexual assault, the assigned deputy shall accomplish the following:

- (a) Advise the victim in writing of the right to have a victim advocate and a support person of the victim's choosing present at any interview or contact by law enforcement, any other rights of a sexual assault victim pursuant to Penal Code § 680.2, and the right to have a person of the same or opposite gender present in the room during any interview with a law enforcement official unless no such person is reasonably available (Penal Code § 679.04).
- (b) If the victim is transported to a hospital for any medical evidentiary or physical examination, the deputy shall immediately cause the local rape victim counseling center to be notified (Penal Code § 264.2).
  1. The deputy shall not discourage a victim from receiving a medical evidentiary or physical examination (Penal Code § 679.04).
  2. A support person may be excluded from the examination by the deputy or the medical provider if his/her presence would be detrimental to the purpose of the examination (Penal Code § 264.2).

### 602.7.2 VICTIM CONFIDENTIALITY

Deputies investigating or receiving a report of an alleged sex offense shall inform the victim, or the victim's parent or guardian if the victim is a minor, that his/her name will become a matter of public record unless the victim requests that his/her name not be made public. The reporting deputy shall document in his/her report that the victim was properly informed and shall include any related response made by the victim, or if a minor, any response made by the victim's parent or guardian (Penal Code § 293).

Except as authorized by law, members of this [department/office] shall not publicly disclose the name of any victim of a sex crime who has exercised his/her right to confidentiality (Penal Code § 293).

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### **602.8 COLLECTION AND TESTING OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE**

Whenever possible, a SART member should be involved in the collection of forensic evidence from the victim.

When the facts of the case indicate that collection of biological evidence is warranted, it should be collected regardless of how much time has elapsed since the reported assault.

If a drug-facilitated sexual assault is suspected, urine and blood samples should be collected from the victim as soon as practicable.

Subject to requirements set forth in this policy, biological evidence from all sexual assault cases, including cases where the suspect is known by the victim, should be submitted for testing.

Victims who choose not to assist with an investigation, do not desire that the matter be investigated or wish to remain anonymous may still consent to the collection of evidence under their control. In these circumstances, the evidence should be collected and stored appropriately.

#### **602.8.1 COLLECTION AND TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

Members investigating a sexual assault offense should take every reasonable step to ensure that DNA testing of such evidence is performed in a timely manner and within the time periods prescribed by Penal Code § 803(g). Generally, rape kits should be submitted to the crime lab within 20 days after being booked into evidence (Penal Code § 680).

In order to maximize the effectiveness of such testing and identify the perpetrator of any sexual assault, Property and Evidence shall ensure that an information profile for the sexual assault kit evidence has been created in the California Department of Justice (DOJ) SAFE-T database within 120 days of collection and should further ensure that the results of any such test have been timely entered into and checked against both the DOJ Cal-DNA database and the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) (Penal Code § 680.3).

If it is determined that a kit submitted to a private laboratory for analysis has not been tested within 120 days after submission, Property and Evidence shall update the SAFE-T database to reflect the reason for the delay in testing. The assigned deputy or Property and Evidence shall continue to update the status every 120 days thereafter until the evidence has been analyzed or the statute of limitations has run (Penal Code § 680.3).

If, for any reason, DNA evidence in a sexual assault case in which the identity of the perpetrator is in issue and is not going to be analyzed within 18 months of the crime, Property and Evidence or the assigned deputy shall notify the victim of such fact in writing no less than 60 days prior to the expiration of the 18-month period (Penal Code § 680(d)).

Additional guidance regarding evidence retention and destruction is found in the Property and Evidence Policy.

#### **602.8.2 DNA TEST RESULTS**

A SART member should be consulted regarding the best way to deliver biological testing results to a victim so as to minimize victim trauma, especially in cases where there has been a significant

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delay in getting biological testing results (e.g., delays in testing the evidence or delayed DNA databank hits). Members should make reasonable efforts to assist the victim by providing available information on local assistance programs and organizations as provided in the Victim and Witness Assistance Policy.

- (a) Upon receipt of a written request from a sexual assault victim or the victim's authorized designee, members investigating sexual assault cases shall inform the victim of the status of the DNA testing of any evidence from the victim's case (Penal Code § 680).
  - 1. Although such information may be communicated orally, the assigned deputy should thereafter follow-up with and retain a copy of confirmation by either written or electronic mail.
  - 2. Absent a written request, no member of this [department/office] is required to, but may, communicate with the victim or the victim's authorized designee regarding the status of any DNA testing.
- (b) Subject to the commitment of sufficient resources to respond to requests for information, sexual assault victims shall further have the following rights (Penal Code § 680):
  - 1. To be informed if a DNA profile of the assailant was obtained from the testing of the rape kit or other crime scene evidence from their case.
  - 2. To be informed if there is a match between the DNA profile of the assailant developed from the evidence and a DNA profile contained in the DOJ Convicted Offender DNA Database, providing that disclosure would not impede or compromise an ongoing investigation.
  - 3. To be informed if the DNA profile of the assailant developed from the evidence has been entered into the DOJ Databank of case evidence.
- (c) Provided that the sexual assault victim or the victim's authorized designee has kept the assigned deputy informed with regard to current address, telephone number and email address (if available), any victim or the victim's authorized designee shall, upon request, be advised of any known significant changes regarding the victim's case (Penal Code § 680).
  - 1. Although such information may be communicated orally, the assigned deputy should thereafter follow-up with and retain a copy of confirmation by either written or electronic mail.
  - 2. No deputy shall be required or expected to release any information which might impede or compromise any ongoing investigation.

### **602.9 DISPOSITION OF CASES**

If the assigned investigator has reason to believe the case is without merit, the case may be classified as unfounded only upon review and approval of the Investigations supervisor.

Classification of a sexual assault case as unfounded requires the Investigations supervisor to determine that the facts have significant irregularities with reported information and that the incident could not have happened as it was reported. When a victim has recanted his/her original

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statement, there must be corroborating evidence that the allegations were false or baseless (i.e., no crime occurred) before the case should be determined as unfounded.

### **602.10 CASE REVIEW**

The Investigations supervisor should ensure case dispositions are reviewed on a periodic basis, at least annually, using an identified group that is independent of the investigation process. The reviews should include an analysis of:

- Case dispositions.
- Decisions to collect biological evidence.
- Submissions of biological evidence for lab testing.

The SART and/or victim advocates should be considered for involvement in this audit. Summary reports on these reviews should be forwarded through the chain of command to the Sheriff.

## Asset Forfeiture

### 606.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy describes the authority and procedure for the seizure, forfeiture and liquidation of property associated with designated offenses.

#### 606.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Fiscal agent** - The person designated by the Sheriff to be responsible for securing and maintaining seized assets and distributing any proceeds realized from any forfeiture proceedings. This includes any time the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department seizes property for forfeiture or when the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is acting as the fiscal agent pursuant to a multi-agency agreement.

**Forfeiture** - The process by which legal ownership of an asset is transferred to a government or other authority.

**Forfeiture reviewer** - The department member assigned by the Sheriff who is responsible for reviewing all forfeiture cases and for acting as the liaison between the Department and the assigned attorney.

**Property subject to forfeiture** - The following may be subject to forfeiture:

- (a) Property related to a narcotics offense, which includes (Health and Safety Code § 11470; Health and Safety Code § 11470.1):
  1. Property (not including real property or vehicles) used, or intended for use, as a container for controlled substances, materials to manufacture controlled substances, etc.
  2. Interest in a vehicle (car, boat, airplane, other vehicle) used to facilitate the manufacture, possession for sale or sale of specified quantities of controlled substances.
  3. Money, negotiable instruments, securities or other things of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance, proceeds traceable to an exchange, etc.
  4. Real property when the owner is convicted of violating Health and Safety Code § 11366, Health and Safety Code § 11366.5 or Health and Safety Code § 11366.6 (drug houses) when the property was not used as a family residence or for other lawful purposes, or property owned by two or more persons, one of whom had no knowledge of its unlawful use.
  5. The expenses of seizing, eradicating, destroying or taking remedial action with respect to any controlled substance or its precursors upon conviction for the unlawful manufacture or cultivation of any controlled substance or its precursors.

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- (b) Property related to criminal profiteering (may include gang crimes), to include (Penal Code § 186.2; Penal Code § 186.3):
  - 1. Any property interest, whether tangible or intangible, acquired through a pattern of criminal profiteering activity.
  - 2. All proceeds acquired through a pattern of criminal profiteering activity, including all things of value that may have been received in exchange for the proceeds immediately derived from the pattern of criminal profiteering activity.

**Seizure** - The act of law enforcement officials taking property, cash or assets that have been used in connection with or acquired by specified illegal activities.

### 606.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department recognizes that appropriately applied forfeiture laws are helpful to enforce the law, deter crime and reduce the economic incentive of crime. However, the potential for revenue should never compromise the effective investigation of criminal offenses, officer safety or any person's due process rights.

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that all members, including those assigned to internal or external law enforcement task force operations, shall comply with all state and federal laws pertaining to forfeiture.

### 606.3 ASSET SEIZURE

Property may be seized for forfeiture as provided in this policy.

#### 606.3.1 PROPERTY SUBJECT TO SEIZURE

The following may be seized upon review and approval of a supervisor and in coordination with the forfeiture reviewer:

- (a) Property subject to forfeiture authorized for seizure under the authority of a search warrant or court order.
- (b) Property subject to forfeiture not authorized for seizure under the authority of a search warrant or court order when any of the following apply (Health and Safety Code § 11471; Health and Safety Code § 11488):
  - 1. The property subject to forfeiture is legally seized incident to an arrest.
  - 2. There is probable cause to believe that the property was used or is intended to be used in a violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act and the seizing deputy can articulate a nexus between the property and the controlled substance offense that would lead to the item being property subject for forfeiture.

Deputies aware of assets that may be forfeitable as a result of criminal profiteering or human trafficking should consider contacting the district attorney regarding a court order to protect the assets (Penal Code § 186.6; Penal Code § 236.6).



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Whenever practicable, a search warrant or court order for seizure prior to making a seizure is the preferred method.

A large amount of money standing alone is insufficient to establish the probable cause required to make a seizure.

### 606.3.2 PROPERTY NOT SUBJECT TO SEIZURE

The following property should not be seized for forfeiture:

- (a) Cash and property that does not meet the forfeiture counsel's current minimum forfeiture thresholds should not be seized.
- (b) Real property is not subject to seizure, absent exigent circumstances, without a court order (Health and Safety Code § 11471).
- (c) A vehicle which may be lawfully driven on the highway if there is a community property interest in the vehicle by a person other than the suspect and the vehicle is the sole vehicle available to the suspect's immediate family (Health and Safety Code § 11470).
- (d) Vehicles, boats or airplanes owned by an "innocent owner," such as a common carrier with no knowledge of the suspected offense (Health and Safety Code § 11490).
- (e) Any property when the associated activity involves the possession of marijuana or related paraphernalia that is permissible under the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (Health and Safety Code § 11362.1).

### 606.4 PROCESSING SEIZED PROPERTY FOR FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS

When property or cash subject to this policy is seized, the deputy making the seizure should ensure compliance with the following:

- (a) Complete applicable seizure forms and present the appropriate copy to the person from whom the property is seized. If cash or property is seized from more than one person, a separate copy must be provided to each person, specifying the items seized. When property is seized and no one claims an interest in the property, the deputy must leave the copy in the place where the property was found, if it is reasonable to do so.
- (b) Complete and submit a report and original seizure forms within 24 hours of the seizure, if practicable.
- (c) Forward the original seizure forms and related reports to the forfeiture reviewer within two days of seizure.

The deputy will book seized property as evidence with the notation in the comment section of the property form, "Seized Subject to Forfeiture." Property seized subject to forfeiture should be booked on a separate property form. No other evidence from the case should be booked on this form.

Photographs should be taken of items seized, particularly cash, jewelry and other valuable items.

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Deputies who suspect property may be subject to seizure but are not able to seize the property (e.g., the property is located elsewhere, the whereabouts of the property is unknown, it is real estate, bank accounts, non-tangible assets) should document and forward the information in the appropriate report to the forfeiture reviewer.

### **606.5 MAINTAINING SEIZED PROPERTY**

The Property and Evidence Unit Supervisor is responsible for ensuring compliance with the following:

- (a) All property received for forfeiture is reasonably secured and properly stored to prevent waste and preserve its condition.
- (b) All property received for forfeiture is checked to determine if the property has been stolen.
- (c) All property received for forfeiture is retained in the same manner as evidence until forfeiture is finalized or the property is returned to the claimant or the person with an ownership interest.
- (d) Property received for forfeiture is not used unless the forfeiture action has been completed.

### **606.6 FORFEITURE REVIEWER**

The Sheriff will appoint a deputy as the forfeiture reviewer. Prior to assuming duties, or as soon as practicable thereafter, the forfeiture reviewer should attend a department-approved course on asset forfeiture.

The responsibilities of the forfeiture reviewer include:

- (a) Remaining familiar with forfeiture laws, particularly Health and Safety Code § 11469 et seq. and Penal Code § 186.2 et seq. and the forfeiture policies of the forfeiture counsel.
- (b) Serving as the liaison between the Department and the forfeiture counsel and ensuring prompt legal review of all seizures.
- (c) Making reasonable efforts to obtain annual training that includes best practices in pursuing, seizing and tracking forfeitures.
- (d) Ensuring that property seized under state law is not referred or otherwise transferred to a federal agency seeking the property for federal forfeiture as prohibited by Health and Safety Code § 11471.2.
- (e) Ensuring that responsibilities, including the designation of a fiscal agent, are clearly established whenever multiple agencies are cooperating in a forfeiture case.
- (f) Ensuring that seizure forms are available and appropriate for department use. These should include notice forms, a receipt form and a checklist that provides relevant

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guidance to deputies. The forms should be available in languages appropriate for the region and should contain spaces for:

1. Names and contact information for all relevant persons and law enforcement officers involved.
  2. Information as to how ownership or other property interests may have been determined (e.g., verbal claims of ownership, titles, public records).
  3. A space for the signature of the person from whom cash or property is being seized.
  4. A tear-off portion or copy, which should be given to the person from whom cash or property is being seized, that includes the legal authority for the seizure, information regarding the process to contest the seizure and a detailed description of the items seized.
- (g) Ensuring that deputies who may be involved in asset forfeiture receive training in the proper use of the seizure forms and the forfeiture process. The training should be developed in consultation with the appropriate legal counsel and may be accomplished through traditional classroom education, electronic media, Daily Training Bulletins (DTBs) or Department Directives. The training should cover this policy and address any relevant statutory changes and court decisions.
- (h) Reviewing each asset forfeiture case to ensure that:
1. Written documentation of the seizure and the items seized is in the case file.
  2. Independent legal review of the circumstances and propriety of the seizure is made in a timely manner.
  3. Notice of seizure has been given in a timely manner to those who hold an interest in the seized property (Health and Safety Code § 11488.4).
  4. Property is promptly released to those entitled to its return (Health and Safety Code § 11488.2).
  5. All changes to forfeiture status are forwarded to any supervisor who initiates a forfeiture case.
  6. Any cash received is deposited with the fiscal agent.
  7. Assistance with the resolution of ownership claims and the release of property to those entitled is provided.
  8. Current minimum forfeiture thresholds are communicated appropriately to deputies.
  9. This policy and any related policies are periodically reviewed and updated to reflect current federal and state statutes and case law.

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- (i) Ensuring that a written plan that enables the Sheriff to address any extended absence of the forfeiture reviewer, thereby ensuring that contact information for other law enforcement officers and attorneys who may assist in these matters is available.
- (j) Ensuring that the process of selling or adding forfeited property to the department's regular inventory is in accordance with all applicable laws and consistent with the department's use and disposition of similar property.
- (k) Keeping a manual that details the statutory grounds for forfeitures and department procedures related to asset forfeiture, including procedures for prompt notice to interest holders, the expeditious release of seized property, where appropriate, and the prompt resolution of claims of innocent ownership (Heath and Safety Code § 11469).
- (l) Providing copies of seized business records to the person or business from whom such records were seized, when requested (Heath and Safety Code §11471).
- (m) Notifying the California Franchise Tax Board when there is reasonable cause to believe that the value of seized property exceeds \$5,000.00 (Health and Safety Code § 11471.5).

Forfeiture proceeds should be maintained in a separate fund or account subject to appropriate accounting control, with regular reviews or audits of all deposits and expenditures.

Forfeiture reporting and expenditures should be completed in the manner prescribed by the law and County financial directives (Health and Safety Code § 11495).

### **606.7 DISPOSITION OF FORFEITED PROPERTY**

Forfeited funds distributed under Health and Safety Code § 11489 et seq. shall only be used for purposes allowed by law, but in no case shall a peace officer's employment or salary depend upon the level of seizures or forfeitures he/she achieves (Heath and Safety Code § 11469).

The Department may request a court order so that certain uncontaminated science equipment is relinquished to a school or school district for science classroom education in lieu of destruction (Health and Safety Code § 11473; Health and Safety Code § 11473.5).

#### **606.7.1 RECEIVING EQUITABLE SHARES**

When participating in a joint investigation with a federal agency, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall not receive an equitable share from the federal agency of all or a portion of the forfeiture proceeds absent either a required conviction under Health and Safety Code § 11471.2 or the flight, death or willful failure to appear of the defendant. This does not apply to forfeited cash or negotiable instruments of \$40,000 or more.

### **606.8 CLAIM INVESTIGATIONS**

An investigation shall be made as to any claimant of a vehicle, boat or airplane whose right, title, interest or lien is on the record in the Department of Motor Vehicles or in an appropriate federal agency. If investigation reveals that any person, other than the registered owner, is the legal

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owner, and that ownership did not arise subsequent to the date and time of arrest or notification of the forfeiture proceedings or seizure of the vehicle, boat or airplane, notice shall be made to the legal owner at his/her address appearing on the records of the Department of Motor Vehicles or the appropriate federal agency (Health and Safety Code § 11488.4).

## Informants

### 608.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use of informants. This policy does not apply to situations in which a person provides information and the circumstances do not meet the criteria specified in this policy.

#### DEFINITION:

**INFORMANT-** A person who actively participated in an investigation, or who provides information for more than one incident and is either:

- (a) A Confidential Reliable Informant (CRI) who desires to remain anonymous.
- (b) Who requests or receives compensation and/or consideration, and has established his or her reliability through verification and independent corroboration of information.
- (c) An individual who provides ongoing confidential information or services that help with official law enforcement action for which they receive compensation or consideration.

Source information- the title "Informant" does not apply to source information. A source of information is a person or organization, not under the direction of a law enforcement officer or agency, who provides information without becoming a party to the investigation itself.

### 608.2 INFORMANT FILE SYSTEM

Informant files shall be utilized as a source of background information about the informant, to enable review and evaluation of information provided by the informant, and to minimize incidents that could be used to question the integrity of members of our agency or the reliability of the informant.

- (a) The Division Commander, File Custodian, Unit Supervisor or his/her designee shall be responsible for maintaining informant files. A separate file shall be maintained on each confidential informant.
- (b) Informant files shall be maintained in a secure area within the Detectives Division/Unit.
- (c) Access to the informant files shall be restricted to the Commander, File Custodian, Unit Supervisor or his/her designee.
- (d) The Division/Unit Commander should arrange for an audit using a representative sample of randomly selected informant files on a periodic basis, but no less than one time every six months.
- (e) If the Detective/Unit Supervisor is replaced, the files will be audited before the new supervisor takes over management of the files. The purpose of the audit is to ensure compliance with file content and updating provisions of this policy. The audit will be conducted by the Division Commander, File Custodian, Unit Supervisor, or designee.

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### 608.2.1 FILE SYSTEM PROCEDURE

Each file shall be coded with an assigned informant control number

The informant files shall be maintained in a secure area within the Unit. These files shall be used to provide a source of background information about the informant, enable review and evaluation of information given by the informant, and minimize incidents that could be used to question the integrity of detectives or the reliability of the confidential informant.

Access to the informant files shall be restricted to the Sheriff, a Division Commander, the unit Supervisor, or their designees.

### **608.3 USE OF INFORMANTS**

Before using an individual as a confidential informant, a deputy must receive approval from the unit Supervisor. The deputy shall compile sufficient information through a background investigation in order to determine the reliability, credibility and suitability, of the individual, including age, maturity and risk of physical harm.

#### **Restrictions on use of Informants:**

The use of the following persons as informants must be vetted by the Detective, Unit Commander, Supervisor, and District Attorney's Office.

- (a) Wanted persons
- (b) Persons with a criminal history or reputation of perjury, bribery, or related offenses.
- (c) Persons known to have a history of mental illness.
- (d) Persons on active parole (must have written approval from Department of Corrections).

#### **Informant Status:**

- (a) If at any time the status of an informant changes, and the informant is no longer eligible to work as an informant, the unit supervisor will be notified and notice will be given to the file custodian and the informant's status will be changed to inactive.
- (b) If an informant has not provided information or had contact in over twelve months, the informant's status will be changed to inactive.
- (c) Officers will review and update all documents in an active informant's file annually to include an annual criminal history, address, driver's license status, contacts, and any compensation.

### 608.3.1 JUVENILE INFORMANTS

The use of juvenile informants under the age of 13-years is prohibited. Except as provided for in the enforcement of the Tobacco Enforcement Act, Business & Professions Code §§ 22950, et

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seq., the use of any juvenile informant between the ages of 13 and 18-years is only authorized by court order obtained pursuant to Penal Code § 701.5.

For purposes of this policy, a "juvenile informant" means any juvenile who participates, on behalf of this department, in a prearranged transaction or series of prearranged transactions with direct face-to-face contact with any party, when the juvenile's participation in the transaction is for the purpose of obtaining or attempting to obtain evidence of illegal activity by a third party and where the juvenile is participating in the transaction for the purpose of reducing or dismissing a pending juvenile petition against the juvenile.

### **608.4 GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS**

All confidential informants are required to sign and abide by the provisions of the departmental Informant Agreement. The deputy using the confidential informant shall discuss each of the provisions of the agreement with the confidential informant.

Details of the agreement are to be approved in writing by the unit supervisor before being finalized with the confidential informant.

Each file shall be coded with an assigned informant control number. An informant history shall be prepared to correspond to each informant file and include the following information:

- (a) Informant's name and/or aliases
- (b) Date of birth
- (c) Physical description: height, weight, hair color, eye color, race, sex, scars, tattoos, or other distinguishing features.
- (d) Current home address and telephone numbers
- (e) Current employer(s), position, addresses, and telephone numbers
- (f) Criminal history
- (g) Driver license status
- (h) Vehicles owned and registration information
- (i) A Western States Identification Network (WISN) de-confliction check
- (j) Places frequented
- (k) Informant's photograph
- (l) Briefs of information provided by the informant and his/her subsequent reliability. If the informant is determined to be unreliable, the informant's file is marked as "Unreliable"
- (m) Name of deputy initiating use of the informant
- (n) Signed informant agreement
- (o) Update on active or inactive status of informant.



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### 608.4.1 RELATIONSHIPS WITH CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

No member of the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department shall knowingly maintain a social relationship with a confidential informant while off duty, or otherwise become intimately involved with a confidential informant. Members of the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department shall neither solicit nor accept gratuities nor engage in any private business transaction with a confidential informant.

To maintain deputy/informant integrity, the following must be adhered to:

- (a) Deputies shall not withhold the identity of an informant from their superiors
- (b) Identities of informants shall otherwise be kept confidential
- (c) Criminal activity by informants shall not be condoned
- (d) Informants shall be told they are not acting as sheriff's deputies, employees, or agents of the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department, and that they shall not represent themselves as such
- (e) The relationship between deputies and informants shall always be ethical and professional
- (f) Social contact shall be avoided unless necessary to conduct an official investigation, and only with prior approval of the unit supervisor
- (g) Deputies shall not meet with informants of the opposite sex in a private place unless accompanied by at least one additional deputy or with prior approval of the unit Supervisor. Deputies may meet informants of the opposite sex alone in an occupied public place such as a restaurant. When contacting informants of either sex for the purpose of making payments deputies shall arrange for the presence of another deputy, whenever possible
- (h) In all instances when department funds are paid to informants, a voucher shall be completed in advance, itemizing the expenses

### 608.5 NARCOTICS INFORMANT PAYMENT PROCEDURES

The potential payment of large sums of money to any confidential informant must be done in a manner respecting public opinion and scrutiny. Additionally, to maintain a good accounting of such funds requires a strict procedure for disbursements.

#### 608.5.1 PAYMENT PROCEDURE

The amount of funds to be paid to any confidential informant will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The extent of the informant's personal involvement in the case.
- The significance, value or effect on crime.

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- The amount of assets seized.
- The quantity of the drugs seized.
- The informant's previous criminal activity.
- The level of risk taken by the informant.

The Unit Supervisor will discuss the above factors with the Division Commander and arrive at a recommended level of payment. The amount of payment will be based on a percentage of the current market price for the drugs or other contraband being sought, not to exceed 15-percent.

### 608.5.2 CASH DISBURSEMENT POLICY

The following establishes a cash disbursement policy for confidential informants. No informant will be told in advance or given an exact amount or percentage for services rendered.

- (a) When both assets and drugs have been seized, the confidential informant shall receive payment based upon overall value and the purchase price of the drugs seized not to exceed a maximum of \$150,000.
- (b) A confidential informant may receive a cash amount for each quantity of drugs seized whether or not assets are also seized, not to exceed a maximum of \$30,000.

### 608.5.3 PAYMENT PROCESS

In the event cash funds assigned to the Unit/Division are not available a check shall be requested, payable to the case agent. The case number shall be recorded justifying the payment. The Sheriff or their designee of the rank of Captain or higher, signature is required for disbursements over \$500.

To complete the transaction with the confidential informant the case agent shall have the confidential informant initial the cash transfer form. The confidential informant will sign the form indicating the amount received, the date, and that the confidential informant is receiving funds in payment for information voluntarily rendered in the case. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department case number shall be recorded on the cash transfer form. The form will be kept in the confidential informant's file.

If the payment amount exceeds \$500.00, a complete written statement of the confidential informant's involvement in the case shall be placed in the confidential informant's file. This statement shall be signed by the confidential informant verifying the statement as a true summary of his/her actions in the case(s).

### 608.5.4 REPORTING OF PAYMENTS

Each confidential informant receiving a cash payment shall be informed of his/her responsibility to report the cash to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as income. If funds distributed exceed \$600 in any reporting year, the confidential informant should be provided IRS Form 1099 (26 CFR §

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1.6041-1). If such documentation or reporting may reveal the identity of the confidential informant and by doing so jeopardize any investigation, the safety of peace officers or the safety of the confidential informant (26 CFR § 1.6041-3), then IRS Form 1099 should not be issued.

In such cases, the confidential informant shall be provided a letter identifying the amount he/she must report on a tax return as "other income" and shall be required to provide a signed acknowledgement of receipt of the letter. The completed acknowledgement form and a copy of the letter shall be retained in the confidential informant's file.

### **608.6 INFORMANT BUYS**

Controlled and corroborated purchases of contraband by an informant are commonly referred to as a "buy". The informant must not be allowed to be in possession of any object that may compromise the investigation or the purchase of contraband. To control the purchase officers must insure the following.

- (a) Search the informant thoroughly for objects which may compromise the investigation before the purchase, along with any area the informant will occupy such as residences, motel rooms, and vehicle.
- (b) Provide the informant investigative funds. The informant may not purchase contraband with his/her own funds.
- (c) Retain all of the informant's personal funds during the "buy" and return the funds immediately upon the conclusion of the "buy"
- (d) Keep the informant in view if possible from the time the informant is searched until the conclusion of the operation.
- (e) Search the informant a second time at the conclusion of the "buy" and recover all the evidence.

### **608.7 IN-CUSTODY INFORMANTS**

"In-custody informant" means a person, other than a co-defendant, percipient witness, accomplice, or co-conspirator, who provides testimony or information for use in the investigation or prosecution of a suspect or defendant based upon statements made by the suspect or defendant while both were housed within a correctional institution.

### **608.8 DEFENDANT INFORMANT FOR LENIENCY/ CONSIDERATION (300 CONTRACT)**

The following will apply when an informant is willing to work with law enforcement in exchange for consideration or leniency for charges or criminal cases that are pending prosecution. In all cases where a formal agreement for leniency is requested (300 Contract) a formal agreement must be prepared, whether or not the person has been booked into jail or not. The formal agreement must be approved by the Division Commander, Unit Supervisor, and the District Attorney's Office.

A copy of the agreement shall be maintained by the Division Commander, Unit Supervisor, File Custodian, and the District Attorney's Office. The Deputy District Attorney assigned to the case

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should be kept apprised of the informant's progress regarding the approved agreement (300 Contract).

FORMAL AGREEMENT FOR LENIENCY/CONSIDERATION SHOULD CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING:

- (a) Information regarding the locations, suspects, and criminal activity you expect the informant to provide information on.
- (b) Whether or not the informant will be required to testify.
- (c) The time frame the informant is expected to fulfill the agreement (300 Contract).
- (d) The potential consequences the informant may receive if the informant does not satisfactorily complete the agreement (300 Contract).
- (e) Consent from the arresting or investigative agency.

### **608.9 INFORMANT FILE STATUS/ PURGING**

- (a) Upon Division Commander or Supervisor approval of an informant file, the informant file will be considered "ACTIVE" for a period of twelve months.
- (b) If an informant file shows no activity within a twelve month period the informant and file will be considered "DEACTIVE". The investigator seeking to work with an informant who has a "DEACTIVE" file shall complete a new informant background and informant agreement.
- (c) If an informant file is in a "DEACTIVE" status for a period of ten years the informant file will be considered "ARCHIVED". "ARCHIVED" informant files will be scanned in its entirety to a secured digital file of a stand along server or storage program only accessible by the Division Commander, unit supervisor, or File Custodian.
- (d) In the event a secured digital file is not available, the Division Commander, Unit Supervisor, or File Custodian shall insure the original "ARCHIVED" file is maintained in a secure location in the Detectives Division / Unit indefinitely.

### **608.10 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Detective / Unit Supervisors shall be responsible for monitoring the selection and utilization of informants by members of their unit. The unit supervisor will be responsible for ensuring updates to informant files; including cases worked, and investigative funds used are sent to the file custodian. An annual audit of the informant files will be completed by the file custodian or designee, and finding presented to the Division Commander.

- (a) The investigations Division Commander, Unit Supervisor or designee will be the file custodian.
- (b) The Unit Supervisors are responsible to review and forward the informant files to the file custodian.
- (c) The file custodian will be responsible for reviewing the files and assigning a control number to each informant.

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(d) The Unit /Detective Supervisor will oversee and be responsible for the use and control of the informants.

## Eyewitness Identification

### 610.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy sets forth guidelines to be used when members of this [department/office] employ eyewitness identification techniques (Penal Code § 859.7).

#### 610.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to the policy include:

**Eyewitness identification process** -Any field identification, live lineup or photographic identification.

**Field identification** -A live presentation of a single individual to a witness following the commission of a criminal offense for the purpose of identifying or eliminating the person as the suspect.

**Live lineup** - A live presentation of individuals to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

**Photographic lineup** - Presentation of photographs to a witness for the purpose of identifying or eliminating an individual as the suspect.

### 610.2 POLICY

This department will strive to use eyewitness identification techniques, when appropriate, to enhance the investigative process and will emphasize identifying persons responsible for crime and exonerating the innocent.

### 610.3 INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Members should make a reasonable effort to arrange for an interpreter before proceeding with eyewitness identification if communication with a witness is impeded due to language or hearing barriers.

Before the interpreter is permitted to discuss any matter with the witness, the investigating member should explain the identification process to the interpreter. Once it is determined that the interpreter comprehends the process and can explain it to the witness, the eyewitness identification may proceed as provided for within this policy.

### 610.4 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS AND FORM

The Investigations supervisor shall be responsible for the development and maintenance of an eyewitness identification process for use by members when they are conducting eyewitness identifications.

The process should include appropriate forms or reports that provide (Penal Code § 859.7):

- (a) The date, time and location of the eyewitness identification procedure.
- (b) The name and identifying information of the witness.

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- (c) The name of the person administering the identification procedure.
- (d) If applicable, the names of all of the individuals present during the identification procedure.
- (e) An instruction to the witness that it is as important to exclude innocent persons as it is to identify a perpetrator.
- (f) An instruction to the witness that the perpetrator may or may not be among those presented and that the witness is not obligated to make an identification.
- (g) If the identification process is a photographic or live lineup, an instruction to the witness that the perpetrator may not appear exactly as he/she did on the date of the incident.
- (h) An instruction to the witness that the investigation will continue regardless of whether an identification is made by the witness.
- (i) A signature line where the witness acknowledges that he/she understands the identification procedures and instructions.
- (j) A statement from the witness in the witness's own words describing how certain he/she is of the identification or non-identification. This statement should be taken at the time of the identification procedure.
- (k) Any other direction to meet the requirements of Penal Code § 859.7, including direction regarding blind or blinded administrations and filler selection.

The process and related forms should be reviewed at least annually and modified when necessary.

### **610.5 EYEWITNESS IDENTIFICATION**

Deputies are cautioned not to, in any way, influence a witness as to whether any subject or photo presented in a lineup is in any way connected to the case. Deputies shall not be suggestive at any time when conducting a live lineup or photographic lineup.

Deputies should avoid mentioning that:

- The individual was apprehended near the crime scene.
- The evidence points to the individual as the suspect.
- Other witnesses have identified, or failed to identify, the individual as the suspect.

In order to avoid undue influence, witnesses should view suspects or a lineup individually and outside the presence of other witnesses. Witnesses should be instructed to avoid discussing details of the incident or of the identification process with other witnesses.

An electronic recording shall be made that includes both audio and visual representations of the identification procedures. Whether it is feasible to make a recording with both audio and visual representations shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. When it is not feasible to make a recording with both audio and visual representations, audio recording may be used. When audio recording without video recording is used, the investigator shall state in writing the reason that video recording was not feasible. Any original photographic lineup showed to a witness should be booked as evidence.

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### 610.5.1 PHOTOGRAPHIC LINEUP AND LIVE LINEUP CONSIDERATIONS

A live lineup should only be used before criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspect. If there is any question as to whether any criminal proceedings have begun, the investigating deputy should contact the appropriate prosecuting attorney before proceeding.

When practicable, the member presenting the lineup should not be involved in the investigation of the case or know the identity of the suspect. In no case should the member presenting a lineup to a witness know which photograph or person in the lineup is being viewed by the witness (Penal Code § 859.7). Techniques to achieve this include randomly numbering photographs, shuffling folders, or using a computer program to order the persons in the lineup.

Individuals in the lineup should reasonably match the description of the perpetrator provided by the witness and should bear similar characteristics to avoid causing any person to unreasonably stand out. In cases involving multiple suspects, a separate lineup should be conducted for each suspect. The suspects should be placed in a different order within each lineup (Penal Code § 859.7).

The member presenting the lineup should do so sequentially (i.e., show the witness one person at a time) and not simultaneously. The witness should view all persons in the lineup.

A live lineup should only be used before criminal proceedings have been initiated against the suspect. If there is any question as to whether any criminal proceedings have begun, the investigating member should contact the appropriate prosecuting attorney before proceeding.

### 610.5.2 FIELD IDENTIFICATION CONSIDERATIONS

Field identifications, also known as field elimination show-ups or one-on-one identifications, may be helpful in certain cases, where exigent circumstances make it impracticable to conduct a photo or live lineup identifications. A field elimination or show-up identification should not be used when independent probable cause exists to arrest a suspect. In such cases a live or photo lineup is the preferred course of action if eyewitness identification is contemplated.

When initiating a field identification, the deputy should observe the following guidelines:

- (a) Obtain a complete description of the suspect from the witness.
- (b) Assess whether a witness should be included in a field identification process by considering:
  - 1. The length of time the witness observed the suspect.
  - 2. The distance between the witness and the suspect.
  - 3. Whether the witness could view the suspect's face.
  - 4. The quality of the lighting when the suspect was observed by the witness.
  - 5. Whether there were distracting noises or activity during the observation.
  - 6. Any other circumstances affecting the witness's opportunity to observe the suspect.



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7. The length of time that has elapsed since the witness observed the suspect.
- (c) If safe and practicable, the person who is the subject of the show-up should not be handcuffed or in a patrol vehicle.
- (d) When feasible, deputies should bring the witness to the location of the suspect, rather than bring the suspect to the witness.
- (e) A person should not be shown to the same witness more than once.
- (f) In cases involving multiple suspects, witnesses should only be permitted to view the suspects one at a time.
- (g) A person in a field identification should not be required to put on clothing worn by the suspect, to speak words uttered by the suspect or to perform other actions mimicking those of the suspect.

### **610.6 DOCUMENTATION**

A thorough description of the eyewitness process and the result of any eyewitness identification should be documented in the case report.

If a photographic lineup is utilized, a copy of the photographic lineup presented to the witness should be included in the case report. In addition, the order in which the photographs were presented to the witness should be documented in the case report.

#### **610.6.1 <B>DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO BLIND ADMINISTRATION</B>**

If a presentation of a lineup is not conducted using blind administration, the handling member shall document the reason (Penal Code § 859.7).

#### **610.6.2 <B>DOCUMENTATION RELATED TO RECORDINGS</B>**

The handling member shall document the reason that a video recording or any other recording of an identification was not obtained (Penal Code § 859.7).

## Brady Material Disclosure

### 612.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for identifying and releasing potentially exculpatory or impeachment information (so-called "*Brady* information") to a prosecuting attorney.

#### 612.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Brady information** -Information known or possessed by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that is both favorable and material to the current prosecution or defense of a criminal defendant.

### 612.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will conduct fair and impartial criminal investigations and will provide the prosecution with both incriminating and exculpatory evidence, as well as information that may adversely affect the credibility of a witness. In addition to reporting all evidence of guilt, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will assist the prosecution by complying with its obligation to disclose information that is both favorable and material to the defense. The Department will identify and disclose to the prosecution potentially exculpatory information, as provided in this policy.

### 612.3 DISCLOSURE OF INVESTIGATIVE INFORMATION

Deputies must include in their investigative reports adequate investigative information and reference to all material evidence and facts that are reasonably believed to be either incriminating or exculpatory to any individual in the case. If a deputy learns of potentially incriminating or exculpatory information any time after submission of a case, the deputy or the handling investigator must prepare and submit a supplemental report documenting such information as soon as practicable. Supplemental reports shall be promptly processed and transmitted to the prosecutor's office.

If information is believed to be privileged or confidential (e.g., confidential informant or protected personnel files), the deputy should discuss the matter with a supervisor and/or prosecutor to determine the appropriate manner in which to proceed.

Evidence or facts are considered material if there is a reasonable probability that they would affect the outcome of a criminal proceeding or trial. Determining whether evidence or facts are material often requires legal or even judicial review. If a deputy is unsure whether evidence or facts are material, the deputy should address the issue with a supervisor.

Supervisors who are uncertain about whether evidence or facts are material should address the issue in a written memo to an appropriate prosecutor. A copy of the memo should be retained in the Department case file.

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### **612.4 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

Whenever it is determined that *Brady* information is located in the personnel file of a member of this department who is a material witness in a criminal case, the following procedure shall apply:

- (a) In the event that a *Pitchess* motion has not already been filed by the criminal defendant or other party pursuant to Evidence Code § 1043, the prosecuting attorney shall be notified of the potential presence of *Brady* information in the deputy's personnel file.
- (b) The prosecuting attorney should then be requested to file a *Pitchess* motion in order to initiate an in camera review by the court.
- (c) Any member who is the subject of such a motion shall be notified in writing that a motion has been filed.
- (d) The Custodian of Records shall accompany all relevant files during any in camera inspection and address any issues or questions raised by the court in determining whether any information contained in the files is both material and favorable to the criminal defendant.
- (e) If the court determines that there is relevant *Brady* information contained in the files, only that information ordered released will be copied and released to the parties filing the motion.
  1. Prior to the release of any information pursuant to this process, the Custodian of Records should request a protective order from the court limiting the use of such information to the involved case and requiring the return of all copies upon completion of the case.

### **612.5 INVESTIGATING BRADY ISSUES**

If the Department receives information from any source that a member may have issues of credibility, dishonesty or has been engaged in an act of moral turpitude or criminal conduct, the information shall be investigated and processed in accordance with the Personnel Complaints Policy.

### **612.6 TRAINING**

Department members should receive periodic training on the requirements of this policy.

## Chapter 7 - Equipment

## Department Owned and Personal Property

### 700.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Department employees are expected to properly care for department property assigned or entrusted to them. Employees may also suffer occasional loss or damage to personal or department property while performing their assigned duty. Certain procedures are required depending on the loss and ownership of the item.

### 700.2 CARE OF DEPARTMENTAL PROPERTY

Employees shall be responsible for the safekeeping, serviceable condition, proper care, use and replacement of department property assigned or entrusted to them. An employee's intentional or negligent abuse or misuse of department property may lead to discipline including, but not limited to the cost of repair or replacement.

- (a) Employees shall promptly report through their chain of command, any loss, damage to, or unserviceable condition of any department issued property or equipment assigned for their use.
- (b) The use of damaged or unserviceable department property should be discontinued as soon as practical and replaced with comparable Department property as soon as available and following notice to a supervisor.
- (c) Except when otherwise directed by competent authority or required by exigent circumstances, department property shall only be used by those to whom it was assigned. Use should be limited to official purposes and in the capacity for which it was designed.
- (d) Department property shall not be thrown away, sold, traded, donated, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of without proper authority.
- (e) In the event that any Department property becomes damaged or unserviceable, no employee shall attempt to repair the property without prior approval of a supervisor.

### 700.3 FILING CLAIMS FOR PERSONAL PROPERTY

Claims for reimbursement for damage or loss of personal property must be made on the proper form. This form is submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The supervisor may require a separate written report of the loss or damage.

The supervisor may direct a memo to the appropriate Division Commander, which shall include the results of his/her investigation and whether the employee followed proper procedures. The supervisor's report shall address whether reasonable care was taken to prevent the loss or damage.

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Upon review by staff and a finding that no misconduct or negligence was involved, repair or replacement may be recommended by the Sheriff who will then forward the claim to the Finance Department.

The Department will not replace or repair luxurious or overly expensive items (jewelry, exotic equipment, etc.) that are not reasonably required as a part of work.

### **700.3.1 REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

A verbal report shall be made to the employee's immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit.

A written report shall be submitted before the employee goes off duty or within the time frame directed by the supervisor to whom the verbal report is made.

### **700.4 LOSS OR DAMAGE OF PROPERTY OF ANOTHER**

Deputies and other employees intentionally or unintentionally may cause damage to the real or personal property of another while performing their duties. Any employee who damages or causes to be damaged any real or personal property of another while performing any law enforcement functions, regardless of jurisdiction, shall report it as provided below.

- (a) A verbal report shall be made to the employee's immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit.
- (b) A written report shall be submitted before the employee goes off duty or within the time frame directed by the supervisor to whom the verbal report is made.

#### **700.4.1 DAMAGE BY PERSON OF ANOTHER AGENCY**

If employees of another jurisdiction cause damage to real or personal property belonging to the County, it shall be the responsibility of the employee present or the employee responsible for the property to make a verbal report to his/her immediate supervisor as soon as circumstances permit. The employee shall submit a written report before going off duty or as otherwise directed by the supervisor.

These written reports, accompanied by the supervisor's written report, shall promptly be forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander.

# Department IT Resources, Mobile Devices and Data Policy

## 702.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This Policy establishes the information security responsibilities, guidelines and acceptable use under which users may make use of Local Agency Information Technology (IT) resources, mobile devices and data.

- (a) "Mobile Devices" will include, but are not limited to cellular phones, tablets, laptops, personal digital assistants (PDAs), portable Internet access devices and any smart devices.

## 702.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department allows members to utilize Department-issued or funded mobile devices and to possess personally owned mobile devices in the workplace, subject to certain limitations. Any Department-issued or funded mobile device will be subject to monitoring and inspection consistent with the standards set forth in this policy.

All mobile phone devices issued to Sheriff's Department personnel to use during the scope and course of their employment shall be maintained in good working and operable condition. The phone will be kept adequately charged, turned on and in their possession for use during their shift. The mobile device is equipped with blue tooth for use with a Body Worn Camera and shall be used in compliance with the BWC Policy. The employee shall immediately inform their supervisor if their phone is not functioning properly.

Additionally, members are advised and cautioned that the use of any other mobile devices either on-duty or off-duty may subject the mobile device records to search and disclosure for civil discovery, criminal discovery, disciplinary proceedings, or disclosure pursuant to public records laws.

## 702.3 PRIVACY EXPECTATION

Members shall have no expectation of privacy with regard to the Department issued devices. Members forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to any Department communication or data accessed, created, stored, transmitted, received or reviewed on any mobile device issued or funded by the Department.

## 702.4 DEPARTMENT OWNED IT RESOURCES, MOBILE DEVICES AND DATA

This Policy establishes the information security responsibilities and acceptable use under which users may make use of Local Agency Information Technology (IT) resources, Department-issued or funded mobile devices and data.

- (a) General Use and Ownership

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1. The Department retains all rights of ownership to all Department-issued or funded mobile devices and data created on Department IT resources.
  2. Access may be wholly (locked) or partially restricted without prior notice or consent of the user.
  3. Use of Department mobile devices and data must only be used for authorized purposes and must not be disclosed to anyone not authorized to receive such data.
- (b) Department monitoring and access
1. The Department may monitor any and all aspects of Department-issued or funded mobile devices, IT resources and data for security, network maintenance, and/or policy compliance.
  2. The Department will allow the user and/or their representative to be present during and prior to the search, download, or scanning of any mobile device.
  3. Users must provide physical access to Department-issued or funded mobile devices if requested, including, but not limited to, access to all information/communications (voice mail, photographs, text messages, emails, etc.).
- (c) Privacy
1. Users have no right to an expectation of privacy when using the Department's equipment, Department-issued or funded mobile device or in any communication or data they access, create, store, transmit, receive or review on any Department resource.
- (d) Public Records Act Compliance and Records Retention
1. Any records created while conducting Department business using Department resources, including Department-issued or funded mobile devices, may be subject to disclosure.

### **702.5 PERSONALLY OWNED MOBILE DEVICES**

Members may carry a personally owned mobile device while on-duty, subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) Permission to carry a personally owned mobile device may be revoked if it is used contrary to provisions of this policy.
- (b) The Department accepts no responsibility for loss of or damage to a personally owned mobile device.
- (c) The personally owned mobile device(s) and any associated services shall be purchased, used and maintained solely at the member's expense.
- (d) The personally owned mobile device(s) should not be used for work-related purposes except in exigent circumstances (e.g., unavailability of radio communications).



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- (e) The personally owned mobile device(s) shall not be utilized to record or disclose any business-related information including, but not limited to, photographs, video recording or transmittal of any information or material obtained or made accessible as a result of employment with the Department, without the express authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

### **702.6 USE WHILE DRIVING**

The use of mobile devices while driving can adversely affect safety, cause unnecessary distractions and present a negative image to the public. Deputies operating emergency vehicles should restrict the use of these devices to matters of an urgent nature and should, where practicable, stop the vehicle at an appropriate location to use any mobile device(s). Privately owned mobile devices shall be used with a blue tooth or hands free device while driving a county vehicle.

### **702.7 MOBILE DEVICE GPS, CAMERA AND AUDIO ACTIVATION**

Department issued or funded mobile devices equipped with Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) tracking, video and/or audio equipment will not be accessed or used to initiate any disciplinary action against any employee solely by the discovery of information recorded by the aforementioned equipment. This includes remotely activating video or audio equipment, which absent emergency circumstances, will not be done without the employees knowledge or absent a court order. However, any stored information may be used and accessed in a disciplinary action if the matter is initiated by a complaint or knowledge of a Department policy violation.

### **702.8 BLANK PLACEHOLDER POLICY**

### **702.9 BLANK PLACEHOLDER POLICY**

## Vehicle Maintenance

### 704.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Employees are responsible for assisting in maintaining Department vehicles so that they are properly equipped, properly maintained, properly refueled and present a clean appearance.

### 704.2 DEFECTIVE VEHICLES

When a department vehicle becomes inoperative or in need of repair that affects the safety of the vehicle, that vehicle shall be removed from service for repair. Proper documentation shall be promptly completed by the employee who first becomes aware of the defective condition, describing the correction needed. The paperwork shall be promptly forwarded to vehicle maintenance for repair.

### 704.3 VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

Certain items shall be maintained in all department vehicles for emergency purposes and to perform routine duties.

#### 704.3.1 PATROL VEHICLES

Deputies shall inspect the patrol vehicle at the beginning of the shift, unless there are any exigent circumstances, and ensure that the following equipment, at a minimum, is present in the vehicle:

- 20 Emergency road flares
- 1 Roll Crime Scene Barricade Tape
- 1 First aid kit, CPR mask
- 1 Blanket
- 1 Blood-borne pathogen kit, Incl. protective gloves
- 1 Sharps container
- 1 Hazardous waste disposal bag
- 1 Traffic Safety Vest
- 1 Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Handbook
- Fire Extinguisher
- Spare Tire/Tire Jack

#### 704.3.2 UNMARKED VEHICLES

An employee driving unmarked department vehicles shall ensure that the minimum following equipment is present in the vehicle:

- 20 Emergency road flares
- 1 Roll Crime Scene Barricade Tape

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- 1 First aid kit, CPR mask
- 1 Blanket
- 1 Blood-borne pathogen kit, Incl. protective gloves
- 1 Sharps container
- 1 Hazardous waste disposal bag
- 1 Traffic Safety Vest
- 1 Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Handbook
- 1 Evidence collection kit
- 1 Camera
- Fire Extinguisher
- Spare Tire/Tire Jack

### **704.4 VEHICLE REFUELING**

Absent emergency conditions or supervisor approval, deputies driving patrol vehicles shall not place a vehicle in service that has less than one-quarter tank of fuel. Vehicles shall only be refueled at the authorized location.

### **704.5 WASHING OF VEHICLES**

All units shall be kept clean at all times and weather conditions permitting, shall be washed as necessary to enhance their appearance.

Deputies in patrol shall obtain clearance from the dispatcher before responding to the car wash. Only one marked unit should be at the car wash at the same time unless otherwise approved by a supervisor.

Employees using a vehicle shall remove any trash or debris at the end of their shift. Confidential material should be placed in a designated receptacle provided for the shredding of this matter.

### **704.6 NON-SWORN EMPLOYEE USE**

Non-sworn employees using marked vehicles shall ensure all weapons are removed from vehicles before going into service. Non-sworn employees shall also prominently display the "out of service" placards or lightbar covers at all times. Non-sworn employees shall not operate the emergency lights or siren of any vehicle unless expressly authorized by a supervisor.

## Vehicle Use

### 706.1 PURPOSE & SCOPE

The Department utilizes county owned motor vehicles in a variety of applications operated by department personnel. In order to maintain a system of accountability and ensure County owned vehicles are used appropriately, regulations relating to the use of these vehicles have been established. The term "County owned" as used in this section also refers to any vehicle leased or rented by the County.

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 16, Use of County Vehicles, aircraft and other transportation equipment

### 706.2 POLICY

The Department provides vehicles for official business use and may assign take-home vehicles based on its determination of operational efficiency, economic impact to the Department, tactical deployments and other considerations.

#### 706.2.1 UNSCHEDULED USE OF VEHICLES

Personnel utilizing a vehicle for any purpose other than their normally assigned duties shall first notify the Watch Commander of the reasons for use and a notation will be made on the shift roster indicating the operator's name and vehicle number. This section does not apply to personnel permanently assigned an individual vehicle (e.g., command staff, detectives), or to Property and Evidence Unit personnel assigned transportation duties to and from the maintenance yard, etc. Property and Evidence Unit personnel shall be responsible for maintaining records of the property transportation vehicles for a minimum of two years.

### 706.3 USE OF VEHICLES

County-owned vehicles shall only be used for official business and, when approved, for commuting to allow members to respond to department-related business outside their regular work hours.

Members shall not operate a County-owned vehicle at any time when impaired by drugs and/or alcohol.

Any member operating a vehicle equipped with a two-way communications radio, MDT and/or a GPS device shall ensure the devices are on and set to an audible volume whenever the vehicle is in operation.

#### 706.3.1 SHIFT ASSIGNED VEHICLES

Members who use a fleet vehicle as part of their work assignment shall ensure that the vehicle is properly checked out and logged on the daily shift roster, according to current procedures, prior to taking it into service. If for any reason during the shift the vehicle is exchanged, the member shall ensure that the exchanged vehicle is likewise properly noted on the daily shift roster.

Members shall be responsible for inspecting the interior and exterior of any assigned vehicle before taking the vehicle into service and at the conclusion of the shift. Any previously unreported

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damage, mechanical problems, unauthorized contents or other problems with the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented as appropriate.

### 706.3.2 UNSCHEDULED USE OF VEHICLES

Members utilizing a County-owned vehicle for any purpose other than their regularly assigned duties shall first notify the Watch Commander of the reason for use and a notation will be made on the shift roster indicating the operator's name and vehicle number. This section does not apply to members permanently assigned an individual vehicle (e.g., command staff, detectives), who regularly use the vehicle on an unscheduled basis as part of their normal assignment.

### 706.3.3 INSPECTIONS

Members shall be responsible for inspecting the interior and exterior of any assigned vehicle before taking the vehicle into service and at the conclusion of their shifts. Any previously unreported damage, mechanical problems, unauthorized contents or other problems with the vehicle shall be promptly reported to a supervisor and documented as appropriate.

The interior of any vehicle that has been used to transport any person other than a member of this department should be inspected prior to placing another person in the vehicle and again after the person is removed. This is to ensure that unauthorized or personal items have not been left in the vehicle.

When transporting any suspect, prisoner or arrestee, the transporting member shall search all areas of the vehicle that are accessible by the person before and after that person is transported.

All department vehicles are subject to inspection and/or search at any time by a supervisor without notice and without cause. No member assigned to or operating such vehicle shall be entitled to any expectation of privacy with respect to the vehicle or its contents.

### 706.3.4 AUTHORIZED PASSENGERS

Members operating County-owned vehicles shall not permit persons other than County members or persons required to be conveyed in the performance of duty, or as otherwise authorized, to ride as a passenger in their vehicle.

### 706.3.5 PARKING

Except when responding to an emergency or other urgent official business requires otherwise, members driving County-owned vehicles should obey all parking regulations at all times.

County-owned vehicles should be parked in their assigned stalls. Members shall not park privately owned vehicles in any stall assigned to a County-owned vehicle or in any other areas of the parking lot that are not designated as a parking space unless authorized by a supervisor. Privately owned motorcycles shall be parked in designated areas.

### 706.3.6 KEYS

Members approved to operate marked patrol vehicles should be issued a copy of the key as part of their initial equipment distribution. Members who are assigned a specific vehicle should be issued keys for that vehicle.

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Members shall not duplicate keys. The loss of a key shall be promptly reported in writing through the member's chain of command.

### 706.3.7 PRIVACY

All County-owned vehicles are subject to inspection and/or search at any time by a supervisor without notice and without cause. No member assigned to or operating such vehicle shall be entitled to any expectation of privacy with respect to the vehicle or its contents.

### 706.3.8 ALCOHOL

Members who have consumed alcohol are prohibited from operating any department vehicle unless it is required by the duty assignment (e.g., task force, undercover work). Regardless of assignment, members may not violate state law regarding vehicle operation while intoxicated.

### 706.3.9 PARKING

Except when responding to an emergency or when urgent department-related business requires otherwise, members driving department vehicles should obey all parking regulations at all times.

Department vehicles should be parked in assigned stalls. Members shall not park privately owned vehicles in stalls assigned to department vehicles or in other areas of the parking lot that are not so designated unless authorized by a supervisor. Privately owned motorcycles shall be parked in designated areas.

## **706.4 INDIVIDUAL MEMBER ASSIGNMENT TO VEHICLES**

Department vehicles may be assigned to individual members at the discretion of the Sheriff. Vehicles may be assigned for on-duty and/or take-home use. Assigned vehicles may be changed at any time. Permission to take home a vehicle may be withdrawn at any time.

The assignment of vehicles may be suspended when the member is unable to perform his/her regular assignment.

### 706.4.1 ON-DUTY USE

Vehicle assignments shall be based on the nature of the member's duties, job description and essential functions, and employment or appointment status. Vehicles may be reassigned or utilized by other department members at the discretion of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

## **706.5 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

When driving an assigned vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department, a deputy shall not become involved in enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists.

Deputies driving marked vehicles shall be armed at all times.

Deputies may render public assistance, e.g. to a stranded motorist, when deemed prudent.

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### **706.6 ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

When driving an assigned vehicle to and from work outside of the jurisdiction of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, a deputy should avoid becoming directly involved in enforcement actions except in those circumstances where a potential threat to life or serious property damage exists (see the Off-Duty Law Enforcement Actions Policy and the Law Enforcement Authority Policy).

Deputies may render public assistance (e.g., to a stranded motorist) when deemed prudent.

Deputies shall, at all times while driving a marked County-owned vehicle, be armed, appropriately attired and carry their department-issued identification. Deputies should also ensure that department radio communication capabilities are maintained to the extent feasible.

### **706.7 MAINTENANCE**

Members are responsible for the cleanliness (exterior and interior) and overall maintenance of their assigned vehicles.

Members shall make daily inspections of their assigned vehicles for service/maintenance requirements and damage. It is the assigned member's responsibility to ensure that his/her assigned vehicle is maintained according to the established service and maintenance schedule.

Supervisors shall make, at a minimum, monthly inspections of vehicles assigned to members under their command to ensure the vehicles are being maintained in accordance with policy.

#### **706.7.1 ACCESSORIES AND/OR MODIFICATIONS**

No modifications, additions or removal of any equipment or accessories shall be made to the vehicle without written permission from the Division Commander.

### **706.8 VEHICLE DAMAGE, ABUSE AND MISUSE**

When a County-owned vehicle is involved in a traffic collision or otherwise incurs damage, the involved member shall promptly notify a supervisor. Any traffic collision report shall be filed with the agency having jurisdiction (see also Traffic Collision Reporting Policy).

When a collision involves a County vehicle or when a member of this department is an involved driver in a collision that occurs in this jurisdiction, and the collision results in serious injury or death, the supervisor should request that an outside law enforcement agency be summoned to investigate the collision.

The member involved in the collision shall complete the County's vehicle collision form. If the member is unable to complete the form, the supervisor shall complete the form.

Any damage to a vehicle that was not caused by a traffic collision shall be immediately reported during the shift in which the damage was discovered, documented in memorandum format and forwarded to the Watch Commander. An administrative investigation should be initiated to determine if there is any vehicle abuse or misuse.

## Take Home Vehicles

### 707.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

County policy provides that a department head may authorize an individual to be assigned a County vehicle if the department head deems that the vehicle is needed to serve the public interest, it is in the best interest of the department or that the mission to be performed when called during off-duty hours requires immediate response. Assignment of a Take Home Vehicle is a privilege and shall not be construed as a fringe benefit or right. This privilege is subject to suspension or revocation by the Sheriff or his designee at any time, without recourse.

### 707.2 GENERAL CRITERIA

The following criteria are used to determine whether a take home car is appropriate:

- (a) Call Back - Assignment is subject to call back at any time based on investigative expertise, supervisory responsibility or management responsibility, even without a formally designated on-call status.
- (b) On-Call - Assignment is formally designated as being on-call.
- (c) Rapid Deployment - Assignment allows rapid response to emergency disaster or critical incident where time is of the essence.
- (d) Protection of Undercover Identity- Vehicle is taken home to protect the vehicle identity or to avoid counter surveillance.
- (e) Administrative Inspection and Control- Assignment requires unannounced inspections around the clock to ensure compliance with procedures.
- (f) Efficiency of Overtime Reductions- Assignment requires immediate response to remote locations throughout the county.

### 707.3 DISTANCE CRITERIA

Employees in specific assignments may be assigned vehicles for overnight use, provided:

- (a) The employee resides in Stanislaus County or within thirty-five (35) mile radius of Main Sheriff's office located at 250 East Hackett Road, Modesto. If the employee lives outside the thirty-five (35) mile radius he/she may leave the vehicle securely parked at a Sheriff's sub-station, police or fire station, or other approved location within the thirty-five (35) miles.
- (b) Any variation to this criteria must be approved by the sheriff on a case by case basis.

### 707.4 GENERAL RULES

- (a) This general order is a supplement to existing County policies governing vehicle use. All County policies still apply.



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1. The County's "Use of County Vehicles, Aircraft and Other Transportation Equipment" policy is located in the Personnel Manual under Tab 16, "Employee Conduct/Behavior Expectations."
  2. The County's "Travel Policy" is located in the Personnel Manual under Tab 17, "Financial Policies."
- (b) Vehicles may only be used for County business; no personal use is allowed.
- (c) The Department may require that a vehicle be turned in when an employee is scheduled to be absent from duty for more than three (3) duty days.
- (d) To ensure efficient fleet utilization, no trades, replacements, modifications or equipment installations will be made to a "Take Home Vehicle" without the written permission of the Sheriff or his designee.

### **707.5 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- (a) Ensure that the vehicle is kept clean and that the maintenance schedule is followed. The assigned employee or AWP workers at Sheriff's facilities may clean vehicles. Overtime is not authorized for cleaning of vehicles. Failures to service, properly maintain, or care for an assigned vehicle will result in loss of Take Home Vehicle privileges and may result in disciplinary action.
- (b) Use the Take Home Vehicles only for the following:
1. On-duty work assignments
  2. Travel to and from work in accordance with the distance criteria of this policy
  3. Travel to and from court or other appearances as a result of a notice to appear
  4. Travel to and from training
  5. Emergencies that arise at the direction of the deputy's supervisor or watch commander
  6. Other activities approved by the Sheriff or his/her designee.

## Chapter 8 - Support Services

## Crime Analysis

### 800.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Crime analysis should provide currently useful information to aid operational personnel in meeting their tactical crime control and prevention objectives by identifying and analyzing methods of operation of individual criminals, providing crime pattern recognition, and providing analysis of data from field interrogations and arrests. Crime analysis can be useful to the Department's long range planning efforts by providing estimates of future crime trends and assisting in the identification of enforcement priorities.

### 800.2 DATA SOURCES

Crime analysis data is extracted from many sources including, but not limited to:

- Crime reports
- Field Interview cards
- Parole and Probation records
- Computer Aided Dispatch data
- Statewide Integrated Traffic Reporting System (SWITRS)

### 800.3 CRIME ANALYSIS FACTORS

The following minimum criteria should be used in collecting data for Crime Analysis:

- Frequency by type of crime
- Geographic factors
- Temporal factors
- Victim and target descriptors
- Suspect descriptors
- Suspect vehicle descriptors
- Modus operandi factors
- Physical evidence information

### 800.4 CRIME ANALYSIS DISSEMINATION

For a crime analysis system to function effectively, information should be disseminated to the appropriate units or persons on a timely basis. Information that is relevant to the operational and tactical plans of specific line units should be sent directly to them. Information relevant to the development of the Department's strategic plans should be provided to the appropriate staff units. When information pertains to tactical and strategic plans, it should be provided to all affected units.

## Property and Evidence

### 804.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides for the proper collection, storage, and security of evidence and other property. Additionally, this policy provides for the protection of the chain of evidence and those persons authorized to remove and/or destroy property.

### 804.2 DEFINITIONS

**Property** - Includes all items of evidence, items taken for safekeeping and found property.

**Evidence** - Includes items taken or recovered in the course of an investigation that may be used in the prosecution of a case. This includes photographs and latent fingerprints.

**Contraband** - Property that by its nature is illegal to possess.

**Safekeeping** - Includes the following types of property:

- Property obtained by the Department for safekeeping such as a firearm
- Personal property of an arrestee not taken as evidence
- Property taken for safekeeping under authority of a law (e.g., Welfare and Institutions Code § 5150 (mentally ill persons))

**Found Property** - Includes property found by an employee or citizen that has no apparent evidentiary value and where the owner cannot be readily identified or contacted.

### 804.3 PROPERTY HANDLING

Any employee who first comes into possession of any property shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly tagged and placed in the designated property locker or storage room along with the property form. Care shall be taken to maintain the chain of custody for all evidence.

Where ownership can be established as to found property with no apparent evidentiary value, such property may be released to the owner without the need for booking. The property form must be completed to document the release of property not booked and the owner shall sign the form acknowledging receipt of the items. The property should be photographed with the owner when released.

#### 804.3.1 PROPERTY BOOKING PROCEDURE

It is the investigating deputy's responsibility to document all identifying information of property seized as evidence, and place the property into the Sheriff's Department secured evidence storage 24 hours a day/7 days a week. In all cases where an deputy handles property and makes a disposition of that property, whether it be stored in the Property/Evidence Room or returned to an owner or left in the custody of non-departmental personnel, the deputy shall initiate a report. The report should include all investigative steps taken in the case, how the deputy came into possession of the property, a complete description, and disposition of the property.

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All property taken into custody by a department employee during the course of employment shall be inventoried and recorded on a Property/Evidence Record.

The investigating deputy shall make an effort to identify and furnish the name and address of the owner of the property. If the owner cannot be identified, the word "Unknown" shall be written in the "Owner" column of Property/Evidence Record.

Deputies shall indicate the appropriate owner(s) of property items.

Guns, drugs, money shall be listed separately and first before any other type of item.

Serial numbers shall be included in the property description, if available.

Deputies shall indicate if items can be disposed of: destroy or return to owner (must list name and address if marked return to owner).

Property/Evidence Record copies shall be distributed as follows: White original to Property/Evidence staff with booked Property/Evidence; yellow copy to Records Division with original police report; pink copy may be used as receipt.

Deputies shall give a written receipt accounting for all items taken or seized from an individual.

Deputies will receive notice of incomplete/improperly completed Property/Evidence Records via their supervisor. Any required corrections shall be made within eight (8) working days.

### (a) **BOOKING PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE**

1. All property seized, regardless of apparent value, shall be properly booked as soon as possible and not later than the end of the work shift, in which it was acquired, accompanied by a Property/Evidence Record and any other necessary forms. Property/evidence shall be secured and locked in an evidence locker in the booking room at the Property/Evidence Room, unless noted otherwise in this section. All property shall be entered/bar-coded as soon as possible.
2. Large Items: If an item is too large to be placed in an evidence locker, it may be placed in the Evidence area located on the northeast area of the SOC just outside the cages and properly labeled. The Property Record shall be placed in a locker indicating the location of the large item.
3. Drugs/Paraphernalia: Narcotic/drug/controlled substance evidence shall be presumptive tested by the deputy prior to being deposited in the drug locker at the Property/Evidence Room, accompanied by a Property/Evidence Record and Drug Analysis Sheet.
  - (a) Items other than drugs, seized in the same case, shall be booked at the Property/Evidence Room with the WHITE copy of the Property/Evidence Record.

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- (b) Narcotic/drug/controlled substances for destruction shall be booked into the Property/Evidence Room after presumptive tests are complete and drugs weighed. The "destroy" box on the Property/Evidence Record shall be checked.
  - (c) In compliance with Federal Law, all marijuana that is seized with no intended prosecution shall be presumptive tested and booked for destruction. This shall include marijuana obtained from individuals in possession of a California Compassionate Caregivers card, a doctor's prescription or similar documentation. The "destroy" box on the Property/Evidence Record shall be checked.
  - (d) Deputies encountering adult defendants with marijuana in excess of two ounces, or smoking in public, shall seize the marijuana and book it as Evidence in furtherance of the summons or case filing or for destruction. Deputies encountering individuals under twenty-one (21) years old with any marijuana shall seize the marijuana and book it in furtherance of the summons, case filing or for destruction. In all cases where marijuana has been booked in to SCSD evidence, even after the case has been adjudicated, no marijuana will be released by the Evidence Custodian(s).
  - (e) When deputies encounter persons in possession of marijuana on their person and transported to any Stanislaus County Detention Facility, the marijuana and any other personal property that will not be accepted by the Detention Facilities, should be taken from the detainee and booked as non-evidence into the Property/Evidence Section pursuant to department policy. If the amount constitutes an offense, the marijuana shall be booked into Evidence in furtherance of a summons, case filing or for destruction. The marijuana seized from the Arrestee/Defendant shall not be released once booked in to SCSD evidence per 21 U.S.C. § 841.
  - (f) Any person taken into custody and is transported to SCSD for booking, all personal property items "including marijuana" shall be itemized when taken into custody and receipt provided. Everything but the marijuana shall be released to the arrestee when they are released from custody. The marijuana seized from Arrestee/Defendant shall not be released once booked into SCSD evidence, per 21 U.S.C. §841.
4. Bulk drugs/live plants:
- (a) Live marijuana plants that are evidence shall be photographed and removed from containers and placed loosely in paper packaging or burlap sacks and booked in the Property/Evidence Room. Do not book the plant containers or dirt.

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- (b) Place random samples, packaged in a drug envelop, and placed in a drug locker. Complete a presumptive test. Submit drug analysis form and evidence and property record to records with police report.
  - (c) Quantities over 10 pounds of controlled substances and excess quantities of PCP will not be stored due to space and health considerations. The excess amounts will be destroyed according to 11479 and 11479.1 H&S. Evidence staff will contact the case deputies to obtain necessary samples prior to destruction.
5. Drug Disposal
- (a) Controlled substances, paraphernalia, and prescription drugs shall be destroyed under authority of 11474 H&S, when no longer needed for criminal prosecution.
  - (b) Prior to destruction, an SDEA representative shall quarterly, or when amounts due for destruction accumulate to 250 items (by case number), select five random samples from each controlled substance destruction container. They will then weigh and conduct a Narco test on each sample. The SDEA representative shall complete a report documenting the case number, a description of the packaging of the controlled substance, the Narco test result, and the gross weight of the controlled substance. The SDEA representative shall obtain the original DOJ Analysis form from the case file and include it in the report. The completed report will be forwarded to the Property/Evidence Supervisor.
  - (c) The Property/Evidence Supervisor shall report any discrepancy to the Lieutenant/Captain.
  - (d) Needles/Syringes shall not be booked into the Property/Evidence Room. The needle/syringe shall be photographed and photograph booked into evidence. The syringe shall be placed in a "sharps container" for destruction.
6. Glass Drug Pipes: Glass drug Pipes shall not be booked into the Property/Evidence Room unless needed for specific evidentiary purposes not related to the charge of possessing the item. Any evidence (i.e. residue) shall be removed from the pipe if needed for further court presentation. The pipe shall be photographed and the photograph booked as evidence. The glass drug pipe shall be placed in a "sharps container" or clearly marked for destruction.
7. I.D. Processing: Evidence to be processed by the I.D. Unit may be given to on-duty I.D. Unit staff or placed into an evidence locker but the Technical Services Request Form must be given to the I.D. Unit attached to a copy of the Property Form and placed in the I.D. Unit inbox. After processing, items shall be returned

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to the Property Room by I.D. staff. NOTE: Advise if items are to be returned to owner. I.D. staff may use hazardous or carcinogenic chemicals for processing, in which case items cannot be returned and will ultimately be destroyed.

8. Bicycles: All bicycles shall be booked in the Evidence Area located in the northeast area of the Property Room. The Property Sheet will be placed in a locker indicating the location of the bicycle. If available, frame/serial numbers shall be recorded on the Property Sheet. Miscellaneous articles (backpacks, bags, etc.) On bicycles shall be removed from the bicycle, inventoried and booked separately at the Property/Evidence Room by the investigating or booking deputy.
9. Money: All monies shall be packaged separately from any other evidence in a clear plastic bag with the proper Currency Envelope completely filled out and deposited into evidence. All cash shall be counted separately by two Stanislaus County Sheriff's employees prior to sealing, and both individuals shall sign the envelope verifying the total cash amount. This includes the opening and resealing of any sealed currency envelopes. All monies will be deposited with the County Treasurer for subsequent bank deposit into a holding account by case number, except as listed below:
  - (a) Counterfeit money, since it is not real currency, will not be deposited.
  - (b) Cash or coins that are considered to be worth more than their face value (collector's items) will not be deposited. It is the deputy's or detective's responsibility to mark the Currency Envelope "Not for Deposit" box and state that the money is considered collectible.
  - (c) Money with evidentiary value marked "Not for Deposit" will be stored for up to 30 days, during which it is the deputy's or detective's responsibility to have it processed for evidence, and then it will be deposited. Evidentiary value shall include money with blood, narcotic residue, or latent fingerprints which need processing. It is the deputy's responsibility to make or have made an "Exhibit Piece" through photography or photocopy for court presentation.
  - (d) Deputies or detectives will receive an evidence follow-up notice via a supervisor if Currency Envelopes are not completed properly. Any and all cash discrepancies shall be reported to the deputy, his/her supervisor and to the supervisor in charge of Property and Evidence.
  - (e) Asset seizure money shall be stored and deposited separately.
  - (f) United States coins and currency are property of the United States Government, and are not generally chemically processed for fingerprints. The Chemicals used will render the currency useless since it cannot



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be returned to circulation, a bank, or released to the public. It must be destroyed by fire. In the event an employee requests currency be processed for fingerprints, permission to destroy money must first be obtained from the United States Secret Service. (Title 18, Part 1, Chapter 17, Section 333 United States Code).

10. Questioned Documents including forged checks, shall be placed into clear plastic and booked into the Property/Evidence Room with a Property/Evidence Record. A copy of the document(s) shall be included with the police report.
11. Sexual Assault Kits: Sexual Assault kits shall be placed in the refrigerator in the booking room. The Sexual Assault Kit needs to be completed with all necessary information required by DOJ.
12. Firearms: Firearms shall be unloaded, properly secured and locked in a locker in the booking room. Ammunition shall be removed from firearms and properly packaged and booked as a separate item.
  - (a) Firearms must be checked in CLETS/AFS and results included in the police report.
  - (b) After describing the gun on the Property Record, the booking deputy will write CRIME GUN\* under the entry so the Property/Evidence staff will know to designate it for entry as a CRIME GUN into AFS. The suspect from whom you took the gun is entered as well as the Deputy/Detective recovering the gun.
  - (c) Property/Evidence Staff shall enter seized firearms into AFS upon receipt of the notice of a gun recovery.
  - (d) Firearms that may need evidentiary processing shall be unloaded, properly packaged to preserve fingerprints or other evidence, and booked into an evidence locker. It is the deputy or detective's responsibility to have it processed for evidence.
13. Vehicles: All vehicles/vessels shall be towed in accordance with Department policy. In cases where a motor vehicle itself is evidence, the vehicle shall be impounded inside Employee Parking lot at the SOC. Tow yards will not be used to store evidence vehicles due to security concerns. Evidence vehicles shall not be released without prior approval of the investigating deputy or detective. It is the responsibility of the investigating deputy or detective to release the vehicle as soon as it is no longer needed as evidence. Items having a motor but not being regulated by DMV, such as motorized skateboards with handles (sometimes called scooters), lawn mowers, or motorized bicycles, can be booked in the Property/Evidence Room. A Property/Evidence Record will be done for all these items. All vehicles impounded shall be entered into CLETS and the date/case

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number must be recorded on the inside of the windshield, when possible, by using a marker pen.

14. Electronic Media, Latent Prints: Electronic media cards (disks, flashcards, memory sticks, etc.) and latent print cards shall be entered into the Photo Management System at the Sheriff's Department or given to the I.D. Unit. Indicate photos on the Property/Evidence Record so they can properly be archived at a later date. The I.D. Unit will be responsible for the processing and storage of all latent prints placed in the I.D. drop box located at the Records deputy window.
15. Wet Items: Bloody or wet articles that need to dry prior to packaging shall be tagged and placed in the drying locker at the evidence room and the door secured. The Property/Evidence Record shall be placed in the tray on the front of the drying locker. Other listed items of evidence shall be booked at the Property/Evidence Room with a copy of the Property/Evidence record. The booking deputy is responsible for retrieving the dried article(s), packaging and booking into the Property/Evidence Room within two days. If the deputy is unable to return within two days because of RDO's, vacation or other leave, the deputy shall request, in writing, Identification Unit staff to package and book the items. Whoever removes the item shall check and note that the lock is still secure in order to preserve the integrity of the evidence.
16. Hazardous Materials: Do not book any of the following: Any unknown chemical; pesticides marked "Danger;" any chemical marked "Acutely Hazardous;" "Highly Toxic;" "Inhibited;" or "Extremely Hazardous;" or any reactive or organic peroxides.
  - (a) Flammables such as gasoline shall be booked in the large storage area of the Property Room.
  - (b) Consumer chemical products in their original, tightly sealed container may be booked at the Property/Evidence Room.
  - (c) Explosive Devices: Do not disturb, move, or transport an explosive device and **DO NOT** book one into the Property/Property/Evidence Room.
17. Fireworks: Fireworks will not be accepted as they are considered explosive devices and a fire hazard. A Fire/Arson Investigator may designate other drop-off sites. If you have questions, contact the Fire/Arson Investigator or Bomb Team for disposal. Firearms and ammunition are not considered explosive devices.
18. Biological/Blood/Urine: Any biological evidence shall have a Biohazard sticker affixed to the outermost packaging.

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- (a) Blood samples for toxicology testing shall be properly marked, packaged in an envelope and placed in the refrigerator in the booking room at the Property/Evidence Room.
  - (b) Urine samples for toxicology testing shall be properly marked and placed in the refrigerator at the Property/Evidence Room.
  - (c) Biological samples may also be placed in the refrigerator inside the booking room at the Property/Evidence Room, as necessary.
19. Perishable Food: Perishable food items shall not be booked into the Property/Evidence Room. Photograph the item if it is of evidentiary value.
20. Exceptions: Under the following circumstances, property described, as evidence does not have to be confiscated by the deputy and placed into the Property/Evidence Room.
- (a) If the property is so large or heavy that it is impractical to consider transporting and storing the item, the following steps may be taken:
    - 1. Photograph the item in its found position.
    - 2. Document any specific identifying information.
    - 3. Process the item for evidence in place.
    - 4. Return the item to the custody of the owner and have owner sign an Property/Evidence Record for the item.
  - (b) In shoplifting cases, the property can be left with the business.
  - (c) If the owner is known and available to take possession of their property and photographs will suffice for court, any item can be returned to its rightful owner. The photographs may be booked into evidence or processed, stored or downloaded into digital evidence storage locker by the Identification Unit. If any evidence processing is needed, do it before releasing the item.
- (b) **EVIDENCE STAFF BOOKING PROCEDURES**
- 1. The Property/Evidence staff shall examine the evidence lockers and temporary freezer/refrigerator every workday and assume custody of all secured evidence and property.
  - 2. The property then becomes the responsibility of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Property/Evidence staff. Property/Evidence staff will be responsible for the storage and security of all evidence or other property, which is in the custody of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

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3. Property will be transferred into the evidence storage area or other approved areas. Once, the transfer is made, the Property/Evidence staff will be solely responsible for the storage, safekeeping, security, release and disposition of all evidence or secured property.
  4. Packaging of all types of property and evidence shall be completed in accordance with the **Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Evidence Packaging Guidelines**.
    - (a) All items shall be properly tagged and marked. Packaging shall have the case number, date, deputy's name, crime type, and description of contents. Item numbers may be used to describe contents. Evidence that is tape sealed shall have the deputy's initials and the date across the tape seal.
    - (b) Property/Evidence staff shall not accept or process evidence or property that is not properly packaged, labeled or the accompanying documents not properly completed. Deputies will receive an Evidence Deficiency notice if a correction is needed. If the deputy has not made the correction after eight days, a second notice will be sent to the deputy's supervisor. If, after an additional eight days the correction is not made, a third notice will be sent to the Division Lieutenant/Captain.
    - (c) Evidence or property shall be packaged or prepared for booking at the designated booking areas only. Property/Evidence items shall not be packaged at desks, eating areas, or report writing areas. An alternate secure site may be used with supervisor approval when booking a large number of items as evidence.
- (c) **FOUND PROPERTY**
- (a) When citizens turn in found property valued at more than \$100 to an deputy, the deputy shall have the citizen sign a Property/Evidence Record for the item per Civil Code Section 2080.1.
  - (b) In all cases where the owner of the found property has been identified, every reasonable effort shall be made by the investigating deputy to return the property at the time of investigation.
  - (c) If the deputy is unable to return the property to its known owner at the time of the initial investigation, the property shall be booked into the Property/Evidence Room. The deputy shall note on the Property/Evidence Record that the property can be returned to the owner and any arrangements made with the owner to take possession of the property.
  - (d) If the deputy is unable to identify the owner of the property, the deputy shall book the property into the Property/Evidence Room.

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- (e) The investigating deputy shall advise interested citizens surrendering found property that if the owner of the property is not identified, the citizen may have a legitimate claim to the property, except for guns. The deputy shall list on the Property/Evidence Record the name and address of the finder and advise the finder to contact the Property/Property/Evidence staff for details on claiming found property.
  - (f) Property/Evidence staff shall notify the property owner by telephone or mail that their property has been found and where it may be claimed.
  - (g) Contraband property, which is found or cannot be tied to a suspect for prosecution, shall be marked "destroy" by the booking deputy and booked into evidence with a Property/Evidence Record. Property/Evidence staff shall dispose of the property in a manner authorized by law and Departmental procedures.
  - (h) Following a 90-day waiting period, Property/Evidence staff shall send unclaimed property to auction or arrange for appropriation to County use or destruction as applicable.
- (d) **SAFEKEEPING PROPERTY**
- (a) Safekeeping property is property that is held temporarily for the owner. If the owner is unknown, the property shall be booked as Found Property
  - (b) Property that has been taken for safekeeping will be held at the Property/Property/Evidence Room for 60 days. After the 60-day holding period, if safekeeping property is not retrieved by its owner, it will be disposed of. Firearms that are stored for safekeeping are exempt from this 60-day limit.
  - (c) The deputy shall give to the owner a receipt with the instructions on how to retrieve the property held for safekeeping. 2080.10 Civil Code. (The Property/Evidence Record has instructions on the back.)

### 804.3.2 NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

- (a) Procedure
  - 1. Department personnel may request to check out evidence from the Property/Property/Evidence staff.
  - 2. The employee must have an authorized reason for checking out evidence.
  - 3. If items(s) are being checked out for court, the employee must provide a copy of the subpoena or their name must appear on the court calendar. In the case of a continuance, the deputy must return the property to the Property/Evidence Room.

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4. If items(s) are checked out for follow-up, the item(s) may not be kept longer than 14 days without supervisor approval. Supervisory approval will be required for each additional 14-day period that the item is kept.
5. All items being checked out shall be itemized on the checkout Record of the Property/Evidence Record and the employee checking out the item(s) shall sign the chain of custody record.
6. Evidence staff shall provide the employee with an Evidence Receipt form along with the requested items of evidence. If evidence is retained at another location or released to another party, the deputy shall complete the Evidence Receipt and return it to the Property/Evidence staff.
7. The items checked out or the completed Evidence Receipt accounting for the items shall be returned to the Property/Evidence Room immediately.
8. If all items or an Evidence Receipt accounting for the items are not returned within 48 hours, the requesting deputy will be notified via supervisor to provide disposition of the evidence.
9. To obtain photographs held by the I.D. Unit, complete a Technical Services Request and submit to the I.D. Unit, three days in advance.

### **(b) RETURN OF PROPERTY PROCEDURE**

1. Evidence and property (except firearms) may be returned to its owner when any of the following conditions exist:
  - (a) If, at the conclusion of the investigation, the perpetrators of the crime cannot be identified or there is not going to be any criminal prosecution of the responsible(s).
  - (b) Whenever prior approval has been received from the District Attorney's Office.
  - (c) In compliance with a valid court order.
  - (d) Evidence items may be released to an owner 60 days after court adjudication, unless an appeal is pending.
  - (e) The investigating deputy or assigned detective may authorize property be released to its owner prior to a court disposition. Whenever evidence is returned to its owner prior to a court disposition, the property shall be photographed. The photograph shall be marked as evidence and stored in the Property/Evidence Room. The property owner shall provide photo identification and sign a receipt for the property.
  - (f) Any dispute of ownership of property by persons claiming such property shall be resolved by a court order, obtained by the owner.

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### 804.3.3 EXPLOSIVES

Deputies who encounter a suspected explosive device shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor or the Watch Commander. The bomb squad will be called to handle explosive-related incidents and will be responsible for the handling, storage, sampling and disposal of all suspected explosives.

Explosives will not be retained in the sheriff's facility. Only fireworks that are considered stable and safe and road flares or similar signaling devices may be booked into property. All such items shall be stored in proper containers and in an area designated for the storage of flammable materials. The Property and evidence staff is responsible for transporting to the Fire Department, on a regular basis, any fireworks or signaling devices that are not retained as evidence.

### 804.3.4 EXCEPTIONAL HANDLING

#### (a) INTRODUCTION

1. It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department that no firearms or ammunition shall be sold, traded, or transferred to any agency, dealer or person. No firearms or ammunition shall be sold at public auction or sold or awarded to employees or retirees. When inventory firearms are no longer useful to the Department, they shall be destroyed.
2. Any firearm declared a nuisance by a court of law, or pursuant to Penal Code Section 12028, shall not be entered into the Department armory and shall be destroyed.
3. Firearms that are collected as evidence, lost, found, voluntarily surrendered, or for safekeeping shall be returned to their rightful owners as soon as legally possible or disposed of according to law.

#### (b) PLACING FIREARMS IN DEPARTMENT ARMORY

1. The Department armory is defined as the inventory of all firearms in use by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department for duty, training, display, education, or other official uses. The Department armory does not include firearms held as evidence, lost, found, voluntarily surrendered, or safekeeping.
2. The only weapons that can be appropriated to County use are those makes and models considered standard issue (Glock 40 cal. semiautomatics, Remington 870 shotguns, Colt M-16 or AR 15 rifles) or weapons for training personnel in the safe handling of firearms, or weapons of historical or unique significance for museum, or educational display by the Department.
3. A complete DOJ and CLETS Automated Firearms System (AFS) check shall be conducted on all firearms requested to be placed into the Department armory, to determine history and ownership of such firearm.

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4. A memo of Authorization for Appropriation of Unclaimed Property, identifying the firearm to be placed into the Department armory shall be generated and forwarded to the Sheriff for approval, via the chain of command.
5. Upon appropriation approval and placement of the firearm into the Department armory, the Armorer shall notify the Property/Evidence staff to enter the gun into CLETS AFS as "Official Use". The Department armor shall enter firearm into the Department's firearms inventory database. The Department Armorer shall maintain a record of the history of each firearm.
6. Firearms With Obliterated Serial Numbers Pursuant to Penal Code Section 11108.9, the Sheriff's Department shall have a serial number restoration plan. The Department shall attempt to restore obliterated serial numbers whenever practical, and submit firearms to the I.D. Unit for examination and re-examination, if restoration is feasible on these firearms prior to destroying them.

### (c) **FINAL DISPOSITION OF FIREARMS**

1. Upon the final disposition of any firearm, the Property/Evidence staff shall enter a CLETS AFS entry reflecting the firearm's final disposition.
2. A copy of the CLETS AFS entry will be placed in the case file. A separate copy of the CLETS AFS entry shall be maintained in a file at the Property/Evidence Room which contains similar entries of all firearms which enter or leave the custody of the Property/Evidence staff, which include firearms placed into the Department armory; firearms released to the owner and destroyed firearms.
3. County-owned and purchased firearms and firearms converted to County use shall be destroyed when no longer needed for Department use. When a Department firearm is ordered destroyed, the Department Armorer shall forward the firearm to the Property/Evidence staff for destruction. Property/Evidence staff will arrange for destruction, and an AFS entry made to enter the gun as "destroyed." The Armorer shall update Department's firearms inventory database to show the gun has been destroyed.

### 804.3.5 RELINQUISHED FIREARMS

Individuals who relinquish firearms pursuant to the provisions of Penal Code § 29850 shall be issued a receipt that describes the firearm, the serial number or other identification of the firearm at the time of relinquishment (Penal Code § 29810).

Relinquished firearms shall be retained for 30 days, after which time they may be destroyed, retained, sold or otherwise transferred, unless (Penal Code § 29810):

- (a) A certificate is issued by a judge of a court of record or the District Attorney stating the firearms shall be retained; or



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- (b) The convicted person provides written notice of an intent to appeal the conviction that necessitated the relinquishment; or
- (c) The Automated Firearms System indicates that the firearm was reported lost or stolen.
  - 1. In such event, the firearm shall be restored to the lawful owner as soon as it is no longer needed as evidence, the lawful owner has identified the weapon and provided proof of ownership, and the [Department/Office] has complied with the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 et seq.

The Property and evidence staff shall ensure the Records Manager is notified of the relinquished firearm for purposes of updating the Automated Firearms System and the disposition of the firearm for purposes of notifying the California Department of Justice (DOJ) (See the Records Bureau Policy).

### **804.4 PACKAGING OF PROPERTY**

Certain items require special consideration and shall be booked separately as follows:

- (a) Narcotics and dangerous drugs
- (b) Firearms (ensure they are unloaded and booked separately from ammunition)
- (c) Property with more than one known owner
- (d) Paraphernalia as described in Health and Safety Code § 11364
- (e) Fireworks
- (f) Contraband

#### **804.4.1 PACKAGING CONTAINER**

Employees shall package all property, except narcotics and dangerous drugs in a suitable container available for its size and according to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Packaging Guideline.

A property tag shall be securely attached to the outside of all items or group of items packaged together.

#### **804.4.2 PACKAGING NARCOTICS**

The deputy seizing narcotics and dangerous drugs shall retain such property in his/her possession until it is properly weighed, packaged, tagged, and placed in the designated narcotics locker, accompanied by two copies of the property record. Prior to packaging and if the quantity allows, a presumptive test should be made on all suspected narcotics. If conducted, the results of this test shall be included in the deputy's report.

Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall be packaged in an envelope of appropriate size available in the report room. The booking deputy shall initial the sealed envelope and the initials covered with cellophane tape. Narcotics and dangerous drugs shall not be packaged with other property.

A completed property tag shall be attached to the outside of the container. The chain of evidence shall be recorded on the back of this tag.

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### **804.5 RECORDING OF PROPERTY**

The property and evidence staff receiving custody of evidence or property shall record his/her name, the date and time the property was received and where the property will be stored in the automated property and evidence system.

A property number shall be obtained for each item or group of items. This number shall be recorded on a property tag and the automated property and evidence system. Any changes in the location of property held by the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department shall be noted in the automated property and evidence system, immediately.

### **804.6 PROPERTY CONTROL**

Each time the property and evidence staff receives property or releases property to another person, he/she shall enter this information in the automated property and evidence system. Deputies desiring property for court shall contact the property and evidence staff at least **one day** prior to the court day.

#### **804.6.1 RESPONSIBILITY OF OTHER PERSONNEL**

Every time property is released or received, an appropriate entry in the automated property and evidence system shall be completed to maintain the chain of possession. No property or evidence is to be released without first receiving written authorization from a supervisor or detective.

Request for analysis for items other than narcotics or drugs shall be completed on the appropriate forms and submitted to the property and evidence staff. This request may be filled out any time after booking of the property or evidence.

#### **804.6.2 TRANSFER OF EVIDENCE TO CRIME LABORATORY**

The transporting employee will check the evidence out of property, indicating the date and time in the automated property and evidence system and the request for laboratory analysis.

The property and evidence staff releasing the evidence must complete the required information in the automated system. The lab forms will be transported with the property to the examining laboratory. Upon delivering the item involved, the deputy will record the delivery time on both copies, and indicate the locker in which the item was placed or the employee to whom it was delivered. The original copy of the lab form will remain with the evidence and the copy will be returned to the property and evidence room for filing with the case.

#### **804.6.3 STATUS OF PROPERTY**

Each person receiving property will make the appropriate entry to document the chain of evidence. Temporary release of property to deputies for investigative purposes, or for court, shall be noted on the automated system chain of custody, stating the date, time and to whom released.

The property and evidence staff shall obtain the signature of the person to whom property is released, and the reason for release. Any employee receiving property shall be responsible for such property until it is properly returned to property or properly released to another authorized person or entity.

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The return of the property should be recorded in the automated property and evidence system indicating date, time, and the person who returned the property.

### 804.6.4 AUTHORITY TO RELEASE PROPERTY

The Investigations Deputy or Detective shall authorize the disposition or release of all evidence and property coming into the care and custody of the Department.

### 804.6.5 RELEASE OF PROPERTY

All reasonable attempts shall be made to identify the rightful owner of found property or evidence not needed for an investigation.

Release of property shall be made upon receipt of an authorized release form, listing the name and address of the person to whom the property is to be released. The release authorization shall be signed by the authorizing supervisor or detective and must conform to the items listed on the property form or must specify the specific item(s) to be released. Release of all property shall be documented on the property form.

With the exception of firearms and other property specifically regulated by statute, found property and property held for safekeeping shall be held for a minimum of 90 days. During such period, property personnel shall attempt to contact the rightful owner by telephone and/or mail when sufficient identifying information is available. Property not held for any other purpose and not claimed within 90 days after notification (or receipt, if notification is not feasible) may be auctioned to the highest bidder at a properly published public auction. If such property is not sold at auction or otherwise lawfully claimed, it may thereafter be destroyed (Civil Code § 2080.6). The final disposition of all such property shall be fully documented in related reports.

A Property and evidence staff shall release the property upon proper identification being presented by the owner for which an authorized release has been received. A signature of the person receiving the property shall be recorded on the original property form. After release of all property entered on the property control card, the card shall be forwarded to the Records Bureau for filing with the case. If some items of property have not been released the property card will remain with the Property and Evidence Unit. Upon release, the proper entry shall be documented in the Property Log.

Under no circumstances shall any firearm be returned to any individual unless and until such person presents valid identification and written notification from the California Department of Justice that conforms to the provisions of Penal Code § 33865.

The Property and Evidence Unit Supervisor should also make reasonable efforts to determine whether the person is the subject of any court order preventing the person from possessing a firearm and if so, the firearm should not be released to the person while the order is in effect.

The [Department/Office] is not required to retain any firearm or other deadly weapon longer than 180 days after notice has been provided to the owner that such firearm or other deadly weapon is available for return. At the expiration of such period, the firearm or other deadly weapon may be processed for disposal in accordance with applicable law (Penal Code § 33875).

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### 804.6.6 DISPUTED CLAIMS TO PROPERTY

Occasionally more than one party may claim an interest in property being held by the Department, and the legal rights of the parties cannot be clearly established. Such property shall not be released until one party has obtained a valid court order or other undisputed right to the involved property.

All parties should be advised that their claims are civil and in extreme situations, legal counsel for the Department may wish to file an interpleader to resolve the disputed claim (Code of Civil Procedure § 386(b)).

### 804.6.7 RELEASE OF FIREARM IN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MATTERS

Within five days of the expiration of a restraining order issued in a domestic violence matter that required the relinquishment of a firearm, the Property and evidence staff shall return the weapon to the owner if the requirements of Penal Code § 33850 and Penal Code § 33855 are met unless the firearm is determined to be stolen, evidence in a criminal investigation or the individual is otherwise prohibited from possessing a firearm (Family Code § 6389(g); Penal Code § 33855).

### 804.6.8 RELEASE OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS IN MENTAL ILLNESS MATTERS

Firearms and other deadly weapons confiscated from an individual detained for an evaluation by a mental health professional or subject to the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code § 8100 or Welfare and Institutions Code § 8103 shall be released or disposed of as follows:

- (a) If a petition for a hearing regarding the return of the weapon has been initiated pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102(c), the weapon shall be released or disposed of as provided by an order of the court. If the court orders a firearm returned, the firearm shall not be returned unless and until the person presents valid identification and written notification from the California Department of Justice (DOJ) which conforms to the provisions of Penal Code § 33865.
- (b) If no petition has been initiated pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102(c) and the weapon is not retained as evidence, the Department shall make the weapon available for return. No firearm will be returned unless and until the person presents valid identification and written notification from the California DOJ which conforms to the provisions of Penal Code § 33865.
- (c) Unless the person contacts the Department to facilitate the sale or transfer of the firearm to a licensed dealer pursuant to Penal Code § 33870, firearms not returned should be sold, transferred, destroyed or retained as provided in Welfare and Institutions Code § 8102.

## **804.7 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY**

All property not held for evidence in a pending criminal investigation or proceeding, and held for six months or longer where the owner has not been located or fails to claim the property, may be disposed of in compliance with existing laws upon receipt of proper authorization for disposal. The property and evidence staff shall request a disposition or status on all property which has been

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held in excess of 120 days, and for which no disposition has been received from a supervisor or detective.

### (a) **EVIDENCE DISPOSITION FOLLOW-UP**

1. When evidence is due for purging, Property/Evidence staff shall send Evidence Disposition Follow-ups to case detectives or case deputies requesting a disposition of that evidence. Property/Evidence staff will note on the follow-up the final case disposition or court action and the date the follow-up is sent out.
2. The deputy/detective shall note the appropriate evidence disposition on the form and return it to the Property/Evidence staff within eight (8) days from the date it was sent. If the deputy/detective has not returned the disposition after eight days, a second notice will be sent to the deputy's/detective's supervisor. If, after an additional eight days the disposition is not returned, a third notice will be sent to the Division Commander.
3. Search Warrant: Upon receiving a follow-up notice for property held under a search warrant, it is the deputy's responsibility to obtain necessary court release of these items per 1536 PC. Evidence taken in search warrants cannot be released without affidavit for disposition of seized property signed by the Judge. The case deputy or detective is responsible to prepare the affidavit.

### 804.7.1 EXCEPTIONAL DISPOSITIONS

The following types of property shall be destroyed or disposed of in the manner, and at the time prescribed by law, unless a different disposition is ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction:

- Weapons declared by law to be nuisances (Penal Code § 29300; Penal Code § 18010; Penal Code § 32750)
- Animals, birds, and related equipment that have been ordered forfeited by the court (Penal Code § 599a)
- Counterfeiting equipment (Penal Code § 480)
- Gaming devices (Penal Code § 335a)
- Obscene matter ordered to be destroyed by the court (Penal Code § 312)
- Altered vehicles or component parts (Vehicle Code § 10751)
- Narcotics (Health and Safety Code § 11474 et seq.)
- Unclaimed, stolen or embezzled property (Penal Code § 1411)
- Destructive devices (Penal Code § 19000)
- Sexual assault evidence (Penal Code § 680(e))

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### 804.7.2 UNCLAIMED MONEY

If found or seized money is no longer required as evidence and remains unclaimed after three years, the [Department/Office] shall cause a notice to be published each week for a period of two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper of general circulation (Government Code § 50050). Such notice shall state the amount of money, the fund in which it is held and that the money will become the property of the agency on a designated date not less than 45 days and not more than 60 days after the first publication (Government Code § 50051).

Any individual item with a value of less than \$15.00, or any amount if the depositor/owner's name is unknown, which remains unclaimed for a year or by order of the court, may be transferred to the general fund without the necessity of public notice (Government Code § 50055).

If the money remains unclaimed as of the date designated in the published notice, the money will become the property of this [department/office] to fund official law enforcement operations. Money representing restitution collected on behalf of victims shall either be deposited into the Restitution Fund or used for purposes of victim services.

### 804.7.3 RETENTION OF BIOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

The Property and Evidence Unit Supervisor shall ensure that no biological evidence held by the [Department/Office] is destroyed without adequate notification to the following persons, when applicable:

- (a) The defendant
- (b) The defendant's attorney
- (c) The appropriate prosecutor and Attorney General
- (d) Any sexual assault victim
- (e) The Investigations Division supervisor

Biological evidence shall be retained for either a minimum period that has been established by law (Penal Code § 1417.9) or that has been established by the Property and Evidence Unit Supervisor, or until the expiration of any imposed sentence that is related to the evidence, whichever time period is greater. Following the retention period, notifications should be made by certified mail and should inform the recipient that the evidence will be destroyed after a date specified in the notice unless a motion seeking an order to retain the sample is filed and served on the [Department/Office] within 180 days of the date of the notification. A record of all certified mail receipts shall be retained in the appropriate file. Any objection to, or motion regarding, the destruction of the biological evidence should be retained in the appropriate file and a copy forwarded to the Investigations Division supervisor.

Biological evidence related to a homicide shall be retained indefinitely and may only be destroyed with the written approval of the Sheriff and the head of the applicable prosecutor's office.

Biological evidence or other crime scene evidence from an unsolved sexual assault should not be disposed of prior to expiration of the statute of limitations and shall be retained as required in Penal Code § 680. Even after expiration of an applicable statute of limitations, the Investigations Division

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supervisor should be consulted and the sexual assault victim shall be notified at least 60 days prior to the disposal (Penal Code § 680). Reasons for not analyzing biological evidence shall be documented in writing (Penal Code § 680.3).

### **804.8 INSPECTIONS OF THE EVIDENCE ROOM**

#### **(a) EVIDENCE ROOM CONTROL AND SECURITY**

1. Only the following personnel are authorized entry into the secured areas of the evidence facilities.
  - (a) Property/Evidence Supervisor and Manager
  - (b) Property/Evidence Staff
  - (c) Part-time employees permanently assigned to the Property/Evidence staff may have access to secured areas as need dictates and with permission of the Unit Supervisor.
  - (d) Volunteer staff assigned to the Property/Evidence staff may have access to secured areas under proper supervisor
2. The following personnel may have access to the lobby and booking areas of the Property/Evidence Room. The following personnel may also have access to secured areas of the Property/Evidence Room if necessary with supervisory approval and escorted by or within view of Property/Evidence staff. Access shall be recorded on a log located at the Property/Evidence Room. This log will contain the name, date, time, Property/Evidence staff escort, and reason for entry.
  - (a) Sheriff, Undersheriff, Captains, Lieutenants, Managers, Sergeants, Detectives, Deputies, Reserve Deputies, Identification Technicians, Community Service Officers.
  - (b) Range Master, SWAT, and Training personnel may enter the facility to retrieve Department ammunition that is stored at the facility.
  - (c) Janitorial and maintenance personnel as necessary.
  - (d) Persons assigned to perform Property/Evidence Audits.
3. If emergency conditions or unusual circumstances require someone other than authorized personnel to enter the secured areas of the property facilities, a log entry shall be made.
  - (a) An Emergency Condition is defined as an immediacy, which by its very nature would not allow prior verbal permission from authorized supervisory personnel.

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- (b) Unusual Circumstance is defined as any situation where entry is necessary and only with prior approval from an authorized supervisor.
- (c) An emergency entrance packet shall be maintained in the Watch Commander's Office, for emergency entry into the Property/Evidence Room. The packet shall remain sealed until it is needed for use. Within 24 hours after use, the information on the envelope shall be completed and all original contents forwarded to the Property/Evidence Supervisor. The Supervisor will forward a new packet to the Watch Commander's Office.
- (d) The public shall only be allowed entry to the lobby of the Property/Evidence Room.

### (b) **AUDITS AND INVENTORY**

- (a) An inspection to determine adherence to procedures used for the control of property is conducted monthly by the Property/Evidence Supervisor responsible for the supervision of the property and evidence control function.
  - (a) Twenty (20) Property/Evidence Records shall be pulled at the Property/Evidence Room and reviewed for correct location, documentation, packaging, proper storage and adherence to procedures.
  - (b) Results shall be included in the Property/Evidence Unit monthly report.
- (b) An inventory of property will occur whenever any person responsible for the property and evidence control function is assigned to and/or transferred from the position and is conducted jointly by the newly designated property custodian and a designee of the Sheriff to ensure that records are correct and property annotated. This includes a change in the supervisor of the Property/Evidence Unit Staff.
- (c) An annual audit of property held by the agency is conducted by a supervisor not routinely or directly connected with the control of property and/or a county appointed auditor and shall be completed by December 1st. The results of the audit shall include the quarterly Drug Disposal Reports and will be reported to the Sheriff.
- (d) Unannounced inspections, inventories and audits of property storage areas are conducted as directed by the agency's chief executive deputy. This may include the main property room at 250 E. Hackett Road, East and West Garages and will be determined by the person doing the inspection
- (e) All audit reports shall be signed and dated and copies forwarded to the Sheriff. Any discrepancies discovered during the audit must be immediately brought to the attention of the Property/Evidence Supervisor so adjustments in procedures or violations of policies can be immediately investigated.



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- (f) The Property/Evidence staff closely examines all packages, before entering them into the Bar Code System. The Bar Code System reflects the following information for each item of property or evidence previously or currently in a Police Department's storage area:
  - (a) Location of the property/evidence.
  - (b) Date of property/evidence receipt.
  - (c) Date of property/evidence disposition.
  - (d) Description of the property.
  - (e) Case Number

### **804.9 SECTION TITLE**

## Records Bureau

### 806.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes the guidelines for the operational functions of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Records Bureau. The policy addresses [department/office] file access and internal requests for case reports.

#### 806.1.1 NUMERICAL FILING SYSTEM

Case reports are filed numerically within Records by Records personnel.

Reports are numbered commencing with the last two digits of the current year along with the agency identifier (SOC or Contract City) followed by a sequential number beginning with 00001 starting at midnight on the first day of January of each year. As an example, case number S\*\*-00001 would be the first new case beginning January 1 of a new year for the SOC.

### 806.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to maintain [department/office] records securely, professionally, and efficiently.

#### 806.2.1 REQUESTING ORIGINAL REPORTS

Generally, original reports shall not be removed from the Records Bureau. Should an original report be needed for any reason the requesting employee shall first obtain authorization from the Records Manager. All original reports removed from the Records Bureau shall be recorded on the Report Check-Out Log which shall constitute the only authorized manner by which an original report may be removed from the Records Bureau.

### 806.3 REQUISITION OF SUPPLIES

All personnel who are in need of supplies shall complete a Requisition of Supplies form available from the Supply Clerk. The form shall be approved by a supervisor and submitted to the Supply Clerk in the Records Division.

Only Records/Supply Clerk personnel shall issue supplies from the supply room, and no supplies will be provided without a Requisition of Supplies form.

#### 806.3.1 RECORDS MANAGER

The Sheriff shall appoint and delegate certain responsibilities to a Records Manager. The Records Manager shall be directly responsible to the Administration Division Commander or the authorized designee.

The responsibilities of the Records Manager include but are not limited to:

- (a) Overseeing the efficient and effective operation of the Records Bureau.
- (b) Scheduling and maintaining Records Bureau time records.
- (c) Supervising, training, and evaluating Records Bureau staff.

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- (d) Maintaining and updating a Records Bureau procedure manual.
- (e) Ensuring compliance with established policies and procedures.
- (f) Supervising the access, use, and release of protected information (see the Protected Information Policy).
- (g) Establishing security and access protocols for case reports designated as sensitive, where additional restrictions to access have been implemented. Sensitive reports may include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Homicides.
  - 2. Cases involving [department/office] members or public officials.
  - 3. Any case where restricted access is prudent.

### 806.3.2 RECORDS BUREAU

The responsibilities of the Records Bureau include but are not limited to:

- (a) Maintaining a records management system for case reports.
  - (a) The records management system should include a process for numbering, identifying, tracking, and retrieving case reports.
- (b) Entering case report information into the records management system.
  - 1. Modification of case reports shall only be made when authorized by a supervisor.
- (c) Providing members of the [Department/Office] with access to case reports when needed for investigation or court proceedings.
- (d) Maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding reporting requirements of crime statistics. This includes reporting statistical data to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) for:
  - 1. All officer-involved shootings and incidents involving use of force resulting in serious bodily injury (Government Code § 12525.2).
  - 2. Suspected hate crimes (Penal Code § 13023).
  - 3. Complaints of racial bias against deputies (Penal Code § 13012; Penal Code § 13020).
  - 4. Civilian complaints made against deputies (Penal Code § 832.5; Penal Code § 13012).
  - 5. Stop data required by Government Code § 12525.5 and 11 CCR 999.226.
    - (a) The reported information must not contain personally identifiable information of the person stopped or other information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Government Code § 12525.5 (11 CCR 999.228).
- (e) Maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local regulations regarding criminal history reports and auditing.
- (f) Identifying missing case reports and notifying the responsible member's supervisor.

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- (g) Updating the Automated Firearms System to reflect any firearms relinquished to the [Department/Office] and the subsequent disposition to the DOJ pursuant to Penal Code § 34010 (Penal Code § 29810).
- (h) Entering into the Automated Firearms System information about each firearm that has been reported stolen, lost, found, recovered, held for safekeeping, or under observation within seven calendar days of the precipitating event (Penal Code § 11108.2).
- (i) Maintaining compliance with the state and DOJ reporting requirements regarding the number of transfers of individuals to immigration authorities and offenses that allowed for the transfers (Government Code § 7284.6(c)(2)).

### 806.3.3 RECORDS BUREAU PROCEDURE MANUAL

The Records Manager should establish procedures that address:

- (a) Identifying by name persons in reports.
- (b) Classifying reports by type of incident or crime.
- (c) Tracking reports through the approval process.
- (d) Assigning alpha-numerical records to all arrest records.
- (e) Managing a warrant and wanted persons file.

### 806.4 DETERMINATION OF FACTUAL INNOCENCE

In any case where a person has been arrested by deputies of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and no accusatory pleading has been filed, the person arrested may petition the Department to destroy the related arrest records. Petitions should be forwarded to the Administration Supervisor. The Administration Supervisor should promptly contact the prosecuting attorney and request a written opinion as to whether the petitioner is factually innocent of the charges (Penal Code § 851.8). Factual innocence means the accused person did not commit the crime.

Upon receipt of a written opinion from the prosecuting attorney affirming factual innocence, the Administration Supervisor should forward the petition to the Investigations Supervisor and the County Counsel for review. After such review and consultation with the County Counsel, the Investigations Supervisor and the Administration Supervisor shall decide whether a finding of factual innocence is appropriate.

Upon determination that a finding of factual innocence is appropriate, the Administration Supervisor shall ensure that the arrest record and petition are sealed for later destruction and the required notifications are made to the California Department of Justice and other law enforcement agencies (Penal Code § 851.8).

The Administration Supervisor should respond to a petition with the Department's decision within 45 days of receipt. Responses should include only the decision of the Department, not an explanation of the analysis leading to the decision.

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### **806.5 ARREST WITHOUT FILING OF ACCUSATORY PLEADING**

The Operations Division Commander should ensure a process is in place for when an individual is arrested and released and no accusatory pleading is filed so that the following occurs (Penal Code § 849.5; Penal Code § 851.6):

- (a) The individual is issued a certificate describing the action as a detention.
- (b) All references to an arrest are deleted from the arrest records of the [Department/Office] and the record reflects only a detention.
- (c) The California DOJ is notified.

### **806.6 FILE ACCESS AND SECURITY**

The security of files in the Records Bureau must be a high priority and shall be maintained as mandated by state or federal law. All case reports including but not limited to initial, supplemental, follow-up, evidence, and any other reports related to a sheriff's [department/office] case, including field interview (FI) cards, criminal history records, and publicly accessible logs, shall be maintained in a secure area within the Records Bureau, accessible only by authorized members of the Records Bureau. Access to case reports or files when Records Bureau staff is not available may be obtained through the Watch Commander.

The Records Bureau will also maintain a secure file for case reports deemed by the Sheriff as sensitive or otherwise requiring extraordinary access restrictions.

### **806.7 CONFIDENTIALITY**

Records Bureau staff has access to information that may be confidential or sensitive in nature. Records Bureau staff shall not access, view or distribute, or allow anyone else to access, view or distribute any record, file or report, whether in hard copy or electronic file format, or any other confidential, protected or sensitive information except in accordance with the Records Maintenance and Release and Protected Information policies and the Records Bureau procedure manual.

## Restoration of Firearm Serial Numbers

### 808.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The primary purpose for restoring firearm serial numbers is to determine the prior owners or origin of the item from which the number has been recovered. Thus, property can be returned to rightful owners or investigations can be initiated to curb illegal trade of contraband firearms. The purpose of this plan is to develop standards, methodologies, and safety protocols for the recovery of obliterated serial numbers from firearms and other objects using procedures that are accepted as industry standards in the forensic community. All personnel who are involved in the restoration of serial numbers will observe the following guidelines. This policy complies with Penal Code § 11108.9.

### 808.2 PROCEDURE

Any firearm coming into the possession of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department as evidence, found property, etc., where the serial numbers have been removed or obliterated will be processed in the following manner:

#### 808.2.1 PRELIMINARY FIREARM EXAMINATION

- (a) Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Be sure the firearm is in an unloaded condition. This includes removal of the ammunition source (e.g., the detachable magazine, contents of the tubular magazine) as well as the chamber contents.
- (b) If the firearm is corroded shut or in a condition that would preclude inspection of the chamber contents, treat the firearm as if it is loaded. Make immediate arrangements for a firearms examiner or other qualified examiner to render the firearm safe.
- (c) Accurately record/document the condition of the gun when received. Note the positions of the various components such as the safeties, cylinder, magazine, slide, hammer, etc. Accurately record/document cylinder chamber and magazine contents. Package the ammunition separately.
- (d) If the firearm is to be processed for fingerprints or trace evidence, process before the serial number restoration is attempted. First record/document important aspects such as halos on the revolver cylinder face or other relevant evidence that might be obscured by the fingerprinting chemicals.

#### 808.2.2 PROPERTY BOOKING PROCEDURE

Any employee taking possession of a firearm with removed/obliterated serial numbers shall book the firearm into property following standard procedures. The employee booking the firearm shall indicate on the property form that serial numbers have been removed or obliterated.

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### **808.2.3 DEPUTY RESPONSIBILITY**

The Property and evidence staff receiving a firearm when the serial numbers have been removed or obliterated shall arrange for the firearm to be transported to the crime lab for restoration and maintain the chain of evidence.

### **808.2.4 DOCUMENTATION**

Case reports are prepared in order to document the chain of custody and the initial examination and handling of evidence from the time it is received/collected until it is released.

This report must include a record of the manner in which and/or from whom the firearm was received. This may appear on the request form or property form depending on the type of evidence.

### **808.2.5 FIREARM TRACE**

After the serial number has been restored (or partially restored) by the criminalistics laboratory, the Property and evidence staff will complete a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Tracing Center (NTC) Obliterated Serial Number Trace Request Form (ATF 3312.1-OBL) and forward the form to the NTC in Falling Waters, West Virginia or enter the data into the ATF eTrace system.

### **808.3 BULLET AND CASING IDENTIFICATION**

Exemplar bullets and cartridge cases from the firearm, depending upon acceptance criteria and protocol, may be submitted to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) which uses the Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) technology to search the national database and compare with ballistic evidence recovered from other crime scenes.

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## Records Maintenance and Release

### 810.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance on the maintenance and release of [department/office] records. Protected information is separately covered in the Protected Information Policy.

### 810.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is committed to providing public access to records in a manner that is consistent with the California Public Records Act (Government Code § 6250 et seq.).

### 810.3 CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sheriff shall designate a Custodian of Records. The responsibilities of the Custodian of Records include but are not limited to:

- (a) Managing the records management system for the [Department/Office], including the retention, archiving, release, and destruction of [department/office] public records.
- (b) Maintaining and updating the [department/office] records retention schedule including:
  1. Identifying the minimum length of time the [Department/Office] must keep records.
  2. Identifying the [department/office] division responsible for the original record.
- (c) Establishing rules regarding the inspection and copying of [department/office] public records as reasonably necessary for the protection of such records (Government Code § 6253).
- (d) Identifying records or portions of records that are confidential under state or federal law and not open for inspection or copying.
- (e) Establishing rules regarding the processing of subpoenas for the production of records.
- (f) Ensuring a current schedule of fees for public records as allowed by law is available (Government Code § 6253).
- (g) Determining how the [department/office]'s website may be used to post public records in accordance with Government Code § 6253.
- (h) Ensuring that all [department/office] current standards, policies, practices, operating procedures, and education and training materials are posted on the [department/office] website in accordance with Penal Code § 13650.
- (i) Ensuring that public records posted on the [Department/Office] website meet the requirements of Government Code § 6253.10 including but not limited to posting in an open format where a record may be retrieved, downloaded, indexed, and searched by a commonly used internet search application.



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- (j) Ensuring that a list and description, when applicable, of enterprise systems (as defined by Government Code § 6270.5) is publicly available upon request and posted in a prominent location on the [Department/Office]'s website.

### 810.4 PROCESSING REQUESTS FOR PUBLIC RECORDS

Any [department/office] member who receives a request for any record shall route the request to the Custodian of Records or the authorized designee.

#### 810.4.1 REQUESTS FOR RECORDS

Any member of the public, including the media and elected officials, may access unrestricted records of this department, during regular business hours by submitting a written and signed request that reasonably describes each record sought and paying any associated fees (Government Code § 6253).

The processing of requests for any record is subject to the following (Government Code § 6253):

- (a) The Department is not required to create records that do not exist.
- (b) Victims of an incident or their authorized representative shall not be required to show proof of legal presence in the United States to obtain department records or information. If identification is required, a current driver's license or identification card issued by any state in the United States, a current passport issued by the United States or a foreign government with which the United States has a diplomatic relationship or current Matricula Consular card is acceptable (Government Code § 6254.30).
- (c) Either the requested record or the reason for non-disclosure will be provided promptly, but no later than 10 days from the date of request, unless unusual circumstances preclude doing so. If more time is needed, an extension of up to 14 additional days may be authorized by the Custodian of Records or the authorized designee. If an extension is authorized, the Department shall provide the requester written notice that includes the reason for the extension and the anticipated date of the response.
  1. When the request does not reasonably describe the records sought, the Custodian of Records shall assist the requester in making the request focused and effective in a way to identify the records or information that would be responsive to the request including providing assistance for overcoming any practical basis for denying access to the records or information. The Custodian of Records shall also assist in describing the information technology and physical location in which the record exists (Government Code § 6253.1).
  2. If the record requested is available on the department website, the requester may be directed to the location on the website where the record is posted. If the requester is unable to access or reproduce the record, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided.
- (d) Upon request, a record shall be provided in an electronic format utilized by the Department. Records shall not be provided only in electronic format unless specifically requested (Government Code § 6253.9).

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- (e) When a record contains material with release restrictions and material that is not subject to release restrictions, the restricted material shall be redacted and the unrestricted material released.
  - 1. A copy of the redacted release should be maintained in the case file for proof of what was actually released and as a place to document the reasons for the redactions. If the record is audio or video, a copy of the redacted audio/video release should be maintained in the department-approved media storage system and a notation should be made in the case file to document the release and the reasons for the redacted portions.
- (f) If a record request is denied in whole or part, the requester shall be provided a written response that includes the statutory exemption for withholding the record or facts that the public interest served by nondisclosure outweighs the interest served by disclosure (Government Code § 6255). The written response shall also include the names, titles or positions of each person responsible for the denial.

### 810.5 RELEASE RESTRICTIONS

Examples of release restrictions include:

- (a) Personal identifying information, including an individual's photograph; Social Security and driver identification numbers; name, address, and telephone number; and medical or disability information that is contained in any driver license record, motor vehicle record, or any [department/office] record, including traffic collision reports, are restricted except as authorized by the [Department/Office], and only when such use or disclosure is permitted or required by law to carry out a legitimate law enforcement purpose (18 USC § 2721; 18 USC § 2722).
- (b) Social Security numbers (Government Code § 6254.29).
- (c) Personnel records, medical records, and similar records which would involve an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy except as allowed by law (Government Code § 6254; Penal Code § 832.7; Penal Code § 832.8; Evidence Code § 1043 et seq.).
  - 1. Peace officer personnel records that are deemed confidential shall not be made public or otherwise released to unauthorized individuals or entities absent a valid court order.
  - 2. The identity of any deputy subject to any criminal or administrative investigation shall not be released without the consent of the involved deputy, prior approval of the Sheriff, or as required by law.
- (d) Victim information that may be protected by statutes, including victims of certain crimes who have requested that their identifying information be kept confidential, victims who are minors, and victims of certain offenses (e.g., sex crimes or human trafficking, Penal Code § 293). Addresses and telephone numbers of a victim or a witness to any arrested person or to any person who may be a defendant in a criminal action shall not be disclosed, unless it is required by law (Government Code § 6254; Penal Code § 841.5).
  - 1. Victims of certain offenses (e.g., domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, adult abuse) or their representatives shall be

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provided, upon request and without charge, one copy of all incident report face sheets, one copy of all incident reports, or both, pursuant to the requirements and time frames of Family Code § 6228.

2. Victims of sexual assault, upon written request, shall be provided a free copy of the initial crime report regardless of whether the report has been closed. Personal identifying information may be redacted (Penal Code § 680.2(b)).
- (e) Video or audio recordings created during the commission or investigation of the crime of rape, incest, sexual assault, domestic violence, or child abuse that depicts the face, intimate body part, or voice of a victim of the incident except as provided by Government Code § 6254.4.5.
  - (f) Information involving confidential informants, intelligence information, information that would endanger the safety of any person involved, or information that would endanger the successful completion of the investigation or a related investigation. This includes analysis and conclusions of investigating deputies (Evidence Code § 1041; Government Code § 6254).
    1. Absent a statutory exemption to the contrary or other lawful reason to deem information from reports confidential, information from unrestricted agency reports shall be made public as outlined in Government Code § 6254(f).
  - (g) Local criminal history information including but not limited to arrest history and disposition, and fingerprints shall only be subject to release to those agencies and individuals set forth in Penal Code § 13300.
    1. All requests from criminal defendants and their authorized representatives (including attorneys) shall be referred to the District Attorney, County Counsel, or the courts pursuant to Penal Code § 1054.5.
  - (h) Certain types of reports involving but not limited to child abuse and molestation (Penal Code § 11167.5), elder and dependent abuse (Welfare and Institutions Code § 15633), and juveniles (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827).
  - (i) Sealed autopsy and private medical information concerning a murdered child with the exceptions that allow dissemination of those reports to law enforcement agents, prosecutors, defendants, or civil litigants under state and federal discovery laws (Code of Civil Procedure §130).
  - (j) Information contained in applications for licenses to carry firearms or other files that indicates when or where the applicant is vulnerable or which contains medical or psychological information (Government Code § 6254).
  - (k) Traffic collision reports (and related supplemental reports) shall be considered confidential and subject to release only to the California Highway Patrol, Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), other law enforcement agencies, and those individuals and their authorized representatives set forth in Vehicle Code § 20012.
  - (l) Any record created exclusively in anticipation of potential litigation involving this [department/office] (Government Code § 6254).
  - (m) Any memorandum from legal counsel until the pending litigation has been adjudicated or otherwise settled (Government Code § 6254.25).

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- (n) Records relating to the security of the [department/office]'s electronic technology systems (Government Code § 6254.19).
- (o) A record of a civilian complaint, or the investigations, findings, or dispositions of that complaint if the complaint is frivolous, as defined by Code of Civil Procedure § 128.5, or if the complaint is unfounded (Penal Code § 832.7 (b)(8)).
- (p) Any other record not addressed in this policy shall not be subject to release where such record is exempt or prohibited from disclosure pursuant to state or federal law, including but not limited to provisions of the Evidence Code relating to privilege (Government Code § 6254).
- (q) Information connected with juvenile court proceedings or the detention or custody of a juvenile. Federal officials may be required to obtain a court order to obtain certain juvenile information (Welfare and Institutions Code § 827.9; Welfare and Institutions Code § 831).

### **810.6 SUBPOENAS AND DISCOVERY REQUESTS**

Any member who receives a subpoena duces tecum or discovery request for records should promptly contact a supervisor and the Custodian of Records for review and processing. While a subpoena duces tecum may ultimately be subject to compliance, it is not an order from the court that will automatically require the release of the requested information.

Generally, discovery requests and subpoenas from criminal defendants and their authorized representatives (including attorneys) should be referred to the District Attorney, County Counsel or the courts.

All questions regarding compliance with any subpoena duces tecum or discovery request should be promptly referred to legal counsel for the [Department/Office] so that a timely response can be prepared.

### **810.7 RELEASED RECORDS TO BE MARKED**

Each page of any written record released pursuant to this policy should be stamped in a colored ink or otherwise marked to indicate the department name and to whom the record was released.

Each audio/video recording released should include the department name and to whom the record was released.

This policy section does not apply to release of information to the DA's Office for processing of arrest packets.

### **810.8 SEALED RECORD ORDERS**

Sealed record orders received by the [Department/Office] shall be reviewed for appropriate action by the Custodian of Records. The Custodian of Records shall seal such records as ordered by the court. Records may include but are not limited to a record of arrest, investigation, detention, or conviction. Once the record is sealed, members shall respond to any inquiry as though the record did not exist (Penal Code § 851.8; Welfare and Institutions Code § 781).

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When an arrest record is sealed pursuant to Penal Code § 851.87, Penal Code § 851.90, Penal Code § 851.91, Penal Code § 1000.4, or Penal Code § 1001.9, the Records Manager shall ensure that the required notations on local summary criminal history information and police investigative reports are made. Sealed records may be disclosed or used as authorized by Penal Code § 851.92.

### **810.9 SECURITY BREACHES**

The Records Manager shall ensure notice is given anytime there is a reasonable belief an unauthorized person has acquired either unencrypted personal identifying information or encrypted personal information along with the encryption key or security credential stored in any [Department/Office] information system (Civil Code § 1798.29).

Notice shall be given as soon as reasonably practicable to all individuals whose information may have been acquired. The notification may be delayed if the [Department/Office] determines that notification will impede a criminal investigation or any measures necessary to determine the scope of the breach and restore the reasonable integrity of the data system.

For the purposes of this requirement, personal identifying information includes an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with any one or more of the following:

- Social Security number
- Driver license number, California identification card number, tax identification number, passport number, military identification number, or other unique identification number issued on a government document commonly used to verify the identity of a specific individual
- Account number or credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code or password that would permit access to an individual's financial account
- Medical information
- Health insurance information
- A username or email address, in combination with a password or security question and answer that permits access to an online account
- Information or data collected by Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology
- Unique biometric data

#### **810.9.1 FORM OF NOTICE**

- (a) The notice shall be written in plain language, be consistent with the format provided in Civil Code § 1798.29 and include, to the extent possible, the following:
1. The date of the notice.
  2. Name and contact information for the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

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3. A list of the types of personal information that were or are reasonably believed to have been acquired.
  4. The estimated date or date range within which the security breach occurred.
  5. Whether the notification was delayed as a result of a law enforcement investigation.
  6. A general description of the security breach.
  7. The toll-free telephone numbers and addresses of the major credit reporting agencies, if the breach exposed a Social Security number or a driver license or California identification card number.
- (b) The notice may also include information about what the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department has done to protect individuals whose information has been breached and may include information on steps that the person whose information has been breached may take to protect him/herself (Civil Code § 1798.29).
- (c) When a breach involves an online account, and only a username or email address in combination with either a password or security question and answer that would permit access to an online account, and no other personal information has been breached (Civil Code § 1798.29):
1. Notification may be provided electronically or in another form directing the person to promptly change either his/her password or security question and answer, as applicable, or to take other appropriate steps to protect the online account with the Department in addition to any other online accounts for which the person uses the same username or email address and password or security question and answer.
  2. When the breach involves an email address that was furnished by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, notification of the breach should not be sent to that email address but should instead be made by another appropriate medium as prescribed by Civil Code § 1798.29.

### 810.9.2 MANNER OF NOTICE

- (a) Notice may be provided by one of the following methods (Civil Code § 1798.29):
1. Written notice.
  2. Electronic notice if the notice provided is consistent with the provisions regarding electronic records and signatures set forth in 15 USC § 7001.
  3. Substitute notice if the cost of providing notice would exceed \$250,000, the number of individuals exceeds 500,000 or the Department does not have sufficient contact information. Substitute notice shall consist of all of the following:
    - (a) Email notice when the Department has an email address for the subject person.
    - (b) Conspicuous posting of the notice on the department's webpage.

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4. Notification to major statewide media and the California Information Security Office within the California Department of Technology.
- (b) If a single breach requires the Department to notify more than 500 California residents, the Department shall electronically submit a sample copy of the notification, excluding any personally identifiable information, to the Attorney General.

## Protected Information

### 812.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the access, transmission, release and security of protected information by members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. This policy addresses the protected information that is used in the day-to-day operation of the [Department/Office] and not the public records information covered in the Records Maintenance and Release Policy.

#### 812.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Protected information** - Any information or data that is collected, stored or accessed by members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and is subject to any access or release restrictions imposed by law, regulation, order or use agreement. This includes all information contained in federal, state or local law enforcement databases that is not accessible to the public.

### 812.2 POLICY

Members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will adhere to all applicable laws, orders, regulations, use agreements and training related to the access, use, dissemination and release of protected information.

### 812.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sheriff shall select a member of the [Department/Office] to coordinate the use of protected information.

The responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring member compliance with this policy and with requirements applicable to protected information, including requirements for the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system, National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS), Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) records and California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS).
- (b) Developing, disseminating and maintaining procedures that adopt or comply with the U.S. Department of Justice's current Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Policy.
- (c) Developing, disseminating and maintaining any other procedures necessary to comply with any other requirements for the access, use, dissemination, release and security of protected information.
- (d) Developing procedures to ensure training and certification requirements are met.
- (e) Resolving specific questions that arise regarding authorized recipients of protected information.
- (f) Ensuring security practices and procedures are in place to comply with requirements applicable to protected information.



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### **812.4 ACCESS TO PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information shall not be accessed in violation of any law, order, regulation, user agreement, Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department policy or training. Only those members who have completed applicable training and met any applicable requirements, such as a background check, may access protected information, and only when the member has a legitimate work-related reason for such access.

Unauthorized access, including access for other than a legitimate work-related purpose, is prohibited and may subject a member to administrative action pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy and/or criminal prosecution.

#### **812.4.1 PENALTIES FOR MISUSE OF RECORDS**

It is a misdemeanor to furnish, buy, receive or possess Department of Justice criminal history information without authorization by law (Penal Code § 11143).

Authorized persons or agencies violating state regulations regarding the security of Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) maintained by the California Department of Justice may lose direct access to CORI (11 CCR 702).

### **812.5 RELEASE OR DISSEMINATION OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

Protected information may be released only to authorized recipients who have both a right to know and a need to know.

A member who is asked to release protected information that should not be released should refer the requesting person to a supervisor or to the Records Manager for information regarding a formal request.

Unless otherwise ordered or when an investigation would be jeopardized, protected information maintained by the [Department/Office] may generally be shared with authorized persons from other law enforcement agencies who are assisting in the investigation or conducting a related investigation. Any such information should be released through the Records Bureau to ensure proper documentation of the release (see the Records Maintenance and Release Policy).

Protected information, such as Criminal Justice Information (CJI), which includes Criminal History Record Information (CHRI), should generally not be transmitted by radio, cellular telephone or any other type of wireless transmission to members in the field or in vehicles through any computer or electronic device, except in cases where there is an immediate need for the information to further an investigation or where circumstances reasonably indicate that the immediate safety of deputies, other [department/office] members or the public is at risk.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit broadcasting warrant information.

#### **812.5.1 REVIEW OF CRIMINAL OFFENDER RECORD**

Individuals requesting to review their own California criminal history information shall be referred to the Department of Justice (Penal Code § 11121).

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Individuals shall be allowed to review their arrest or conviction record on file with the [Department/Office] after complying with all legal requirements regarding authority and procedures in Penal Code § 11120 through Penal Code § 11127 (Penal Code § 13321).

### **812.6 SECURITY OF PROTECTED INFORMATION**

The Sheriff will select a member of the [Department/Office] to oversee the security of protected information.

The responsibilities of this position include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Developing and maintaining security practices, procedures and training.
- (b) Ensuring federal and state compliance with the CJIS Security Policy and the requirements of any state or local criminal history records systems.
- (c) Establishing procedures to provide for the preparation, prevention, detection, analysis and containment of security incidents including computer attacks.
- (d) Tracking, documenting and reporting all breach of security incidents to the Sheriff and appropriate authorities.

#### **812.6.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

Members accessing or receiving protected information shall ensure the information is not accessed or received by persons who are not authorized to access or receive it. This includes leaving protected information, such as documents or computer databases, accessible to others when it is reasonably foreseeable that unauthorized access may occur (e.g., on an unattended table or desk; in or on an unattended vehicle; in an unlocked desk drawer or file cabinet; on an unattended computer terminal).

### **812.7 TRAINING**

All members authorized to access or release protected information shall complete a training program that complies with any protected information system requirements and identifies authorized access and use of protected information, as well as its proper handling and dissemination.

### **812.8 CALIFORNIA RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ACT**

Members shall not release personal information from any agency database for the purpose of investigation or enforcement of any program compiling data on individuals based on religious belief, practice, affiliation, national origin or ethnicity (Government Code § 8310.3).

## Computers and Digital Evidence

### 814.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for the seizure and storage of computers, personal communications devices (PCDs) digital cameras, digital recorders and other electronic devices that are capable of storing digital information; and for the preservation and storage of digital evidence. All evidence seized and/or processed pursuant to this policy shall be done so in compliance with clearly established Fourth Amendment and search and seizure provisions.

### 814.2 SEIZING COMPUTERS AND RELATED EVIDENCE

Computer equipment requires specialized training and handling to preserve its value as evidence. Deputies should be aware of the potential to destroy information through careless or improper handling, and utilize the most knowledgeable available resources. When seizing a computer and accessories the following steps should be taken:

- (a) Photograph each item, front and back, specifically including cable connections to other items. Look for a phone line or cable to a modem for Internet access.
- (b) Do not overlook the possibility of the presence of physical evidence on and around the hardware relevant to the particular investigation such as fingerprints, biological or trace evidence, and/or documents.
- (c) If the computer is off, do not turn it on.
- (d) If the computer is on, do not shut it down normally and do not click on anything or examine any files.
  1. Photograph the screen, if possible, and note any programs or windows that appear to be open and running.
  2. Disconnect the power cable from the back of the computer box or if a portable notebook style, disconnect any power cable from the case and remove the battery).
- (e) Label each item with case number, evidence sheet number, and item number.
- (f) Handle and transport the computer and storage media (e.g., tape, discs, memory cards, flash memory, external drives) with care so that potential evidence is not lost.
- (g) Lodge all computer items in the Property Room. Do not store computers where normal room temperature and humidity is not maintained.
- (h) At minimum, deputies should document the following in related reports:
  1. Where the computer was located and whether or not it was in operation.
  2. Who was using it at the time.
  3. Who claimed ownership.

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4. If it can be determined, how it was being used.
  - (i) In most cases when a computer is involved in criminal acts and is in the possession of the suspect, the computer itself and all storage devices (hard drives, tape drives, and disk drives) should be seized along with all media. Accessories (printers, monitors, mouse, scanner, keyboard, cables, software and manuals) should not be seized unless as a precursor to forfeiture.

### **814.2.1 BUSINESS OR NETWORKED COMPUTERS**

If the computer belongs to a business or is part of a network, it may not be feasible to seize the entire computer. Cases involving networks require specialized handling. Deputies should contact a certified forensic computer examiner for instructions or a response to the scene. It may be possible to perform an on-site inspection, or to image the hard drive only of the involved computer. This should only be done by someone specifically trained in processing computers for evidence.

### **814.2.2 FORENSIC EXAMINATION OF COMPUTERS**

If an examination of the contents of the computer's hard drive, or floppy disks, compact discs, or any other storage media is required, forward the following items to a computer forensic examiner:

- (a) Copy of report(s) involving the computer, including the Evidence/Property sheet.
- (b) Copy of a consent to search form signed by the computer owner or the person in possession of the computer, or a copy of a search warrant authorizing the search of the computer hard drive for evidence relating to investigation.
- (c) A listing of the items to search for (e.g., photographs, financial records, e-mail, documents).
- (d) An exact duplicate of the hard drive or disk will be made using a forensic computer and a forensic software program by someone trained in the examination of computer storage devices for evidence.

### **814.3 SEIZING DIGITAL STORAGE MEDIA**

Digital storage media including hard drives, floppy discs, CD's, DVD's, tapes, memory cards, or flash memory devices should be seized and stored in a manner that will protect them from damage.

- (a) If the media has a write-protection tab or switch, it should be activated.
- (b) Do not review, access or open digital files prior to submission. If the information is needed for immediate investigation request the Property and Evidence Unit to copy the contents to an appropriate form of storage media.
- (c) Many kinds of storage media can be erased or damaged by magnetic fields. Keep all media away from magnetic devices, electric motors, radio transmitters or other sources of magnetic fields.

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- (d) Do not leave storage media where they would be subject to excessive heat such as in a parked vehicle on a hot day.
- (e) Use plastic cases designed to protect the media, or other protective packaging, to prevent damage.

### **814.4 SEIZING PCDS**

Personal communication devices such as cell phones, PDAs or other hand-held devices connected to any communication network must be handled with care to preserve evidence that may be on the device including messages, stored data and/or images.

- (a) Deputies should not attempt to access, review or search the contents of such devices prior to examination by a forensic expert. Unsent messages can be lost, data can be inadvertently deleted and incoming messages can override stored messages.
- (b) Do not turn the device on or off. The device should be placed in a solid metal container such as a paint can or in a faraday bag, to prevent the device from sending or receiving information from its host network.
- (c) When seizing the devices, also seize the charging units and keep them plugged in to the chargers until they can be examined. If the batteries go dead all the data may be lost.

### **814.5 DIGITAL EVIDENCE RECORDED BY OFFICERS**

Deputies handling and submitting recorded and digitally stored evidence from digital cameras and audio or video recorders will comply with these procedures to ensure the integrity and admissibility of such evidence.

#### **814.5.1 COLLECTION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE**

Once evidence is recorded it shall not be erased, deleted or altered in any way prior to submission. All photographs taken will be preserved regardless of quality, composition or relevance. Video and audio files will not be altered in any way.

#### **814.5.2 SUBMISSION OF DIGITAL MEDIA**

The following are required procedures for the submission of digital media used by cameras or other recorders:

- (a) The recording media (smart card, compact flash card or any other media) shall be downloaded to the ADAMS digital photo management system as soon as possible for submission into evidence. If the recorded media is audio, it shall be downloaded to a CD and booked into Property and Evidence for Safekeeping if non-criminal matter or as Evidence if associated with a criminal case.
- (b) Deputies are not authorized to review or copy memory cards. The evidence technicians are the only employees authorized to copy and/or distribute digital media made from the memory cards or photo management system.

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- (c) As soon as possible following the collection of evidence, the camera operator is to download the memory card from their digital camera into the ADAMS digital photo management system and delete the photos from the memory card.
- (d) Deputies requiring a copy of the digital files must request a copy through the ID Unit after it has been downloaded into the photo management system.

### 814.5.3 DOWNLOADING OF DIGITAL FILES

Digital information such as video or audio files recorded on devices using internal memory must be downloaded to storage media. The following procedures are to be followed:

- (a) Files should not be opened or reviewed prior to downloading and storage.
- (b) Where possible, the device should be connected to a computer and the files accessed directly from the computer directory or downloaded to the ADAMS digital photo management system.

### 814.5.4 PRESERVATION OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE

- (a) Only evidence technicians are authorized to copy original digital media that is held as evidence. The original digital media shall remain in evidence and shall remain unaltered.
- (b) Digital images that are enhanced to provide a better quality photograph for identification and investigative purposes must only be made from a copy of the original media.
- (c) If any enhancement is done to the copy of the original, it shall be noted in the corresponding incident report.

## Jeanne Clery Campus Security Act

### 822.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines to ensure this department fulfills its obligation in complying with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) as well as applicable California Education Code requirements.

### 822.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department encourages accurate and prompt reporting of all crimes and takes all such reports seriously (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(C)(iii)). Reports will be accepted in any manner, including in person or in writing, at any Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facility. Reports will be accepted anonymously, by phone or via email or on the institution's website.

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to comply with the Clery Act. Compliance with the Clery Act requires a joint effort between the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and the administration of the institution.

Supervisors assigned areas of responsibility in the following policy sections are expected to be familiar with the subsections of 20 USC § 1092(f) and 34 CFR 668.46 that are relevant to their responsibilities.

### 822.3 POLICY, PROCEDURE AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Sheriff will:

- (a) Ensure that the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department establishes procedures for immediate emergency response and evacuation, including the use of electronic and cellular communication and testing of these procedures (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(J)(i); 20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(J)(iii)).
- (b) Enter into written agreements as appropriate with local law enforcement agencies to (Education Code § 67381.1):
  1. Identify roles in the investigation of alleged criminal offenses on campus (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(C)(ii)).
    - (a) This includes identification of the responsibilities for sexual assault, hate crimes and Part 1 violent crime investigations (e.g., willful homicide, forcible rape, robbery or aggravated assault as defined in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Handbook), and establishing the specific geographical boundaries of each agency's responsibility, including maps as necessary (Education Code § 67381).
  2. Assist in the monitoring and reporting of criminal activity at off-campus student organizations that are recognized by the institution and engaged in by students attending the institution, including student organizations with off-campus housing facilities (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(G)).

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3. Ensure coordination of emergency response and evacuation procedures, including procedures to immediately notify the campus community upon the confirmation of a significant emergency or dangerous situation (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(J)).
  4. Notify the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department of criminal offenses reported to local law enforcement agencies to assist the institution in meeting its reporting requirements under the Clery Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)).
  5. Notify the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department of criminal offenses reported to local law enforcement agencies to assist in making information available to the campus community in a timely manner and to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. Such disseminated information shall withhold the names of victims as confidential (20 USC § 1092(f)(3)).
- (c) Appoint a designee to develop programs that are designed to inform students and employees about campus security procedures and practices, and to encourage students and employees to be responsible for their own security and the security of others (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(D)).
- (d) Appoint a designee to develop programs to inform students and employees about the prevention of crime (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(E)).
- (e) Appoint a designee to develop educational programs to promote the awareness of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, and what to do if an offense occurs, including but not limited to, who should be contacted, the importance of preserving evidence and to whom the alleged offense should be reported (20 USC § 1092(f)(8)(B)). The designee shall also develop written materials to be distributed to reporting persons that explains the rights and options provided for under 20 USC § 1092 (20 USC § 1092(f)(8)(C)).
- (f) Appoint a designee to make the appropriate notifications to institution staff regarding missing person investigations in order to ensure that the institution complies with the requirements of 34 CFR 668.46(h).

### 822.3.1 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The Sheriff or the authorized designee will also (Education Code § 67386):

- (a) Assist the institution with the development of policies and procedures relating to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking involving a student whether it occurred on- or off-campus including:
1. The differences between standards of proof and defenses in criminal investigations and administrative or disciplinary matters.
  2. Victim-centered protocols including privacy protection, responses to reports, interviews, investigations, required notifications and participation by victim advocates and other supporting individuals.



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- (b) Assist, as appropriate, with trauma-informed training for campus personnel involved in investigating and adjudicating sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking cases.
- (c) Assist, as appropriate, in the development of the institution's comprehensive prevention and outreach programs addressing sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- (d) Ensure that any reported Part 1 violent crime, sexual assault or hate crime described in Penal Code § 422.55 (whether it occurred on- or off-campus), is reported as soon as practicable to any local law enforcement agency with investigation responsibilities pursuant to a written agreement with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or the institution (Education Code § 67380).
  - 1. The identification of the victim shall be withheld, unless the victim consents to being identified after being informed of the right to have his/her personally identifying information withheld. If the victim does not consent to being identified, then the alleged assailant shall not be identified unless the institution determines that the alleged assailant represents a serious or ongoing threat to the safety of the students, employees or the institution, and the immediate assistance of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is necessary to contact or detain the assailant (Education Code § 67380).
  - 2. If the institution discloses the identity of the alleged assailant to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, the institution must immediately inform the victim of that disclosure (Education Code § 67380).

### **822.4 RECORDS COLLECTION AND RETENTION**

The Records Manager is responsible for maintaining Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department statistics and making reasonable good-faith efforts to obtain statistics from other law enforcement agencies as necessary to allow the institution to comply with its reporting requirements under the Clery Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)). The statistics shall be compiled as follows:

- (a) Statistics concerning the occurrence of the following criminal offenses reported to this [department/office] or to local police agencies that occurred on campus, in or on non-campus buildings or property, and on public property including streets, sidewalks and parking facilities within the campus or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)(i); 34 CFR 668.46(c)):
  - 1. Murder
  - 2. Sex offenses, forcible or non-forcible
  - 3. Robbery
  - 4. Aggravated assault
  - 5. Burglary
  - 6. Motor vehicle theft
  - 7. Manslaughter
  - 8. Arson

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9. Arrests or persons referred for campus disciplinary action for liquor law violations, drug-related violations and weapons possession
  10. Dating violence, domestic violence and stalking
- (b) Statistics concerning the crimes described in the section above, theft, simple assault, intimidation, destruction, damage or vandalism of property, and other crimes involving bodily injury to any person where the victim was intentionally selected because of his/her actual or perceived race, sex, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnicity or disability. These statistics should be collected and reported according to the category of prejudice (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F)(ii); 34 CFR 668.46(c)).
1. The statistics shall be compiled using the definitions in the FBI's UCR system and modifications made pursuant to the Hate Crime Statistics Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(7); 34 CFR 668.46(c)(9)). For the offenses of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, such statistics shall be compiled in accordance with the definitions used in the Violence Against Women Act (20 USC § 1092(f)(7); 34 USC § 12291; 34 CFR 668.46(a)). The statistics will be categorized separately as offenses that occur in the following places (20 USC § 1092(f)(12); 34 CFR 668.46(c)(5)):
    - (a) On campus.
    - (b) In or on a non-campus building or property.
    - (c) On public property.
    - (d) In dormitories or other on-campus, residential or student facilities.
- (c) Statistics will be included by the calendar year in which the crime was reported to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (34 CFR 668.46(c)(3)).
- (d) Stalking offenses will include a statistic for each year in which the stalking conduct is reported and will be recorded as occurring either at the first location where the stalking occurred or the location where the victim became aware of the conduct (34 CFR 668.46(c)(6)).
- (e) Statistics will include the three most recent calendar years (20 USC § 1092(f)(1)(F); 34 CFR 668.46(c)).
- (f) The statistics shall not identify victims of crimes or persons accused of crimes (20 USC § 1092(f)(7)).

### 822.4.1 CRIME LOG

The Records Manager is responsible for ensuring a daily crime log is created and maintained as follows (20 USC § 1092(f)(4); 34 CFR 668.46(f)):

- (a) The daily crime log will record all crimes reported to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, including the nature, date, time and general location of each crime, and the disposition, if known.
- (b) All log entries shall be made within two business days of the initial report being made to the Department.

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- (c) If new information about an entry becomes available, then the new information shall be recorded in the log not later than two business days after the information becomes available to the sheriff's department or security department.
- (d) The daily crime log for the most recent 60-day period shall be open to the public for inspection at all times during normal business hours. Any portion of the log that is older than 60 days must be made available within two business days of a request for public inspection. Information in the log is not required to be disclosed when:
  - 1. Disclosure of the information is prohibited by law.
  - 2. Disclosure would jeopardize the confidentiality of the victim.
  - 3. There is clear and convincing evidence that the release of such information would jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation or the safety of an individual, may cause a suspect to flee or evade detection, or could result in the destruction of evidence. In any of these cases, the information may be withheld until that damage is no longer likely to occur from the release of such information.

### 822.4.2 COMPILING RECORDS FOR DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

The Records Manager is also responsible for compiling the following to allow the institution to comply with its disclosure requirements under Education Code § 67380:

- (a) All occurrences reported to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and all arrests for crimes that are committed on campus that involve violence, hate violence, theft, destruction of property, illegal drugs, or alcohol intoxication.
- (b) All occurrences of noncriminal acts of hate violence reported to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department for which a written report is prepared.

### 822.5 INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

It is the responsibility of the Administration Division Commander to ensure that the required Clery Act disclosures are properly forwarded to campus administration and community members in accordance with institution procedures. This includes:

- (a) Procedures for providing emergency notification of crimes or other incidents and evacuations that might represent an imminent threat to the safety of students or employees (20 USC § 1092(f)(3); 34 CFR 668.46(e); 34 CFR 668.46 (g)).
- (b) Procedures for notifying the campus community about crimes considered to be a threat to other students and employees in order to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. Such disseminated information shall withhold the names of victims as confidential (20 USC § 1092(f)(3)).
- (c) Information necessary for the institution to prepare its annual security report (20 USC § 1092(f)(1); 34 CFR 668.46(b)). This report will include, but is not limited to:
  - 1. Crime statistics and the policies for preparing the crime statistics.

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2. Crime and emergency reporting procedures, including the responses to such reports.
3. Policies concerning security of and access to campus facilities.
4. Crime, dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking awareness and prevention programs, including
  - (a) Procedures victims should follow.
  - (b) Procedures for protecting the confidentiality of victims and other necessary parties.
5. Enforcement policies related to alcohol and illegal drugs.
6. Locations where the campus community can obtain information about registered sex offenders.
7. Emergency response and evacuation procedures.
8. Missing student notification procedures.
9. Information addressing the jurisdiction and authority of campus security including any working relationships and agreements between campus security personnel and both state and local law enforcement agencies.

## Chapter 9 - Custody

## Custodial Searches

### 900.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance regarding searches of individuals in custody. Such searches are necessary to eliminate the introduction of contraband, intoxicants or weapons into the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facility. Such items can pose a serious risk to the safety and security of department members, individuals in custody, contractors and the public.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit the otherwise lawful collection of evidence from an individual in custody.

#### 900.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Custody search** - An in-custody search of an individual and of his/her property, shoes and clothing, including pockets, cuffs and folds on the clothing, to remove all weapons, dangerous items and contraband.

**Physical body cavity search** - A search that includes a visual inspection and may include a physical intrusion into a body cavity. Body cavity means the stomach or rectal cavity of an individual, and the vagina of a female person.

**Strip search** - A search that requires an individual to remove or rearrange some or all of his/her clothing to permit a visual inspection of the underclothing, breasts, buttocks, anus or outer genitalia. This includes monitoring an individual who is changing clothes, where his/her underclothing, buttocks, genitalia or female breasts are visible.

### 900.2 POLICY

All searches shall be conducted with concern for safety, dignity, courtesy, respect for privacy and hygiene, and in compliance with policy and law to protect the rights of those who are subject to any search.

Searches shall not be used for intimidation, harassment, punishment or retaliation.

### 900.3 FIELD AND TRANSPORTATION SEARCHES

A deputy should conduct a custody search of an individual immediately after his/her arrest, when receiving an individual from the custody of another, and before transporting a person who is in custody in any department vehicle.

Whenever practicable, a custody search should be conducted by a deputy of the same sex as the person being searched. If a deputy of the same sex is not reasonably available, a witnessing deputy should be present during the search.

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### **900.4 SEARCHES AT SHERIFF'S FACILITIES**

Custody searches shall be conducted on all individuals in custody, upon entry to the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facilities. Except in exigent circumstances, the search should be conducted by a member of the same sex as the individual being searched. If a member of the same sex is not available, a witnessing member must be present during the search.

Custody searches should also be conducted any time an individual in custody enters or re-enters a secure area, or any time it is reasonably believed that a search is necessary to maintain the safety and security of the facility.

#### **900.4.1 PROPERTY**

Members shall take reasonable care in handling the property of an individual in custody to avoid discrepancies or losses. Property retained for safekeeping shall be kept in a secure location until the individual is released or transferred.

Some property may not be accepted by a facility or agency that is taking custody of an individual from this department, such as weapons or large items. These items should be retained for safekeeping in accordance with the Property and Evidence Policy.

All property shall be inventoried by objective description (this does not include an estimated value). The individual from whom it was taken shall be required to sign the completed inventory. If the individual's signature cannot be obtained, the inventory shall be witnessed by another department member. The inventory should include the case number, date, time, member's Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department identification number and information regarding how and when the property may be released.

#### **900.4.2 VERIFICATION OF MONEY**

All money shall be counted in front of the individual from whom it was received. When possible, the individual shall initial the dollar amount on the inventory. Additionally, all money should be placed in a separate envelope and sealed. Negotiable checks or other instruments and foreign currency should also be sealed in an envelope with the amount indicated but not added to the cash total. All envelopes should clearly indicate the contents on the front. The department member sealing it should place his/her initials across the sealed flap. Should any money be withdrawn or added, the member making such change shall enter the amount below the original entry and initial it. The amount of money in the envelope should always be totaled and written on the outside of the envelope.

### **900.5 STRIP SEARCHES**

No individual in temporary custody at any Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facility shall be subjected to a strip search unless there is reasonable suspicion based upon specific and articulable facts to believe the individual has a health condition requiring immediate medical attention or is concealing a weapon or contraband. Factors to be considered in determining reasonable suspicion include, but are not limited to:

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- (a) The detection of an object during a custody search that may be a weapon or contraband and cannot be safely retrieved without a strip search.
- (b) Circumstances of a current arrest that specifically indicate the individual may be concealing a weapon or contraband.
  - 1. A felony arrest charge or being under the influence of a controlled substance should not suffice as reasonable suspicion absent other facts.
- (c) Custody history (e.g., past possession of contraband while in custody, assaults on department members, escape attempts).
- (d) The individual's actions or demeanor.
- (e) Criminal history (i.e., level of experience in a custody setting).

No transgender or intersex individual shall be searched or examined for the sole purpose of determining the individual's genital status. If the individual's genital status is unknown, it may be determined during conversations with the person, by reviewing medical records, or as a result of a broader medical examination conducted in private by a medical practitioner (28 CFR 115.115).

### 900.5.1 STRIP SEARCH PROCEDURES

Strip searches at Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facilities shall be conducted as follows (28 CFR 115.115; Penal Code § 4030):

- (a) Written authorization from the Watch Commander shall be obtained prior to the strip search.
- (b) All members involved with the strip search shall be of the same sex as the individual being searched, unless the search is conducted by a medical practitioner.
- (c) All strip searches shall be conducted in a professional manner under sanitary conditions and in a secure area of privacy so that it cannot be observed by those not participating in the search. The search shall not be reproduced through a visual or sound recording.
- (d) Whenever possible, a second member of the same sex should also be present during the search, for security and as a witness to the finding of evidence.
- (e) Members conducting a strip search shall not touch the breasts, buttocks or genitalia of the individual being searched.
- (f) The primary member conducting the search shall prepare a written report to include:
  - 1. The facts that led to the decision to perform a strip search.
  - 2. The reasons less intrusive methods of searching were not used or were insufficient.
  - 3. The written authorization for the search, obtained from the Watch Commander.



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4. The name of the individual who was searched.
  5. The name and sex of the members who conducted the search.
  6. The name, sex and role of any person present during the search.
  7. The time and date of the search.
  8. The place at which the search was conducted.
  9. A list of the items, if any, that were recovered.
  10. The facts upon which the member based his/her belief that the individual was concealing a weapon or contraband.
- (g) No member should view an individual's private underclothing, buttocks, genitalia or female breasts while that individual is showering, performing bodily functions or changing clothes, unless he/she otherwise qualifies for a strip search. However, if serious hygiene or health issues make it reasonably necessary to assist the individual with a shower or a change of clothes, a supervisor should be contacted to ensure reasonable steps are taken to obtain the individual's consent and/or otherwise protect his/her privacy and dignity.
- (h) If the individual has been arrested for a misdemeanor or infraction offense, the written authorization from the Watch Commander shall include specific and articulable facts and circumstances upon which the reasonable suspicion determination for the search was made.
- (i) A copy of the written authorization shall be retained and made available upon request to the individual or the individual's authorized representative. A record of the time, date, place of the search, the name and sex of the person conducting the search, and a statement of the results of the search shall also be retained and made available upon request to the individual or the individual's authorized representative.

### 900.5.2 SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE FIELD STRIP SEARCHES

A strip search may be conducted in the field only with Watch Commander authorization and only in exceptional circumstances, such as when:

- (a) There is probable cause to believe that the individual is concealing a weapon or other dangerous item that cannot be recovered by a more limited search.
- (b) There is probable cause to believe that the individual is concealing controlled substances or evidence that cannot be recovered by a more limited search, and there is no reasonable alternative to ensure the individual cannot destroy or ingest the substance during transportation.

These special-circumstance field strip searches shall only be authorized and conducted under the same restrictions as the strip search procedures in this policy, except that the Watch Commander authorization does not need to be in writing.

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### **900.6 PHYSICAL BODY CAVITY SEARCH**

Physical body cavity searches shall be subject to the following (Penal Code § 4030):

- (a) No individual shall be subjected to a physical body cavity search without written approval of the Watch Commander and only upon a search warrant. A copy of any search warrant and the results of the physical body cavity search shall be included with the related reports and made available, upon request, to the individual or authorized representative (except for those portions of the warrant ordered sealed by a court).
- (b) Only a physician, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, licensed vocational nurse or Emergency Medical Technician Level II licensed to practice in California may conduct a physical body cavity search.
- (c) Except for the physician or licensed medical personnel conducting the search, persons present must be of the same sex as the individual being searched. Only the necessary department members needed to maintain the safety and security of the medical personnel shall be present.
- (d) Privacy requirements, including restricted touching of body parts and sanitary condition requirements, are the same as required for a strip search.
- (e) All such searches shall be documented, including:
  - 1. The facts that led to the decision to perform a physical body cavity search of the individual.
  - 2. The reasons less intrusive methods of searching were not used or were insufficient.
  - 3. The Watch Commander's approval.
  - 4. A copy of the search warrant.
  - 5. The time, date and location of the search.
  - 6. The medical personnel present.
  - 7. The names, sex and roles of any department members present.
  - 8. Any contraband or weapons discovered by the search.
- (f) Copies of the written authorization and search warrant shall be retained and shall be provided to the individual who was searched or other authorized representative upon request. A record of the time, date, place of the search, the name and sex of the person conducting the search and a statement of the results of the search shall also be retained and made available upon request to the individual or the individual's authorized representative.

### **900.7 TRAINING**

The Training Manager shall ensure members have training that includes (28 CFR 115.115):

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- (a) Conducting searches of cross-gender individuals.
- (b) Conducting searches of transgender and intersex individuals.
- (c) Conducting searches in a professional and respectful manner, and in the least intrusive manner possible, consistent with security needs.

### **900.8 BODY SCANNER SEARCH**

If a body scanner is available, a body scan search should be performed on all inmates/arrestees upon entering the secure booking area of the facility. Members (Penal Code § 4030):

- (a) Within sight of the visual display of a body scanner that is depicting the body during a scan shall be of the same sex as the person being scanned, except for physicians or licensed medical personnel.
- (b) Should ask female inmates if they are pregnant prior to a body scan and should not knowingly use a body scanner on a woman who is pregnant.

## Booking/Intake Procedures

### 901.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This procedure helps to ensure a safer booking process for deputy sheriff staff and persons booked into Stanislaus County Sheriff correctional facilities. Officer safety will be enhanced by requiring hand restraints to stay on the arrestee during the entire search and booking process until the arrestee is safely delivered to Adult Detention staff.

### 901.2 FACILITY ENTRY

- (a) All firearms, with exception to shotguns and patrol rifles, will be secured in the gun storage locker or in the locked trunk of the patrol vehicle and only if patrol car is parked within a fenced secured lot of the correctional facility.
- (b) Prior to requesting admittance into the Receiving & Release Sally Port at the PSC East Facility, deputies may switch from their primary radio channel to the radio frequency of PSC East Central Control. Deputies can contact PSC East Central Control to ensure that the radio is working properly and communications have been established. Remember to switch radio back to primary channel upon leaving the PSC East Facility.
- (c) Arrestees are to remain in hand restraints during the entire search and pre-booking process. Hand restraints SHALL NOT be removed from the arrestee until the arrestee is safely transported to the intake area designated by Adult Detention staff and only removed when there are adequate cover personnel.

#### 901.2.1 COMBATIVE/NON-COMPLIANT ARRESTEES

- (a) In the event the arresting/transporting deputy has a combative arrestee, the deputy may request assistance from the PSC East Central Control by any of the following methods:
  - The deputy shall advise Central Control at PSC East Facility that they have a combative arrestee and will require assistance from facility staff to intake the arrestee.
  - The deputy should use the intercom located at the Receiving & Release (R & R) Vehicle Sally Port entrance gate.
  - The deputy may request assistance by radioing the dispatch center that will relay the deputy's request to PSC East Central Control.
  - The deputy may switch to the radio frequency of the PSC East Central Control.
- (b) If assistance is needed, the deputy will provide the following information to PSC East Central Control or to dispatch:
  - Number of arrestees.

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- Type assistance required (combative arrestees, medical emergency, arrestee in wrap, etc.).
- If an arresting/transporting deputy is NOT in uniform, valid departmental identification will be displayed before admittance to the Receiving & Release Facility.

### 901.2.2 SALLY PORT

If, in the deputy's opinion, the arrestee is combative, a request to enter the Receiving & Release Sally Port may be made to the Central Control using the above-mentioned guidelines.

- After the deputy enters into the Receiving & Release Sally Port, they shall wait until facility staff (deputy, medical, etc.) arrives.
- The motor to the vehicle will be turned off.
- Keys to the vehicle will be removed.
- Firearm secured.

### 901.2.3 SEARCH OF ARRESTEES

Arrestees are to remain in hand restraints during the entire search and pre-booking process. Hand restraints SHALL NOT be removed until the arrestee is safely transported to the intake area designated by Adult Detention staff. The arresting/transporting deputy will conduct a pat down search (according to departmental policies and procedures) of the arrestee.

- All accessible property (belts, keys, money, etc.) will be removed and placed into the bags/containers provided for in the sally port. This property is to remain in possession of the arresting officer until given to Adult Detention staff.
- Arresting/transporting deputies will proceed to the secure area of the facility and request admittance from the Control Deputy after confirming that all weapons have been secured, the arrestee has been searched and all accessible property has been removed from the arrestee.
- The arrestee(s) shall be seated on the bench or in the holding cell in the Receiving and Release (R&R) area.
- Arrestees will remove their shoes, while in a seated position, or a kneeling position, on the bench in the sally port.
- If the arrestee is unable to remove their shoes, the deputy will remove the shoes, themselves.
- Search the prisoner properly for weapons, instruments of escape, and other contraband. Remember that a thorough, complete search, including the groin area

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and shoes, is needed to insure that the prisoner is not allowed to hide items that can be physically and legally dangerous to you.

Adult Detention staff will complete the medical pre-screening form, PREA questions and property inventory form. The arresting deputy/officer is not able to leave the inmate or the facility until the arrestee has been accepted or refused by facility medical staff.

### 901.2.4 FINAL SEARCH/TRANSFER TO ADULT DETENTION STAFF

#### Final Search/Transfer to Adult Detention Staff

Arresting/transporting deputies will bring arrestees to the designated intake area. In the presence of the Intake Officers, the arresting/transporting deputy will remove the handcuffs in an approved departmental procedural manner.

The Intake Deputy will conduct the final search of the arrestee.

The Intake Deputy will ensure that all required paperwork (Probable Cause Forms, Warrants, etc.) is in order, and that the arrestee has been medically cleared, prior to accepting the arrestee into custody of the jail facility.

It remains the responsibility of the arresting/transporting deputy to control, or assist in the control of their arrestee until accepted for booking by Adult Detention staff.

### 901.2.5 EXCEPTIONS

If it is not practical or safe to handcuff an arrestee or leave a prisoner handcuffed during the booking process, then you **MUST** notify your supervisor and take steps to ensure a safe booking process for both you and the arrested person.

## Prison Rape Elimination

### 902.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidance for complying with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) and the implementing regulation that establishes standards (PREA Rule) to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse, harassment, and retaliation against detainees or prisoners in the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Temporary Holding Facilities (28 CFR 115.111; 15 CCR 1029).

#### 902.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Intersex** - A person whose sexual or reproductive anatomy or chromosomal pattern does not seem to fit typical definitions of male or female. Intersex medical conditions are sometimes referred to as disorders of sex development (28 CFR 115.5).

**Sexual abuse** - Any of the following acts, if the detainee does not consent, is coerced into such act by overt or implied threats of violence or is unable to consent or refuse (28 CFR 115.6; 15 CCR 1006):

- Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight
- Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus
- Penetration of the anal or genital opening of another person, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument
- Any other intentional touching, either directly or through the clothing, of the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks of another person, excluding contact incidental to a physical altercation

Sexual abuse also includes abuse by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer as follows, with or without consent of the detainee, prisoner, or resident:

- Contact between the penis and the vulva or the penis and the anus, including penetration, however slight
- Contact between the mouth and the penis, vulva, or anus
- Contact between the mouth and any body part where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire
- Penetration of the anal or genital opening, however slight, by a hand, finger, object, or other instrument, that is unrelated to official duties, or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire
- Any other intentional contact, either directly or through the clothing, of or with the genitalia, anus, groin, breast, inner thigh, or the buttocks, that is unrelated to official duties, or where the staff member, contractor, or volunteer has the intent to abuse, arouse, or gratify sexual desire

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- Any attempt, threat, or request by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer to engage in the activities described above
- Any display by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer of his/her uncovered genitalia, buttocks, or breast in the presence of a detainee, prisoner, or resident
- Voyeurism by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer

**Sexual harassment** - Repeated and unwelcome sexual advances; requests for sexual favors; verbal comments, gestures, or actions of a derogatory or offensive sexual nature by one detainee, prisoner, or resident that are directed toward another; repeated verbal comments or gestures of a sexual nature to a detainee, prisoner, or resident by a staff member, contractor, or volunteer, including demeaning references to gender, sexually suggestive or derogatory comments about body or clothing, or obscene language or gestures (28 CFR 115.6; 15 CCR 1006).

**Transgender** - A person whose gender identity (i.e., internal sense of feeling male or female) is different from the person's assigned sex at birth (28 CFR 115.5).

### **902.2 POLICY**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department has zero tolerance toward all forms of sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.111). The [Department/Office] will not tolerate retaliation against any person who reports sexual abuse or sexual harassment or who cooperates with a sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigation.

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will take immediate action to protect detainees and prisoners who are reasonably believed to be subject to a substantial risk of imminent sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.162; 15 CCR 1029).

### **902.3 PREA COORDINATOR**

The Sheriff shall appoint an upper-level manager with sufficient time and authority to develop, implement, and oversee [department/office] efforts to comply with PREA standards in the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Temporary Holding Facilities (28 CFR 115.111). The PREA Coordinator's responsibilities shall include:

- (a) Developing and maintaining procedures to comply with the PREA Rule.
- (b) Ensuring that any contract for the confinement of detainees or prisoners includes the requirement to adopt and comply with applicable PREA standards and the PREA Rule, including the obligation to provide incident-based and aggregated data, as required in 28 CFR 115.187 (28 CFR 115.112).
- (c) Developing a staffing plan to provide adequate levels of staffing and video monitoring, where applicable, in order to protect detainees and prisoners from sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.113; 15 CCR 1029). This includes documenting deviations and the reasons for deviations from the staffing plan, as well as reviewing the staffing plan a minimum of once per year.
- (d) Developing methods for staff to privately report sexual abuse and sexual harassment of detainees and prisoners (28 CFR 115.151).



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- (e) Developing a written plan to coordinate response among staff first responders, medical and mental health practitioners, investigators, and [department/office] leadership to an incident of sexual abuse (28 CFR 115.165).
- (f) Ensuring a protocol is developed for investigating allegations of sexual abuse in the Temporary Holding Facility. The protocol shall include (28 CFR 115.121; 28 CFR 115.122):
  - 1. Evidence collection practices that maximize the potential for obtaining usable physical evidence based on the most recent edition of the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women publication, "A National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations, Adults/Adolescents" or a similarly comprehensive and authoritative protocol.
  - 2. A process to ensure a criminal or administrative investigation is completed on all allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment.
  - 3. A process to document all referrals to other law enforcement agencies.
  - 4. Access to forensic medical examinations, without financial cost, for all victims of sexual abuse where appropriate. Such examinations shall be performed by Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs) or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) where possible. If SAFEs or SANEs cannot be made available, the examination can be performed by other qualified medical practitioners. The efforts to provide SAFEs or SANEs shall be documented.
  - 5. In accordance with security needs, provisions to permit, to the extent available, detainee and prisoner access to victim advocacy services if the detainee or prisoner is transported for a forensic examination to an outside hospital that offers such services.
- (g) Ensuring that detainees and prisoners with limited English proficiency and disabilities have an equal opportunity to understand and benefit from efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment. This includes, as appropriate, access to interpreters and written materials in formats or through methods that provide effective communication to those with disabilities (e.g., limited reading skills, intellectual, hearing, or vision disabilities) (28 CFR 115.116).
  - 1. The agency shall not rely on other detainees or prisoners for assistance except in limited circumstances where an extended delay in obtaining an interpreter could compromise the detainee's or prisoner's safety, the performance of first-response duties under this policy, or the investigation of a prisoner's allegations of sexual abuse, harassment, or retaliation.
- (h) Publishing on the [department/office]'s website:
  - 1. Information on how to report sexual abuse and sexual harassment on behalf of a detainee or prisoner (28 CFR 115.154).
  - 2. A protocol describing the responsibilities of the [Department/Office] and any other investigating agency that will be responsible for conducting sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigations (28 CFR 115.122).

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- (i) Establishing a process that includes the use of a standardized form and set of definitions to ensure accurate, uniform data is collected for every allegation of sexual abuse at facilities under this agency's direct control (28 CFR 115.187; 34 USC § 30303; 15 CCR 1041).
  - 1. The data collected shall include, at a minimum, the data necessary to answer all questions from the most recent version of the Survey of Sexual Violence, conducted by DOJ, or any subsequent form developed by DOJ and designated for lockups.
  - 2. The data shall be aggregated at least annually.
- (j) Ensuring audits are conducted pursuant to 28 CFR 115.401 through 28 CFR 115.405 for all Temporary Holding Facilities used to house detainees or prisoners overnight (28 CFR 115.193).
- (k) Ensuring contractors or others who work in the Temporary Holding Facility are informed of the agency's zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment (28 CFR 115.132).
- (l) Ensuring that information for uninvolved inmates, family, community members, and other interested third parties to report sexual abuse or sexual harassment is publicly posted at the facility (15 CCR 1029).

### **902.4 REPORTING SEXUAL ABUSE, HARASSMENT, AND RETALIATION**

Detainees or prisoners may make reports to any staff member verbally, in writing, privately, or anonymously of any of the following (28 CFR 115.151; 15 CCR 1029):

- Sexual abuse
- Sexual harassment
- Retaliation by other detainees or prisoners or staff for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment
- Staff neglect or violation of responsibilities that may have contributed to sexual abuse or sexual harassment

During intake the [Department/Office] shall notify all detainees and prisoners of the zero-tolerance policy regarding sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and of at least one way to report abuse or harassment to a public or private entity that is not part of the [Department/Office] and that is able to receive and immediately forward detainee or prisoner reports of sexual abuse and sexual harassment to agency officials. This allows the detainee or prisoner to remain anonymous (28 CFR 115.132; 28 CFR 115.151).

#### **902.4.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

[Department/Office] members shall accept reports from detainees, prisoners and third parties and shall promptly document all reports (28 CFR 115.151; 15 CCR 1029).

All members shall report immediately to the Watch Commander any knowledge, suspicion, or information regarding:

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- (a) An incident of sexual abuse or sexual harassment that occurs in the Temporary Holding Facility.
- (b) Retaliation against detainees or the member who reports any such incident.
- (c) Any neglect or violation of responsibilities on the part of any [department/office] member that may have contributed to an incident or retaliation (28 CFR 115.161).

No member shall reveal any information related to a sexual abuse report to anyone other than to the extent necessary to make treatment and investigation decisions.

### 902.4.2 WATCH COMMANDER RESPONSIBILITIES

The Watch Commander shall report to the [department/office]'s designated investigators all allegations of sexual abuse, harassment, retaliation, neglect or violations leading to sexual abuse, harassment or retaliation. This includes third-party and anonymous reports (28 CFR 115.161).

If the alleged victim is under the age of 18 or considered a vulnerable adult, the Watch Commander shall also report the allegation as required under mandatory reporting laws and [department/office] policy.

Upon receiving an allegation that a detainee or prisoner was sexually abused while confined at another facility, the Watch Commander shall notify the head of the facility or the appropriate office of the agency where the alleged abuse occurred. The notification shall be made as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours after receiving the allegation. The Watch Commander shall document such notification (28 CFR 115.163).

If an alleged detainee or prisoner victim is transferred from the Temporary Holding Facility to a jail, prison or medical facility, the [Department/Office] shall, as permitted by law, inform the receiving facility of the incident and the prisoner's potential need for medical or social services, unless the prisoner requests otherwise (28 CFR 115.165).

### 902.5 INVESTIGATIONS

The [Department/Office] shall promptly, thoroughly and objectively investigate all allegations, including third-party and anonymous reports, of sexual abuse or sexual harassment. Only investigators who have received [department/office]-approved special training shall conduct sexual abuse investigations (28 CFR 115.171).

#### 902.5.1 FIRST RESPONDERS

The first deputy to respond to a report of sexual abuse or sexual assault shall (28 CFR 115.164):

- (a) Separate the parties.
- (b) Establish a crime scene to preserve and protect any evidence. Identify and secure witnesses until steps can be taken to collect any evidence.
- (c) If the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence, request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking or eating.

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- (d) If the abuse occurred within a time period that still allows for the collection of physical evidence, ensure that the alleged abuser does not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence, including, as appropriate, washing, brushing teeth, changing clothes, urinating, defecating, smoking, drinking or eating.

If the first responder is not a deputy the responder shall request that the alleged victim not take any actions that could destroy physical evidence and should then notify a law enforcement staff member (28 CFR 115.164).

### 902.5.2 INVESTIGATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Investigators shall (28 CFR 115.171):

- (a) Gather and preserve direct and circumstantial evidence, including any available physical and biological evidence and any available electronic monitoring data.
- (b) Interview alleged victims, suspects and witnesses.
- (c) Review any prior complaints and reports of sexual abuse involving the suspect.
- (d) Conduct compelled interviews only after consulting with prosecutors as to whether compelled interviews may be an obstacle for subsequent criminal prosecution.
- (e) Assess the credibility of the alleged victim, suspect or witness on an individual basis and not by the person's status as a detainee or a member of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.
- (f) Document in written reports a description of physical, testimonial, documentary and other evidence, the reasoning behind any credibility assessments, and investigative facts and findings.
- (g) Refer allegations of conduct that may be criminal to the District Attorney for possible prosecution, including any time there is probable cause to believe a detainee or prisoner sexually abused another detainee or prisoner in the Temporary Holding Facility (28 CFR 115.178).
- (h) Cooperate with outside investigators and remain informed about the progress of any outside investigation.

### 902.5.3 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Administrative investigations shall include an effort to determine whether staff actions or failures to act contributed to the abuse. The departure of the alleged abuser or victim from the employment or control of this [department/office] shall not be used as a basis for terminating an investigation (28 CFR 115.171).

### 902.5.4 SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIMS

No detainee or prisoner who alleges sexual abuse shall be required to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth-telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an allegation (28 CFR 115.171(e)).

Detainee or prisoner victims of sexual abuse shall receive timely, unimpeded access to emergency medical treatment. Treatment services shall be provided to the victim without financial cost and

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regardless of whether the victim names the abuser or cooperates with any investigation arising out of the incident (28 CFR 115.182).

### **902.5.5 CONCLUSIONS AND FINDINGS**

All completed investigations shall be forwarded to the Sheriff, or if the allegations may reasonably involve the Sheriff, to the County Executive. The Sheriff or County Executive shall review the investigation and determine whether any allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment have been substantiated by a preponderance of the evidence (28 CFR 115.172).

All personnel shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination for violating this policy. Termination shall be the presumptive disciplinary sanction for [department/office] members who have engaged in sexual abuse. All discipline shall be commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the acts committed, the member's disciplinary history and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other members with similar histories (28 CFR 115.176).

All terminations for violations of this policy, or resignations by members who would have been terminated if not for their resignation, shall be criminally investigated unless the activity was clearly not criminal and reported to any relevant licensing body (28 CFR 115.176).

Any contractor or volunteer who engages in sexual abuse shall be prohibited from contact with detainees or prisoners and reported to any relevant licensing bodies (28 CFR 115.177). The Sheriff shall take appropriate remedial measures and consider whether to prohibit further contact with detainees or prisoners by a contractor or volunteer.

### **902.6 RETALIATION PROHIBITED**

All detainees, prisoners and members who report sexual abuse or sexual harassment or who cooperate with sexual abuse or sexual harassment investigations shall be protected from retaliation (28 CFR 115.167). If any other individual who cooperates with an investigation expresses a fear of retaliation, appropriate measures shall be taken to protect that individual.

The Watch Commander or the authorized designee shall employ multiple protection measures, such as housing changes or transfers for detainee or prisoner victims or abusers, removal of alleged abusers from contact with victims, and emotional support services for detainees, prisoners or members who fear retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or sexual harassment or for cooperating with investigations.

The Watch Commander or the authorized designee shall identify a staff member to monitor the conduct and treatment of detainees, prisoners or members who have reported sexual abuse and of detainees or prisoners who were reported to have suffered sexual abuse. The staff member shall act promptly to remedy any such retaliation. In the case of detainees or prisoners, such monitoring shall also include periodic status checks.

### **902.7 REVIEWS AND AUDITS**

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### 902.7.1 INCIDENT REVIEWS

An incident review shall be conducted at the conclusion of every sexual abuse investigation, unless the allegation has been determined to be unfounded. The review should occur within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation. The review team shall include upper-level management officials and seek input from line supervisors and investigators (28 CFR 115.186).

The review shall (28 CFR 115.186):

- (a) Consider whether the allegation or investigation indicates a need to change policy or practice to better prevent, detect or respond to sexual abuse.
- (b) Consider whether the incident or allegation was motivated by race; ethnicity; gender identity; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex identification, status or perceived status; gang affiliation; or was motivated or otherwise caused by other group dynamics at the facility.
- (c) Examine the area in the facility where the incident allegedly occurred to assess whether physical barriers in the area may enable abuse.
- (d) Assess the adequacy of staffing levels in that area during different shifts.
- (e) Assess whether monitoring technology should be deployed or augmented to supplement supervision by staff.

The review team shall prepare a report of its findings, including any determinations made pursuant to this section and any recommendations for improvement. The report shall be submitted to the Sheriff and the PREA Coordinator. The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall implement the recommendations for improvement or shall document the reasons for not doing so (28 CFR 115.186).

### 902.7.2 DATA REVIEWS

The facility shall conduct an annual review of collected and aggregated incident-based sexual abuse data. The review should include, as needed, data from incident-based documents, including reports, investigation files and sexual abuse incident reviews (28 CFR 115.187).

The purpose of these reviews is to assess and improve the effectiveness of sexual abuse prevention, detection and response policies, practices and training. An annual report shall be prepared that includes (28 CFR 115.188):

- (a) Identification of any potential problem areas.
- (b) Identification of any corrective actions taken.
- (c) Recommendations for any additional corrective actions.
- (d) A comparison of the current year's data and corrective actions with those from prior years.
- (e) An assessment of the [Department/Office]'s progress in addressing sexual abuse.

The report shall be approved by the Sheriff and made readily available to the public through the [department/office] website or, if it does not have one, through other means. Material may be

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redacted from the reports when publication would present a clear and specific threat to the safety and security of the Temporary Holding Facility. However, the nature of the redacted material shall be indicated.

All aggregated sexual abuse data from Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facilities and private facilities with which it contracts shall be made readily available to the public at least annually through the [department/office] website or, if it does not have one, through other means. Before making aggregated sexual abuse data publicly available, all personal identifiers shall be removed (28 CFR 115.189).

### **902.8 RECORDS**

The [Department/Office] shall retain all written reports from administrative and criminal investigations pursuant to this policy for as long as the alleged abuser is held or employed by the [Department/Office], plus five years (28 CFR 115.171).

All other data collected pursuant to this policy shall be securely retained for at least 10 years after the date of the initial collection unless federal, state or local law requires otherwise (28 CFR 115.189).

### **902.9 TRAINING**

All employees, volunteers and contractors who may have contact with detainees or prisoners shall receive [department/office]-approved training on the prevention and detection of sexual abuse and sexual harassment within this facility. The Training Manager shall be responsible for developing and administering this training as appropriate, covering at a minimum (28 CFR 115.131):

- The [Department/Office]'s zero-tolerance policy and the right of detainees and prisoners to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and from retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or harassment.
- The dynamics of sexual abuse and harassment in confinement settings, including which detainees and prisoners are most vulnerable.
- The right of detainees, prisoners and staff members to be free from sexual abuse and sexual harassment, and from retaliation for reporting sexual abuse or harassment.
- Detecting and responding to signs of threatened and actual abuse.
- Communicating effectively and professionally with all detainees and prisoners.
- Compliance with relevant laws related to mandatory reporting of sexual abuse to outside authorities.

Investigators assigned to sexual abuse investigations shall also receive training in conducting such investigations in confinement settings. Training should include (28 CFR 115.134):

- Techniques for interviewing sexual abuse victims.
- Proper use of *Miranda* and *Garrity* warnings.
- Sexual abuse evidence collection in confinement settings.

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- Criteria and evidence required to substantiate a case for administrative action or prosecution referral.

The Training Manager shall maintain documentation that employees, volunteers, contractors and investigators have completed required training and that they understand the training. This understanding shall be documented through individual signature or electronic verification.

All current employees and volunteers who may have contact with detainees or prisoners shall be trained within one year of the effective date of the PREA standards. The agency shall provide annual refresher information to all such employees and volunteers to ensure that they understand the current sexual abuse and sexual harassment policies and procedures.



## Chapter 10 - Personnel

## Recruitment and Selection

### 1000.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The employment policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall provide equal opportunities for applicants and its employees regardless of race, sexual orientation, age, pregnancy, religion, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental handicap, marital status, veteran status, or sex, and shall not show partiality or grant any special favors to any applicant, employee or group of employees. The rules governing employment practices for this department are maintained by the Stanislaus CEO-Human Resources.

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 5, Recruitment/Selection, ordinances 3.08.130 - 3.08.260

### 1000.2 POLICY

In accordance with applicable federal, state and local law, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department provides equal opportunities for applicants and employees, regardless of race, gender expression, age, pregnancy, religion, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental handicap, genetic information, veteran status, marital status, sex or any other protected class or status. The Department does not show partiality or grant any special status to any applicant, employee or group of employees unless otherwise required by law.

The Department will recruit and hire only those individuals who demonstrate a commitment to service and who possess the traits and characteristics that reflect personal integrity and high ethical standards.

### 1000.3 RECRUITMENT

The Administration Division Commander should employ a comprehensive recruitment and selection strategy to recruit and select employees from a qualified and diverse pool of candidates.

The strategy should include:

- (a) Identification of racially and culturally diverse target markets.
- (b) Use of marketing strategies to target diverse applicant pools.
- (c) Expanded use of technology and maintenance of a strong Internet presence. This may include an interactive department website and the use of department-managed social networking sites, if resources permit.
- (d) Expanded outreach through partnerships with media, community groups, citizen academies, local colleges, universities and the military.
- (e) Employee referral and recruitment incentive programs.
- (f) Consideration of shared or collaborative regional testing processes.

The Administration Division Commander shall avoid advertising, recruiting and screening practices that tend to stereotype, focus on homogeneous applicant pools or screen applicants in a discriminatory manner.

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The Department should strive to facilitate and expedite the screening and testing process, and should periodically inform each candidate of his/her status in the recruiting process.

### **1000.4 SELECTION PROCESS**

The Department shall actively strive to identify a diverse group of candidates that have in some manner distinguished themselves as being outstanding prospects. Minimally, the Department should employ a comprehensive screening, background investigation and selection process that assesses cognitive and physical abilities and includes review and verification of the following:

- (a) A comprehensive application for employment (including previous employment, references, current and prior addresses, education, military record)
- (b) Driving record
- (c) Reference checks
- (d) Employment eligibility verification, including U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Employment Eligibility Verification Form I-9 and acceptable identity and employment authorization documents consistent with Labor Code § 1019.1.
- (e) Information obtained from public Internet sites
- (f) Financial history consistent with the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) (15 USC § 1681 et seq.)
- (g) Local, state and federal criminal history record checks
- (h) Lie detector test (when legally permissible) (Labor Code § 432.2)
- (i) Medical and psychological examination (may only be given after a conditional offer of employment)
- (j) Review board or selection committee assessment

#### **1000.4.1 VETERAN'S PREFERENCE**

Qualifying veterans of the United States Armed Forces who receive a passing score on an entrance examination shall be ranked in the top rank of any resulting eligibility list. The veteran's preference shall also apply to a widow or widower of a veteran or a spouse of a 100 percent disabled veteran (Government Code § 18973.1).

### **1000.5 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**

Every candidate shall undergo a thorough background investigation to verify his/her personal integrity and high ethical standards, and to identify any past behavior that may be indicative of the candidate's unsuitability to perform duties relevant to the operation of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department (11 CCR 1953).

The narrative report and any other relevant background information shall be shared with the psychological evaluator. Information shall also be shared with others involved in the hiring process if it is relevant to their respective evaluations (11 CCR 1953).

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### 1000.5.1 NOTICES

Background investigators shall ensure that investigations are conducted and notices provided in accordance with the requirements of the FCRA and the California Investigative Consumer Reporting Agencies Act (ICRAA) (15 USC § 1681d; Civil Code § 1786.16).

### 1000.5.2 STATE NOTICES

If information disclosed in a candidate's criminal offender record information (CORI) is the basis for an adverse employment decision, a copy of the CORI shall be provided to the applicant (Penal Code § 11105).

### 1000.5.3 REVIEW OF SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

Due to the potential for accessing unsubstantiated, private or protected information, the Administration Division Commander shall not require candidates to provide passwords, account information or access to password-protected social media accounts (Labor Code § 980).

The Administration Division Commander should consider utilizing the services of an appropriately trained and experienced third party to conduct open source, Internet-based searches and/or review information from social media sites to ensure that:

- (a) The legal rights of candidates are protected.
- (b) Material and information to be considered are verified, accurate and validated.
- (c) The Department fully complies with applicable privacy protections and local, state and federal law.

Regardless of whether a third party is used, the Administration Division Commander should ensure that potentially impermissible information is not available to any person involved in the candidate selection process.

### 1000.5.4 DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING

The background investigator shall summarize the results of the background investigation in a narrative report that includes sufficient information to allow the reviewing authority to decide whether to extend a conditional offer of employment. The report shall not include any information that is prohibited from use, including that from social media sites, in making employment decisions. The report and all supporting documentation shall be included in the candidate's background investigation file (11 CCR 1953).

### 1000.5.5 RECORDS RETENTION

The background report and all supporting documentation shall be maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedule.

### 1000.5.6 BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION UPDATE

A background investigation update may, at the discretion of the Sheriff, be conducted in lieu of a complete new background investigation on a peace officer candidate who is reappointed within 180 days of voluntary separation from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or is transferred to a different department within the County as provided in 11 CCR 1953(f).

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### **1000.6 DISQUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

As a general rule, performance indicators and candidate information and records shall be evaluated by considering the candidate as a whole, and taking into consideration the following:

- Age at the time the behavior occurred
- Passage of time
- Patterns of past behavior
- Severity of behavior
- Probable consequences if past behavior is repeated or made public
- Likelihood of recurrence
- Relevance of past behavior to public safety employment
- Aggravating and mitigating factors
- Other relevant considerations

A candidate's qualifications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, using a totality-of-the-circumstances framework.

### **1000.7 EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

All candidates shall meet the minimum standards required by state law (Government Code § 1029; Government Code § 1031; 11 CCR 1950 et seq.). Candidates will be evaluated based on merit, ability, competence and experience, in accordance with the high standards of integrity and ethics valued by the Department and the community. The California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) developed a Job Dimensions list, which is used as a professional standard in background investigations.

Validated, job-related and nondiscriminatory employment standards shall be established for each job classification and shall minimally identify the training, abilities, knowledge and skills required to perform the position's essential duties in a satisfactory manner. Each standard should include performance indicators for candidate evaluation. The Personnel Department should maintain validated standards for all positions.

#### **1000.7.1 STANDARDS FOR DEPUTIES**

Candidates shall meet the minimum standards established by POST (Government Code § 1029; Government Code § 1031; 11 CCR 1950 et seq.):

- (a) Free of any felony convictions
- (b) Citizen of the United States, or permanent resident alien eligible for and has applied for citizenship
- (c) At least 18 years of age
- (d) Fingerprinted for local, state and national fingerprint check

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- (e) Good moral character as determined by a thorough background investigation (11 CCR 1953)
- (f) High school graduate, passed the GED or other high school equivalency test or obtained a two year, four year or advanced degree from an accredited or approved institution
- (g) Free from any physical, emotional or mental condition which might adversely affect the exercise of police powers (11 CCR 1954; 11 CCR 1955)
- (h) Candidates must also satisfy the POST selection requirements, including (11 CCR 1950 et seq.):
  1. Reading and writing ability assessment (11 CCR 1951)
  2. Oral interview to determine suitability for law enforcement service (11 CCR 1952)

In addition to the above minimum POST required standards, candidates may be subjected to additional standards established by the Department (Penal Code § 13510(d)).

### 1000.7.2 STANDARDS FOR [DISPATCHER

Candidates shall satisfy the POST selection requirements, including (11 CCR 1956):

- (a) A verbal, reasoning, memory and perceptual abilities assessment (11 CCR 1957)
- (b) An oral communication assessment (11 CCR 1958)
- (c) A medical evaluation (11 CCR 1960)

## Anti-Retaliation

### 1008.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy prohibits retaliation against members who identify workplace issues, such as fraud, waste, abuse of authority, gross mismanagement or any inappropriate conduct or practices, including violations that may pose a threat to the health, safety or well-being of members.

This policy does not prohibit actions taken for nondiscriminatory or non-retaliatory reasons, such as discipline for cause.

These guidelines are intended to supplement and not limit members' access to other applicable remedies. Nothing in this policy shall diminish the rights or remedies of a member pursuant to any applicable federal law, provision of the U.S. Constitution, law, ordinance or memorandum of understanding.

### 1008.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department has a zero tolerance for retaliation and is committed to taking reasonable steps to protect from retaliation members who, in good faith, engage in permitted behavior or who report or participate in the reporting or investigation of workplace issues. All complaints of retaliation will be taken seriously and will be promptly and appropriately investigated.

### 1008.3 RETALIATION PROHIBITED

No member may retaliate against any person for engaging in lawful or otherwise permitted behavior; for opposing a practice believed to be unlawful, unethical, discriminatory or retaliatory; for reporting or making a complaint under this policy; or for participating in any investigation related to a complaint under this or any other policy.

Retaliation includes any adverse action or conduct, including but not limited to:

- Refusing to hire or denying a promotion.
- Extending the probationary period.
- Unjustified reassignment of duties or change of work schedule.
- Real or implied threats or other forms of intimidation to dissuade the reporting of wrongdoing or filing of a complaint, or as a consequence of having reported or participated in protected activity.
- Taking unwarranted disciplinary action.
- Spreading rumors about the person filing the complaint or about the alleged wrongdoing.
- Shunning or unreasonably avoiding a person because he/she has engaged in protected activity.

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## *Anti-Retaliation*

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### **1008.4 COMPLAINTS OF RETALIATION**

Any member who feels he/she has been retaliated against in violation of this policy should promptly report the matter to any supervisor, command staff member, Sheriff or the County Personnel Manager.

Members shall act in good faith, not engage in unwarranted reporting of trivial or minor deviations or transgressions, and make reasonable efforts to verify facts before making any complaint in order to avoid baseless allegations. Members shall not report or state an intention to report information or an allegation knowing it to be false, with willful or reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the information or otherwise act in bad faith.

Investigations are generally more effective when the identity of the reporting member is known, thereby allowing investigators to obtain additional information from the reporting member. However, complaints may be made anonymously. All reasonable efforts shall be made to protect the reporting member's identity. However, confidential information may be disclosed to the extent required by law or to the degree necessary to conduct an adequate investigation and make a determination regarding a complaint. In some situations, the investigative process may not be complete unless the source of the information and a statement by the member is part of the investigative process.

### **1008.5 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES**

Supervisors are expected to remain familiar with this policy and ensure that members under their command are aware of its provisions.

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring complaints of retaliation are investigated as provided in the Personnel Complaints Policy.
- (b) Receiving all complaints in a fair and impartial manner.
- (c) Documenting the complaint and any steps taken to resolve the problem.
- (d) Acknowledging receipt of the complaint, notifying the Sheriff via the chain of command and explaining to the member how the complaint will be handled.
- (e) Taking appropriate and reasonable steps to mitigate any further violations of this policy.
- (f) Monitoring the work environment to ensure that any member making a complaint is not subjected to further retaliation.
- (g) Periodic follow-up with the complainant to ensure that retaliation is not continuing.
- (h) Not interfering with or denying the right of a member to make any complaint.
- (i) Taking reasonable steps to accommodate requests for assignment or schedule changes made by a member who may be the target of retaliation if it would likely mitigate the potential for further violations of this policy.



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### **1008.6 COMMAND STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Sheriff should communicate to all supervisors the prohibition against retaliation.

Command staff shall treat all complaints as serious matters and shall ensure that prompt actions take place, including but not limited to:

- (a) Communicating to all members the prohibition against retaliation.
- (b) The timely review of complaint investigations.
- (c) Remediation of any inappropriate conduct or condition and instituting measures to eliminate or minimize the likelihood of recurrence.
- (d) The timely communication of the outcome to the complainant.

### **1008.7 WHISTLE-BLOWING**

California law protects members who (Labor Code § 1102.5; Government Code § 53296 et seq.):

- (a) Report a violation of a state or federal statute or regulation to a government or law enforcement agency, including the member's supervisor or any other member with the authority to investigate the reported violation.
- (b) Provide information or testify before a public body if the member has reasonable cause to believe a violation of law occurred.
- (c) Refuse to participate in an activity that would result in a violation of a state or federal statute or regulation.
- (d) File a complaint with a local agency about gross mismanagement or a significant waste of funds, abuse of authority or a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety. Members shall exhaust all available administrative remedies prior to filing a formal complaint.
- (e) Are family members who have engaged in any protected acts described above.

Members are encouraged to report any legal violations through the chain of command (Labor Code § 1102.5).

Members who believe they have been the subject of retaliation for engaging in such protected behaviors should promptly report it to a supervisor. Supervisors should refer the complaint to the Internal Affairs Unit for investigation pursuant to the Personnel Complaints Policy.

#### **1008.7.1 DISPLAY OF WHISTLE-BLOWER LAWS**

The Department shall display a notice to members regarding their rights and responsibilities under the whistle-blower laws, including the whistle-blower hotline maintained by the Office of the Attorney General (Labor Code § 1102.8).

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### **1008.8 RECORDS RETENTION AND RELEASE**

The Records Manager shall ensure that documentation of investigations is maintained in accordance with the established records retention schedules.

### **1008.9 TRAINING**

The policy should be reviewed with each new member.

All members should receive periodic refresher training on the requirements of this policy.

## Reporting of Employee Convictions

### 1010.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Convictions of certain offenses may restrict or prohibit an employee's ability to properly perform official duties. Therefore, all employees shall be required to promptly notify the Department of any past and current criminal convictions.

The Administration Supervisor shall submit in a timely manner a notice to the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) of any appointment, termination, reinstatement, name change or status change regarding any peace officer, reserve peace officer, public safety dispatcher and records supervisor employed by this department (11 CCR 1003).

The Administration Supervisor shall submit in a timely manner a notice to POST of a felony conviction or Government Code § 1029 reason that disqualifies any current peace officer employed by this department or any former peace officer if this department was responsible for the investigation (11 CCR 1003).

### 1010.2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONVICTIONS, OUTSTANDING WARRANTS AND RESTRAINING ORDERS

California and federal law prohibit individuals convicted of, or having an outstanding warrant for, certain offenses and individuals subject to certain court orders from lawfully possessing a firearm. Such convictions and court orders often involve allegations of the use or attempted use of force or threatened use of a weapon on any individual in a domestic relationship (e.g., spouse, cohabitant, parent, child) (18 USC § 922; Penal Code § 29805).

All members are responsible for ensuring that they have not been disqualified from possessing a firearm by any such conviction or court order and shall promptly report any such conviction or court order to a supervisor, as provided in this policy.

### 1010.3 OTHER CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND COURT ORDERS

Government Code § 1029 prohibits any person convicted of a felony from being a peace officer in the State of California. This prohibition applies regardless of whether the guilt was established by way of a verdict, guilty or nolo contendere plea.

Convictions of certain violations of the Vehicle Code and other provisions of law may also place restrictions on an employee's ability to fully perform the duties of the job.

Outstanding warrants as provided in Penal Code § 29805 also place restrictions on a member's ability to possess a firearm.

Moreover, while legal restrictions may or may not be imposed by statute or by the courts upon conviction of any criminal offense, criminal conduct by members of this [department/office] may be inherently in conflict with law enforcement duties and the public trust.

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## *Reporting of Employee Convictions*

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### **1010.4 REPORTING PROCEDURE**

All members of this [department/office] and all retired deputies with an identification card issued by the [Department/Office] shall promptly notify their immediate supervisor (or the Sheriff in the case of retired deputies) in writing of any past or current criminal arrest, outstanding warrant or conviction regardless of whether or not the matter is currently on appeal and regardless of the penalty or sentence, if any.

All members and all retired deputies with an identification card issued by the [Department/Office] shall further promptly notify their immediate supervisor (or the Sheriff in the case of retired deputies) in writing if the member or retiree becomes the subject of a domestic violence restraining order or similar court order or becomes the subject of an outstanding warrant.

Any member whose criminal conviction unduly restricts or prohibits that member from fully and properly performing his/her duties may be disciplined including, but not limited to, being placed on administrative leave, reassignment and/or termination. Any effort to remove such disqualification or restriction shall remain entirely the responsibility of the member on his/her own time and expense.

Any member failing to provide prompt written notice pursuant to this policy shall be subject to discipline.

### **1010.5 PROCEDURE FOR RELIEF**

Pursuant to Penal Code § 29855, a peace officer may petition the court for permission to carry a firearm following a conviction under state law. Federal law, however, does not provide for any such similar judicial relief and the granting of a state court petition under Penal Code § 29855 will not relieve one of the restrictions imposed by federal law. Therefore, relief for any employee falling under the restrictions imposed by federal law may only be obtained by expungement of the conviction. Each employee shall seek relief from firearm restrictions on their own time and through their own resources.

Pursuant to Family Code § 6389(h), an individual may petition the court for an exemption to any restraining order, which would thereafter permit the individual to carry a firearm as a part of their employment. Relief from any domestic violence or other restriction shall also be pursued through the employee's own resources and on the employee's own time.

Pending satisfactory proof of relief from any legal restriction imposed on an employee's duties, the employee may be placed on administrative leave, reassigned or disciplined. The Department may, but is not required to return an employee to any assignment, reinstate any employee or reverse any pending or imposed discipline upon presentation of satisfactory proof of relief from any legal restriction set forth in this policy.

## **Alcohol and Drug Use Policy**

### **1012.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

It is the intention of this policy to eliminate substance abuse and its effects in the workplace. While Stanislaus County does not intend to intrude into the private lives of its employees, involvement with drugs and alcohol off the job can take its toll on job performance and employee safety. For more information please refer to County Personnel Policy, Tab 16, Drug Free Workplace Policy.

# Absence From Duty / Shift Assignments / Vacation / Sick Leave Policy

## 1014.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidance regarding the use and processing of sick leave. The accrual and terms of use of sick leave for eligible employees are detailed in the County personnel manual or applicable collective bargaining agreement.

This policy is not intended to cover all types of sick or other leaves. For example, employees may be entitled to additional paid or unpaid leave for certain family and medical reasons as provided for in the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) (29 USC § 2601 et seq.) and the California Family Rights Act, and leave related to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or for organ or bone marrow donor procedures (29 CFR 825; Government Code § 12945.2; Labor Code § 230.1; Labor Code § 1510).

## 1014.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Sick leave may be used for absences caused by illness, injury, diagnosis, care or treatment for existing health conditions, temporary disability (including pregnancy/maternity), or for medical, dental or vision exams or medical treatment of the employee or the employee's immediate family when it is not possible to schedule such appointments during non-working hours.

Sick leave is not considered vacation, and abuse of sick leave may result in discipline and/or denial of sick-leave benefits. Employees on sick leave shall not engage in other employment or self-employment, or participate in any sport, hobby, recreational or other activity which may impede recovery from the injury or illness.

Upon return to work, employees shall complete and submit a leave request describing the type of leave used and the specific amount of time taken.

### 1014.2.1 NOTIFICATION

Employees are encouraged to notify the Watch Commander or appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work. At a minimum, employees shall make such notification no less than one hour before the start of their scheduled shift. If an employee is unable to contact the supervisor in the case of an emergency, every effort should be made to have a representative contact the supervisor (Labor Code § 246).

When the necessity for leave is foreseeable, such as an expected birth or planned medical treatment, the employee shall, whenever possible, provide the Department with no less than 30-days notice of the intent to take leave (Labor Code § 246).

## 1014.3 ATTENDANCE

All employees shall be regular in attendance and shall be punctual in reporting for duty and other assignments. A sworn employee must be fully dressed and equipped, ready for work at the date, time, and place specified.

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## *Absence From Duty / Shift Assignments / Vacation / Sick Leave Policy*

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- (a) All employees shall not misuse sick leave.
- (b) All employees shall be truthful when reporting they are unable to work due to illness of self or family.
- (c) If the supervisor has reason to believe the employee is misusing sick leave on a specific date, the supervisor may, within 7 days for sworn, or prior to return from sick leave for other employees, require an employee provide proper medical certification that the employee was incapacitated and unable to perform their assigned duties.
- (d) If a supervisor has reason to believe the member is misusing sick leave on a specific date, the supervisor may, within 7 days for sworn, or prior to return from sick leave for other employees, require the employee provide acceptable medical certification that the medical condition of the employee's family member requires the employee be absent from work to care for that family member.
- (e) When it is the sixth day of use of sick leave in a calendar year (January to December), or on any occasion where the absence is for 3 continuous days or more, employees shall provide acceptable medical certification of incapacity to perform their duties. This is for self-illness or care for a family member. Any absence for which a doctor's certificate is provided will not be counted in computing the number of absences for the calendar year.
- (f) Should an employee's use of sick leave become excessive where the Department cannot rely upon the employee to report for work as scheduled due to illness, the Department may require the employee to submit to a "Fitness For Duty" medical examination at the expense of the employer per County Ordinance.
- (g) Use of sick leave in conjunction with days off, holidays, vacation days, that present a pattern of use may identify misuse of sick leave, regardless of the employee's work schedule.

### 1014.3.1 ILLNESS

A sworn employee who is unable to report to work as scheduled due to their illness of their self or family shall provide the following minimum time notice to his/her duty station of one-half hour prior to the start of the scheduled shift. The sworn employee shall speak directly with the immediate supervisor, supervisor-in-charge, or their designee. Notification shall be made daily unless specifically excused by competent authority and extended absence from a sworn employee's residence shall also be reported at this time. A sworn employee shall be responsible for notifying his or her supervisor regarding extended absences. A sworn employee shall be responsible to provide any new medical certification prior to the expiration of any previous medical certification if an absence continues.

A sworn employee who must leave work due to illness or injury shall notify his/her immediate supervisor, prior to departure, except in extreme unforeseen circumstances.

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## *Absence From Duty / Shift Assignments / Vacation / Sick Leave Policy*

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### 1014.3.2 NOTIFICATION

All members should notify the Watch Commander or appropriate supervisor as soon as they are aware that they will not be able to report to work and no less than one hour before the start of their scheduled shifts. If, due to an emergency, a member is unable to contact the supervisor, every effort should be made to have a representative for the member contact the supervisor (Labor Code § 246 ).

When the necessity to be absent from work is foreseeable, such as planned medical appointments or treatments, the member shall, whenever possible and practicable, provide the [Department/ Office] with no less than 30 days' notice of the impending absence (Labor Code § 246).

Upon return to work, members are responsible for ensuring their time off was appropriately accounted for, and for completing and submitting the required documentation describing the type of time off used and the specific amount of time taken.

### 1014.4 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITY

Supervisors should monitor sick leave usage and regularly review the attendance of employees under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave is consistent with this policy. Supervisors should address sick-leave use in the employee's performance evaluation when it has negatively affected the employee's performance or ability to complete assigned duties, and when unusual amounts of sick leave by the employee has had a negative impact on department operations. When appropriate, supervisors should counsel employees regarding the excessive use of sick leave and should consider referring the employee to the Employee Assistance Program.

### 1014.5 REQUIRED NOTICES

The Personnel Manager shall ensure:

- (a) Written notice of the amount of paid sick leave available is provided to employees as provided in Labor Code § 246.
- (b) A poster is displayed in a conspicuous place for employees to review that contains information on paid sick leave as provided in Labor Code § 247.

### 1014.6 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of supervisors include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Monitoring and regularly reviewing the attendance of those under their command to ensure that the use of sick leave and absences is consistent with this policy.
- (b) Attempting to determine whether an absence of four or more days may qualify as family medical leave and consulting with legal counsel or the Personnel Department as appropriate.
- (c) Addressing absences and sick leave use in the member's performance evaluation when excessive or unusual use has:
  - 1. Negatively affected the member's performance or ability to complete assigned duties.



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2. Negatively affected [department/office] operations.
  - (d) When appropriate, counseling members regarding excessive absences and/or inappropriate use of sick leave.
  - (e) Referring eligible members to an available employee assistance program when appropriate.

# Communicable Diseases

## 1016.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides general guidelines to assist in minimizing the risk of [department/office] members contracting and/or spreading communicable diseases.

### 1016.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Communicable disease** - A human disease caused by microorganisms that are present in and transmissible through human blood, bodily fluid, tissue, or by breathing or coughing. These diseases commonly include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV), HIV and tuberculosis.

**Exposure** - When an eye, mouth, mucous membrane or non-intact skin comes into contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials, or when these substances are injected or infused under the skin; when an individual is exposed to a person who has a disease that can be passed through the air by talking, sneezing or coughing (e.g., tuberculosis), or the individual is in an area that was occupied by such a person. Exposure only includes those instances that occur due to a member's position at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. (See the exposure control plan for further details to assist in identifying whether an exposure has occurred.)

## 1016.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is committed to providing a safe work environment for its members. Members should be aware that they are ultimately responsible for their own health and safety.

## 1016.3 EXPOSURE CONTROL OFFICER

The Sheriff will assign a person as the Exposure Control Officer (ECO). The ECO shall develop an exposure control plan that includes:

- (a) Exposure-prevention and decontamination procedures.
- (b) Procedures for when and how to obtain medical attention in the event of an exposure or suspected exposure.
- (c) The provision that [department/office] members will have no-cost access to the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., gloves, face masks, eye protection, pocket masks) for each member's position and risk of exposure.
- (d) Evaluation of persons in custody for any exposure risk and measures to separate them (15 CCR 1051; 15 CCR 1207).
- (e) Compliance with all relevant laws or regulations related to communicable diseases, including:
  1. Responding to requests and notifications regarding exposures covered under the Ryan White law (42 USC § 300ff-133; 42 USC § 300ff-136).
  2. Bloodborne pathogen mandates including (8 CCR 5193):

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- (a) Sharps injury log.
    - (b) Needleless systems and sharps injury protection.
  3. Airborne transmissible disease mandates including (8 CCR 5199):
    - (a) Engineering and work practice controls related to airborne transmissible diseases.
    - (b) Distribution of appropriate personal protective equipment to minimize exposure to airborne disease.
  4. Promptly notifying the county health officer regarding member exposures (Penal Code § 7510).
  5. Establishing procedures to ensure that members request exposure notification from health facilities when transporting a person that may have a communicable disease and that the member is notified of any exposure as required by Health and Safety Code § 1797.188.
  6. Informing members of the provisions of Health and Safety Code § 1797.188 (exposure to communicable diseases and notification).
- (f) Provisions for acting as the designated officer liaison with health care facilities regarding communicable disease or condition exposure notification. The designated officer should coordinate with other [department/office] members to fulfill the role when not available. The designated officer shall ensure that the name, title and telephone number of the designated officer is posted on the [Department/Office] website (Health and Safety Code § 1797.188).

The ECO should also act as the liaison with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/ OSHA) and may request voluntary compliance inspections. The ECO shall annually review and update the exposure control plan and review implementation of the plan (8 CCR 5193).

### 1016.4 EXPOSURE PREVENTION AND MITIGATION

#### 1016.4.1 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

All members are expected to use good judgment and follow training and procedures related to mitigating the risks associated with communicable disease. This includes, but is not limited to (8 CCR 5193):

- (a) Stocking disposable gloves, antiseptic hand cleanser, CPR masks or other specialized equipment in the work area or [department/office] vehicles, as applicable.
- (b) Wearing [department/office]-approved disposable gloves when contact with blood, other potentially infectious materials, mucous membranes and non-intact skin can be reasonably anticipated.
- (c) Washing hands immediately or as soon as feasible after removal of gloves or other PPE.
- (d) Treating all human blood and bodily fluids/tissue as if it is known to be infectious for a communicable disease.

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- (e) Using an appropriate barrier device when providing CPR.
- (f) Using a face mask or shield if it is reasonable to anticipate an exposure to an airborne transmissible disease.
- (g) Decontaminating non-disposable equipment (e.g., flashlight, control devices, clothing and portable radio) as soon as possible if the equipment is a potential source of exposure.
  - 1. Clothing that has been contaminated by blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be removed immediately or as soon as feasible and stored/decontaminated appropriately.
- (h) Handling all sharps and items that cut or puncture (e.g., needles, broken glass, razors, knives) cautiously and using puncture-resistant containers for their storage and/or transportation.
- (i) Avoiding eating, drinking, smoking, applying cosmetics or lip balm, or handling contact lenses where there is a reasonable likelihood of exposure.
- (j) Disposing of biohazardous waste appropriately or labeling biohazardous material properly when it is stored.

### 1016.4.2 IMMUNIZATIONS

Members who could be exposed to HBV due to their positions may receive the HBV vaccine and any routine booster at no cost (8 CCR 5193).

## **1016.5 POST EXPOSURE**

### 1016.5.1 INITIAL POST-EXPOSURE STEPS

Members who experience an exposure or suspected exposure shall:

- (a) Begin decontamination procedures immediately (e.g., wash hands and any other skin with soap and water, flush mucous membranes with water).
- (b) Obtain medical attention as appropriate.
- (c) Notify a supervisor as soon as practicable.

### 1016.5.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The supervisor on-duty shall investigate every exposure or suspected exposure that occurs as soon as possible following the incident. The supervisor shall ensure the following information is documented (8 CCR 5193):

- (a) Name and Social Security number of the member exposed
- (b) Date and time of the incident
- (c) Location of the incident
- (d) Potentially infectious materials involved and the source of exposure (e.g., identification of the person who may have been the source)
- (e) Work being done during exposure

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- (f) How the incident occurred or was caused
- (g) PPE in use at the time of the incident
- (h) Actions taken post-event (e.g., clean-up, notifications)

The supervisor shall advise the member that disclosing the identity and/or infectious status of a source to the public or to anyone who is not involved in the follow-up process is prohibited. The supervisor should complete the incident documentation in conjunction with other reporting requirements that may apply (see the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy).

### 1016.5.3 MEDICAL CONSULTATION, EVALUATION AND TREATMENT

[Department/Office] members shall have the opportunity to have a confidential medical evaluation immediately after an exposure and follow-up evaluations as necessary (8 CCR 5193).

The ECO should request a written opinion/evaluation from the treating medical professional that contains only the following information:

- (a) Whether the member has been informed of the results of the evaluation.
- (b) Whether the member has been notified of any medical conditions resulting from exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials which require further evaluation or treatment.

No other information should be requested or accepted by the ECO.

### 1016.5.4 COUNSELING

The [Department/Office] shall provide the member, and his/her family if necessary, the opportunity for counseling and consultation regarding the exposure (8 CCR 5193).

### 1016.5.5 SOURCE TESTING

Testing a person for communicable diseases when that person was the source of an exposure should be done when it is desired by the exposed member or when it is otherwise appropriate (8 CCR 5193). Source testing is the responsibility of the ECO. If the ECO is unavailable to seek timely testing of the source, it is the responsibility of the exposed member's supervisor to ensure testing is sought.

Source testing may be achieved by:

- (a) Obtaining consent from the individual.
- (b) Complying with the statutory scheme of Health and Safety Code § 121060. This includes seeking consent from the person who was the source of the exposure and seeking a court order if consent is not given.
- (c) Testing the exposed member for evidence of a communicable disease and seeking consent from the source individual to either access existing blood samples for testing or for the source to submit to testing (Health and Safety Code § 120262).
- (d) Taking reasonable steps to immediately contact the County Health Officer and provide preliminary information regarding the circumstances of the exposure and the status

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of the involved individuals to determine whether the County Health Officer will order testing (Penal Code § 7510).

- (e) Under certain circumstances, a court may issue a search warrant for the purpose of HIV testing a person when the exposed member qualifies as a crime victim (Penal Code § 1524.1).

Since there is the potential for overlap between the different manners in which source testing may occur, the ECO is responsible for coordinating the testing to prevent unnecessary or duplicate testing.

The ECO should seek the consent of the individual for testing and consult the County Counsel to discuss other options when no statute exists for compelling the source of an exposure to undergo testing if he/she refuses.

### **1016.6 CONFIDENTIALITY OF REPORTS**

Medical information shall remain in confidential files and shall not be disclosed to anyone without the member's written consent (except as required by law). Test results from persons who may have been the source of an exposure are to be kept confidential as well.

### **1016.7 TRAINING**

All members shall participate in training regarding communicable diseases commensurate with the requirements of their position. The training (8 CCR 5193):

- (a) Shall be provided at the time of initial assignment to tasks where an occupational exposure may take place and at least annually after the initial training.
- (b) Shall be provided whenever the member is assigned new tasks or procedures affecting his/her potential exposure to communicable disease.
- (c) Should provide guidance on what constitutes an exposure, what steps can be taken to avoid an exposure and what steps should be taken if a suspected exposure occurs.

## Smoking and Tobacco Use

### 1018.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes limitations on smoking and the use of tobacco products by members and others while on-duty or while in Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department facilities or vehicles.

For the purposes of this policy, smoking and tobacco use includes, but is not limited to, any tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, tobacco pouches and chewing tobacco, as well as any device intended to simulate smoking, such as an electronic cigarette or personal vaporizer.

### 1018.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department recognizes that tobacco use is a health risk and can be offensive to others.

Smoking and tobacco use also presents an unprofessional image for the Department and its members. Therefore smoking and tobacco use is prohibited by members and visitors in all department facilities, buildings and as is further outlined in this policy (Government Code § 7597; Labor Code § 6404.5).

### 1018.3 SMOKING AND TOBACCO USE

Smoking and tobacco use by members is prohibited anytime members are in public view representing the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

It shall be the responsibility of each member to ensure that no person under his/her supervision smokes or uses any tobacco product inside County facilities and vehicles.

### 1018.4 ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS

No person shall use tobacco products within 20 feet of a main entrance, exit or operable window of any public building (including any department facility), or buildings on the campuses of the University of California, California State University and California community colleges, whether present for training, enforcement or any other purpose (Government Code § 7596 et seq.).

#### 1018.4.1 NOTICE

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should ensure that proper signage is posted at each entrance to the Department facility (Labor Code § 6404.5).

## Personnel Complaints

### 1020.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy provides guidelines for the reporting, investigation and disposition of complaints regarding the conduct of members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. This policy shall not apply to any questioning, counseling, instruction, informal verbal admonishment or other routine or unplanned contact of a member in the normal course of duty, by a supervisor or any other member, nor shall this policy apply to a criminal investigation.

### 1020.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department takes seriously all complaints regarding the service provided by the [Department/Office] and the conduct of its members.

The [Department/Office] will accept and address all complaints of misconduct in accordance with this policy and applicable federal, state and local law, municipal and county rules and the requirements of any collective bargaining agreements.

It is also the policy of this [department/office] to ensure that the community can report misconduct without concern for reprisal or retaliation.

### 1020.3 PERSONNEL COMPLAINTS

Personnel complaints include any allegation of misconduct or improper job performance that, if true, would constitute a violation of department policy or of federal, state or local law, policy or rule. Personnel complaints may be generated internally or by the public.

Inquiries about conduct or performance that, if true, would not violate department policy or federal, state or local law, policy or rule may be handled informally by a supervisor and shall not be considered a personnel complaint. Such inquiries generally include clarification regarding policy, procedures or the response to specific incidents by the Department.

#### 1020.3.1 COMPLAINT CLASSIFICATIONS

Personnel complaints shall be classified in one of the following categories:

**Informal** - A matter in which Administration is satisfied that appropriate action has been taken by a supervisor of rank greater than the accused member.

**Formal** - A matter in which a supervisor determines that further action is warranted. Such complaints may be investigated by a supervisor of rank greater than the accused member and will be referred to Administration/Internal Affairs, depending on the seriousness and complexity of the investigation.

**Incomplete** - A matter in which the complaining party either refuses to cooperate or becomes unavailable after diligent follow-up investigation. At the discretion of Administration/Internal Affairs, such matters may be further investigated depending on the seriousness of the complaint and the availability of sufficient information.



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### 1020.3.2 SOURCES OF COMPLAINTS

The following applies to the source of complaints:

- (a) Individuals from the public may make complaints in any form, including in writing, by email, in person or by telephone.
- (b) Any department member becoming aware of alleged misconduct shall immediately notify a supervisor.
- (c) Anonymous and third-party complaints should be accepted and investigated to the extent that sufficient information is provided.
- (d) Tort claims and lawsuits may generate a personnel complaint.

### 1020.4 ASSIGNMENT TO ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

When a complaint of misconduct is of a serious nature or when circumstances practically dictate that it would impose an unreasonable risk to the Department, the employee, other employees or the public, Administration may assign the accused employee to inactive duty pending completion of the investigation or the filing of administrative charges.

#### 1020.4.1 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

An employee placed on administrative leave may be subject to the following guidelines:

- (a) Under such circumstances, an employee placed on administrative leave shall continue to receive regular pay and benefits pending the imposition of any discipline.
- (b) An employee placed on administrative leave may be required by a supervisor to relinquish any badge, departmental identification, assigned weapon(s) and any other departmental equipment.
- (c) An employee placed on administrative leave may be ordered to refrain from taking an action as a departmental employee or in an official capacity. The employee shall be required to continue to comply with all policies and lawful orders of a supervisor.
- (d) An employee placed on administrative leave may be temporarily reassigned to normal business hours during the pendency of the investigation and the employee may be required to remain available for contact at all times during such shift and report as ordered.
- (e) At such time as any employee placed on administrative leave is returned to full and regular duty, the employee shall be returned to their regularly assigned shift with all badges, identification card and other equipment returned.

#### 1020.4.2 ACCEPTANCE

All complaints will be courteously accepted by any Department member and promptly forwarded to Administration/Internal Affairs. Although written complaints are preferred, a complaint may also

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be filed orally, either in person or by telephone. Such complaints will be directed to a supervisor. If a supervisor is not immediately available to take an oral complaint, the receiving member shall obtain contact information sufficient for the supervisor to contact the complainant. The supervisor, upon contact with the complainant, shall complete and submit a complaint form as appropriate.

Although not required, complainants should be encouraged to file complaints in person so that proper identification, signatures, photographs or physical evidence may be obtained as necessary.

A complainant shall be provided with a copy of his/her statement at the time it is filed with the Department (Penal Code § 832.7).

### 1020.4.3 AVAILABILITY OF WRITTEN PROCEDURES

The Department shall make available to the public a written description of the investigation procedures for complaints (Penal Code § 832.5).

### 1020.5 DOCUMENTATION

Supervisors should ensure that all formal and informal complaints are documented on a complaint form. The supervisor should ensure that the nature of the complaint is defined as clearly as possible.

All formal complaints should be documented in a log that Administration/Internal Affairs will track. The log shall include the nature of the complaint and the actions taken to address the complaint. On an annual basis, the Department should audit the log and send an audit report to the Sheriff or the authorized designee.

### 1020.6 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

Allegations of misconduct will be administratively investigated as follows.

#### 1020.6.1 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

In general, the primary responsibility for the investigation of a personnel complaint shall rest with the member's immediate supervisor, unless the supervisor is the complainant, or the supervisor is the ultimate decision-maker regarding disciplinary action or has any personal involvement regarding the alleged misconduct. The Sheriff or the authorized designee may direct that another supervisor investigate any complaint.

A supervisor who becomes aware of alleged misconduct shall take reasonable steps to prevent aggravation of the situation.

The responsibilities of supervisors include but are not limited to:

- (a) Ensuring that upon receiving or initiating any formal complaint, a complaint form is completed.
  1. The original complaint form will be directed to the Watch Commander of the accused member, via the chain of command, who will take appropriate action and/or determine who will have responsibility for the investigation.

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2. In circumstances where the integrity of the investigation could be jeopardized by reducing the complaint to writing or where the confidentiality of a complainant is at issue, a supervisor shall orally report the matter to the member's Division Commander or the Sheriff, who will initiate appropriate action.
- (b) Responding to all complainants in a courteous and professional manner.
- (c) Resolving those personnel complaints that can be resolved immediately.
  1. Follow-up contact with the complainant should be made within 24 hours of the [Department/Office] receiving the complaint.
  2. If the matter is resolved and no further action is required, the supervisor will note the resolution on a complaint form and forward the form to the Watch Commander.
- (d) Ensuring that upon receipt of a complaint involving allegations of a potentially serious nature, the Watch Commander and the Sheriff are notified via the chain of command as soon as practicable.
- (e) Promptly contacting the Personnel Department and the Watch Commander for direction regarding their roles in addressing a complaint that relates to sexual, racial, ethnic or other forms of prohibited harassment or discrimination.
- (f) Forwarding unresolved personnel complaints to the Watch Commander, who will determine whether to contact the complainant or assign the complaint for investigation.
- (g) Informing the complainant of the investigator's name and the complaint number within three days after assignment.
- (h) Investigating a complaint as follows:
  1. Making reasonable efforts to obtain names, addresses and telephone numbers of witnesses.
  2. When appropriate, ensuring immediate medical attention is provided and photographs of alleged injuries and accessible uninjured areas are taken.
- (i) Ensuring that the procedural rights of the accused member are followed (Government Code § 3303 et seq.).
- (j) Ensuring interviews of the complainant are generally conducted during reasonable hours.

### 1020.6.2 ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES

Whether conducted by a supervisor or a member of the Internal Affairs Unit, the following applies to members covered by the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act (POBR) (Government Code § 3303):

- (a) Interviews of an accused member shall be conducted during reasonable hours and preferably when the member is on-duty. If the member is off-duty, he/she shall be compensated.
- (b) Unless waived by the member, interviews of an accused member shall be at the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or other reasonable and appropriate place.

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- (c) No more than two interviewers should ask questions of an accused member.
- (d) Prior to any interview, a member shall be informed of the nature of the investigation, the name, rank and command of the investigator in charge of the investigation, the interviewing officers and all other persons to be present during the interview.
- (e) All interviews shall be for a reasonable period and the member's personal needs should be accommodated.
- (f) No member should be subjected to offensive or threatening language, nor shall any promises, rewards or other inducements be used to obtain answers.
- (g) Any member refusing to answer questions directly related to the investigation may be ordered to answer questions administratively and may be subject to discipline for failing to do so.
  - 1. A member should be given an order to answer questions in an administrative investigation that might incriminate the member in a criminal matter only after the member has been given a *Lybarger* advisement.
  - 2. Administrative investigators should consider the impact that compelling a statement from the member may have on any related criminal investigation and should take reasonable steps to avoid creating any foreseeable conflicts between the two related investigations. This may include conferring with the person in charge of the criminal investigation (e.g., discussion of processes, timing, implications).
  - 3. No information or evidence administratively obtained from a member may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.
- (h) The interviewer should record all interviews of members and witnesses. The member may also record the interview. If the member has been previously interviewed, a copy of that recorded interview shall be provided to the member prior to any subsequent interview.
- (i) All members subjected to interviews that could result in discipline have the right to have an uninvolved representative present during the interview. However, in order to maintain the integrity of each individual's statement, involved members shall not consult or meet with a representative or attorney collectively or in groups prior to being interviewed.
- (j) All members shall provide complete and truthful responses to questions posed during interviews.
- (k) No member may be requested or compelled to submit to a polygraph examination, nor shall any refusal to submit to such examination be mentioned in any investigation (Government Code § 3307).

No investigation shall be undertaken against any deputy solely because the deputy has been placed on a prosecutor's *Brady* list or the name of the deputy may otherwise be subject to disclosure pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland*. However, an investigation may be based on the

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underlying acts or omissions for which the deputy has been placed on a *Brady* list or may otherwise be subject to disclosure pursuant to *Brady v. Maryland* (Government Code § 3305.5).

### 1020.6.3 COMPLETION OF INVESTIGATIONS

Every investigator or supervisor assigned to investigate a personnel complaint or other alleged misconduct shall proceed with due diligence in an effort to complete the investigation within one year from the date of discovery by an individual authorized to initiate an investigation (Government Code § 3304).

In the event that an investigation cannot be completed within one year of discovery, the assigned investigator or supervisor shall ensure that an extension or delay is warranted within the exceptions set forth in Government Code § 3304(d) or Government Code § 3508.1.

Administration/Internal Affairs shall ensure that within 30 days of the final disposition of the complaint, the complainant is provided written notification of the disposition (Penal Code § 832.7(e)).

### 1020.7 ADMINISTRATIVE SEARCHES

Assigned lockers, storage spaces and other areas, including desks, offices and vehicles, may be searched as part of an administrative investigation upon a reasonable suspicion of misconduct.

Such areas may also be searched any time by a supervisor for non-investigative purposes, such as obtaining a needed report, radio or other document or equipment.

Lockers and storage spaces may only be administratively searched in the member's presence, with the member's consent, with a valid search warrant or where the member has been given reasonable notice that the search will take place (Government Code § 3309).

#### 1020.7.1 DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

An employee may be compelled to disclose personal financial information under the following circumstances (Government Code § 3308):

- (a) Pursuant to a state law or proper legal process
- (b) Information exists that tends to indicate a conflict of interest with official duties
- (c) If the employee is assigned to or being considered for a special assignment with a potential for bribes or other improper inducements

### 1020.8 CONFIDENTIALITY OF PERSONNEL FILES

All investigations of sworn personnel complaints, whether originating from a citizen or internally, shall be considered confidential peace officer personnel files. The contents of such files shall not be revealed to other than the involved employee or authorized personnel except pursuant to lawful process.

In the event that an accused employee (or the representative of such employee) knowingly makes false representations regarding any internal investigation and such false representations are

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communicated to any media source, the Department may disclose sufficient information from the employee's personnel file to refute such false representations (Penal Code § 832.5).

All sustained citizen's complaints shall be maintained for a period of at least five years (Penal Code § 832.5). All internally initiated complaints shall be maintained at least two years (Government Code § 34090 et seq.).

All complaints shall be maintained by Administration/Internal Affairs.

### **1020.9 INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

#### **1020.10 CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION**

Where a member is accused of potential criminal conduct, a separate supervisor or investigator shall be assigned to investigate the criminal allegations apart from any administrative investigation. Any separate administrative investigation may parallel a criminal investigation.

Administration/Internal Affairs shall be notified as soon as practicable when a member is accused of criminal conduct. Administration/Internal Affairs may request a criminal investigation by an outside law enforcement agency.

A member accused of criminal conduct shall be advised of his/her constitutional rights (Government Code § 3303(h)). The member should not be administratively ordered to provide any information in the criminal investigation.

No information or evidence administratively obtained from a member may be provided to anyone involved in conducting the criminal investigation or to any prosecutor.

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department may release information concerning the arrest or detention of any member, including a deputy, that has not led to a conviction. No disciplinary action should be taken until an independent administrative investigation is conducted.

#### **1020.11 POST-ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION PROCEDURES**

Upon completion of a formal investigation, an investigation report should be forwarded to Administration/Internal Affairs, through the chain of command. Each level of command should review the report prior to forwarding up the chain of command. The Sheriff or the Sheriff's designee may accept or modify any classification or recommendation for disciplinary action.

##### **1020.11.1 DIVISION COMMANDER AND DISCIPLINE REVIEW BOARD'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

Upon receipt of any completed personnel investigation, the Division Commander or Discipline Review Board shall review the entire investigative file, the member's personnel file and any other relevant materials.

The Division Commander or Discipline Review Board may make recommendations regarding the disposition of any allegations and the amount of discipline, if any, to be imposed.

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Prior to forwarding recommendations to the Division Commander or Discipline Review Board may return the entire investigation to the assigned investigator or supervisor for further investigation or action.

When forwarding any written recommendation to the Sheriff, or the Sheriff's designee, the Division Commander, or Discipline Review Board, shall include all relevant materials supporting the recommendation. Actual copies of a member's existing personnel file need not be provided and may be incorporated by reference.

### 1020.11.2 NOTICE OF FINAL DISPOSITION TO THE COMPLAINANT

The Sheriff or the authorized designee shall ensure that the complainant is notified of the disposition (i.e., sustained, not sustained, exonerated, unfounded) of the complaint (Penal Code § 832.7(f)).

### 1020.11.3 NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

The disposition of any civilian's complaint shall be released to the complaining party within 30 days of the final disposition. This release shall not include what discipline, if any, was imposed (Penal Code § 832.7(f)).

## Seat Belts

### 1022.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of seat belts and child restraints. This policy will apply to all members operating or riding in department vehicles (Vehicle Code § 27315.5).

### 1022.2 WEARING OF SAFETY RESTRAINTS

All members shall wear properly adjusted safety restraints when operating or riding in a seat equipped with restraints, in any vehicle owned, leased or rented by this department while on- or off-duty, or in any privately owned vehicle while on-duty. The member driving such a vehicle shall ensure that all other occupants, including non-members, are also properly restrained.

Exceptions to the requirement to wear safety restraints may be made only in exceptional situations where, due to unusual circumstances, wearing a seat belt would endanger the member or the public. Members must be prepared to justify any deviation from this requirement.

### 1022.3 TRANSPORTING PRISONERS

Whenever possible, prisoners should be secured in the prisoner restraint system in the rear seat of the patrol vehicle or, when a prisoner restraint system is not available, by seat belts. The prisoner should be in seating position for which seat belts have been provided by the vehicle manufacturer. The prisoner restraint system is not intended to be a substitute for handcuffs or other appendage restraints.

### 1022.4 INOPERABLE SEAT BELTS

Department vehicles shall not be operated when the seat belt in the driver's position is inoperable. Persons shall not be transported in a seat in which the seat belt is inoperable.

Department vehicle seat belts shall not be modified, removed, deactivated or altered in any way, except by the vehicle maintenance and repair staff, who shall do so only with the express authorization of the Sheriff.

Members who discover an inoperable restraint system shall report the defect to the appropriate supervisor. Prompt action will be taken to replace or repair the system.

### 1022.5 TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

Children under the age of 8 shall be transported in compliance with California's child restraint system requirements (Vehicle Code § 27360; Vehicle Code § 27363).

Rear seat passengers in a cage-equipped vehicle may have reduced clearance, which requires careful seating and positioning of seat belts. Due to this reduced clearance, and if permitted by law, children and any child restraint system may be secured in the front seat of such vehicles provided this positioning meets federal safety standards and the vehicle and child restraint system manufacturer's design and use recommendations. In the event that a child is transported in the



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front seat of a vehicle, the seat should be pushed back as far as possible and the passenger-side airbag should be deactivated. If this is not possible, members should arrange alternate transportation when feasible. A child shall not be transported in a rear-facing child restraint system in the front seat in a vehicle that is equipped with an active frontal passenger airbag (Vehicle Code § 27363).

### **1022.6 VEHICLE AIRBAGS**

In all vehicles equipped with airbag restraint systems, the system will not be tampered with or deactivated, except when transporting children as written elsewhere in this policy. All equipment installed in vehicles equipped with airbags will be installed as per the vehicle manufacturer specifications to avoid the danger of interfering with the effective deployment of the airbag device.

### **1022.7 VEHICLES MANUFACTURED WITHOUT SEAT BELTS**

Vehicles manufactured and certified for use without seat belts or other restraint systems are subject to the manufacturer's operator requirements for safe use.

## Body Armor

### 1024.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide law enforcement officers with guidelines for the proper use of body armor.

### 1024.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to maximize officer safety through the use of body armor in combination with prescribed safety procedures. While body armor provides a significant level of protection, it is not a substitute for the observance of officer safety procedures.

### 1024.3 ISSUANCE OF BODY ARMOR

The Administration Sergeant shall ensure that body armor is issued to all deputies when the deputy begins service at the Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department and that, when issued, the body armor meets or exceeds the standards of the National Institute of Justice.

The Administration Sergeant shall establish a body armor replacement schedule and ensure that replacement body armor is issued pursuant to the schedule or whenever the body armor becomes worn or damaged to the point that its effectiveness or functionality has been compromised.

#### 1024.3.1 USE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR

Generally, the use of body armor is required subject to the following:

- (a) Deputies shall only wear agency-approved body armor.
- (b) Deputies shall wear body armor anytime they are in a situation where they could reasonably be expected to take enforcement action.
- (c) Deputies may be excused from wearing body armor when they are functioning primarily in an administrative or support capacity and could not reasonably be expected to take enforcement action.
- (d) Body armor shall be worn when a deputy is working in uniform or taking part in Department range training.
- (e) A deputy may be excused from wearing body armor when he/she is involved in undercover or plainclothes work that his/her supervisor determines could be compromised by wearing body armor, or when a supervisor determines that other circumstances make it inappropriate to mandate wearing body armor.

#### 1024.3.2 INSPECTIONS OF BODY ARMOR

Supervisors should ensure that body armor is worn and maintained in accordance with this policy through routine observation and periodic documented inspections. Annual inspections of body armor should be conducted by an authorized designee for fit, cleanliness, and signs of damage, abuse and wear.

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### 1024.3.3 CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR

Soft body armor should never be stored for any period of time in an area where environmental conditions (e.g., temperature, light, humidity) are not reasonably controlled (e.g., normal ambient room temperature/humidity conditions), such as in automobiles or automobile trunks.

Soft body armor should be cared for and cleaned pursuant to the manufacturer's care instructions provided with the soft body armor. The instructions can be found on labels located on the external surface of each ballistic panel. The carrier should also have a label that contains care instructions. Failure to follow these instructions may damage the ballistic performance capabilities of the armor. If care instructions for the soft body armor cannot be located, contact the manufacturer to request care instructions.

Soft body armor should not be exposed to any cleaning agents or methods not specifically recommended by the manufacturer, as noted on the armor panel label.

Soft body armor should be replaced in accordance with the manufacturer's recommended replacement schedule.

### **1024.4 ARMORER RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Armorer should:

- (a) Monitor technological advances in the body armor industry for any appropriate changes to Department approved body armor.
- (b) Assess weapons and ammunition currently in use and the suitability of approved body armor to protect against those threats.
- (c) Provide training that educates deputies about the safety benefits of wearing body armor.

## Personnel Records

### 1026.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy governs maintenance and access to personnel records. Personnel records include any file maintained under an individual member's name.

### 1026.2 PERSONNEL FILES DEFINED

Pursuant to Penal Code § 832.8, peace officer personnel records shall include any file maintained under an individual deputy's name relating to:

- (a) Personal data, including marital status, family members, educational and employment history, or similar information.
- (b) Medical history including medical leave of absence forms, fitness for duty examinations, workers compensation records, medical releases and all other records which reveal an employee's past, current or anticipated future medical conditions.
- (c) Election of employee benefits.
- (d) Employee advancement, appraisal, or discipline.
- (e) Complaints, or investigations of complaints, concerning an event or transaction in which the deputy participated, or which the deputy perceived, and pertaining to the manner in which the deputy performed official duties.
- (f) Any other information the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

### 1026.3 EMPLOYEE RECORD LOCATIONS

Employee records will generally be maintained in any of the following:

**Department File** - That file which is maintained in the office of the Sheriff as a permanent record of a sworn deputy's employment with this department.

**Supervisor Drop File**- Any file which is separately maintained internally by an employee's supervisor(s) within an assigned division for the purpose of completing timely performance evaluations.

**Supervisor Log Entries** - Any written comment, excluding actual performance evaluations, made by a supervisor concerning the conduct of an employee of this department (including electronic folders).

**Training File** - Any file which documents the training records of an employee.

**Internal Affairs Files** - Those files that contain complaints of employee misconduct and all materials relating to the investigation into such allegations, regardless of disposition.

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**Medical File** - That file which is maintained separately that exclusively contains material relating to an employee's medical history.

**CEO File**- Official County personnel file

### **1026.4 CONFIDENTIALITY OF ALL PERSONNEL FILES**

Pursuant to Penal Code § 832.7, all of the above-defined personnel records shall be deemed confidential and shall not be subject to disclosure except pursuant to the discovery procedures set forth in Evidence Code § 1043, et seq. or in accordance with applicable federal discovery laws. Nothing in this section is intended to preclude review of personnel files by the County Executive, County Counsel or other attorneys or representatives of the County in connection with official business.

### **1026.5 TRAINING FILE**

An individual training file shall be maintained by the Training Manager for each member. Training files will contain records of all training; original or photocopies of available certificates, transcripts, diplomas and other documentation; and education and firearms qualifications. Training records may also be created and stored remotely, either manually or automatically (e.g., Daily Training Bulletin (DTB) records).

- (a) The involved member is responsible for providing the Training Manager or immediate supervisor with evidence of completed training/education in a timely manner.
- (b) The Training Manager or supervisor shall ensure that copies of such training records are placed in the member's training file.

#### **1026.5.1 RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

Except as provided by this policy or pursuant to lawful process, no information contained in any confidential peace officer personnel file shall be disclosed to any unauthorized person(s) without the expressed prior consent of the involved deputy or written authorization of the Sheriff or his or her designee.

Any person who maliciously, and with the intent to obstruct justice or the due administration of the laws, publishes, disseminates, or otherwise discloses the residence address or telephone number of any member of this department may be guilty of a misdemeanor (Penal Code § 146e).

Pursuant to Penal Code § 832.7(e), the disposition of any citizen's complaint shall be released to the complaining party within 30 days of the final disposition. This release shall be limited to the disposition and shall not include what discipline, if any was imposed.

The Department may also release any factual information concerning a disciplinary investigation if the deputy who is the subject of the investigation (or the deputy's representative) publicly makes a statement which is published in the media and which the deputy (or representative) knew to be false. The disclosure of such information, if any, shall be limited to facts that refute any such false statement (Penal Code § 832.7(d)).

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### **1026.6 INTERNAL AFFAIRS FILE**

Internal affairs files shall be maintained under the exclusive control of the Internal Affairs Unit in conjunction with the office of the Sheriff. Access to these files may only be approved by the Sheriff or the Internal Affairs Unit supervisor.

These files shall contain the complete investigation of all formal complaints of member misconduct, regardless of disposition (Penal Code § 832.12). Each investigation file shall be sequentially numbered within a calendar year (e.g., yy-001, yy-002). Investigations of complaints that result in the following findings shall not be placed in the member's file but will be maintained in the internal affairs file:

- (a) Not sustained
- (b) Unfounded
- (c) Exonerated

Investigation files arising out of civilian's complaints shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and for a period of at least five years (AG No.99-111, Stanislaus Board of Supervisors Resolution dated 11/25/2003). Investigations that resulted in other than a sustained finding may not be used by the [Department/Office] to adversely affect an employee's career (Penal Code § 832.5).

### **1026.7 MEDICAL FILE**

A medical file shall be maintained separately from all other personnel records and shall contain all documents relating to the member's medical condition and history, including but not limited to:

- (a) Materials relating to a medical leave of absence, including leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).
- (b) Documents relating to workers' compensation claims or the receipt of short- or long-term disability benefits.
- (c) Fitness-for-duty examinations, psychological and physical examinations, follow-up inquiries and related documents.
- (d) Medical release forms, doctor's slips and attendance records that reveal a member's medical condition.
- (e) Any other documents or materials that reveal the member's medical history or medical condition, including past, present or future anticipated mental, psychological or physical limitations.

#### **1026.7.1 DEPARTMENT FILE**

The Department file should contain, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Performance evaluation reports regularly completed by appropriate supervisor and signed by the affected employee shall be permanently maintained.

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- (b) Records of all training (original or photocopies of available certificates, transcripts, diplomas and other documentation) and education shall be maintained.
  - 1. It shall be the responsibility of the involved employee to provide the Training Manager or immediate supervisor with evidence of completed training/education in a timely manner.
  - 2. The Training Manager or supervisor shall ensure that copies of such training records are placed in the employee's department file.
- (c) Disciplinary action:
  - 1. Disciplinary action resulting from sustained internally initiated complaints or observation of misconduct shall be maintained pursuant to the established records retention schedule and for a period of at least five years (AG No.99-111, Stanislaus Board of Supervisors Resolution dated 11/25/2003).
  - 2. Disciplinary action resulting from a sustained citizen's complaint shall be maintained in the individual employee's department file at least five years (Penal Code § 832.5, AG No. 99-111, Stanislaus Board of Supervisor Resolution dated 11/25/2003).
  - 3. Investigations of complaints which result in a finding of not-sustained, unfounded or exonerated shall not be placed in the employee's department file, but will be separately maintained for the appropriate retention period in the internal affairs file.
- (d) Adverse comments such as supervisor log entries may be retained in the department file or division file after the employee has had the opportunity to read and initial the comment and for a period up to two years Government Code § 3305).
  - 1. Once an employee has had an opportunity to read and initial any adverse comment prior to entry into a file, the employee shall be given the opportunity to respond in writing to such adverse comment within 30 days (Government Code § 3306).
  - 2. Any such employee response shall be attached to and retained with the original adverse comment.
  - 3. If an employee refuses to initial or sign an adverse comment, at least one supervisor should note the date and time of such refusal on the original comment. Such a refusal, however, shall not be deemed insubordination nor shall it prohibit the entry of the adverse comment into the employee's file.
- (e) Commendations shall be retained in the employee's department file, with a copy provided to the involved employee.
- (f) Personnel Action Reports reflecting assignments, promotions and other changes in the employee's employment status shall be permanently retained.
- (g) A photograph of the employee shall be permanently retained.

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### 1026.7.2 DIVISION FILE

The Supervisor Drop File should contain, but is not limited to, the following:

- (a) Supervisor log entries, notices to correct and other materials intended to serve as a foundation for the completion of timely Performance Evaluations
  1. All materials intended for this interim file shall be provided to the employee prior to being placed in the file in accordance with Government Code §§ 3305 and 3306.
  2. Duplicate copies of items that will also be included in the employee's department file may be placed in this interim file in anticipation of completing any upcoming performance evaluation.
  3. Once the permanent performance evaluation form has been made final, the underlying foundational material(s) and/or duplicate copies shall be purged in accordance with this policy.
- (b) All rules of confidentiality and disclosure shall apply equally to the supervisor drop file.

### **1026.8 SECURITY**

Personnel records should be maintained in a secured location and locked either in a cabinet or access-controlled room. Personnel records maintained in an electronic format should have adequate password protection.

Personnel records are subject to disclosure only as provided in this policy, the Records Maintenance and Release Policy or according to applicable discovery procedures.

Nothing in this policy is intended to preclude review of personnel records by the County Executive, County Counsel or other attorneys or representatives of the County in connection with official business.

### **1026.9 RELEASE OF PERSONNEL RECORDS AND RECORDS RELATED TO CERTAIN INCIDENTS, COMPLAINTS, AND INVESTIGATIONS OF DEPUTIES**

Personnel records and records related to certain incidents, complaints, and investigations of deputies shall be released pursuant to a proper request under the Public Records Act and subject to redaction and delayed release as provided by law.

The Custodian of Records should work as appropriate with the Sheriff or the Internal Affairs Unit supervisor in determining what records may qualify for disclosure when a request for records is received and if the requested record is subject to redaction or delay from disclosure.

For purposes of this section, a record includes (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(2)):

- All investigation reports.
- Photographic, audio, and video evidence.
- Transcripts or recordings of interviews.



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- Autopsy reports.
- All materials compiled and presented for review to the District Attorney or to any person or body charged with determining whether to file criminal charges against a deputy in connection with an incident, or whether the deputy's action was consistent with law and [department/office] policy for purposes of discipline or administrative action, or what discipline to impose or corrective action to take.
- Documents setting forth findings or recommending findings.
- Copies of disciplinary records relating to the incident, including any letters of intent to impose discipline, any documents reflecting modifications of discipline due to the *Skelly* or grievance process, and letters indicating final imposition of discipline or other documentation reflecting implementation of corrective action.

Unless a record or information is confidential or qualifies for delayed disclosure as provided by Penal Code § 832.7(b)(7) or other law, the following records shall be made available for public inspection upon request (Penal Code § 832.7):

- (a) Records relating to the report, investigation, or findings of:
  1. The discharge of a firearm at another person by a deputy.
  2. The use of force against a person resulting in death or in great bodily injury (as defined by Penal Code § 243(f)(4)) by a deputy.
- (b) Records relating to an incident where a sustained finding (see the Personnel Complaints Policy) was made by the [department/office] or oversight agency regarding:
  1. A deputy engaged in sexual assault of a member of the public (as defined by Penal Code § 832.7(b)).
  2. Dishonesty of a deputy relating to the reporting, investigation, or prosecution of a crime, or directly relating to the reporting of, or investigation of misconduct by, another deputy, including but not limited to any sustained finding of perjury, false statements, filing false reports, destruction, falsifying, or concealing of evidence.

A record from a separate and prior investigation or assessment of a separate incident shall not be released unless it is independently subject to disclosure (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(3)).

When an investigation involves multiple deputies, the [Department/Office] shall not release information about allegations of misconduct or the analysis or disposition of an investigation of a deputy unless it relates to a sustained finding of a qualified allegation as provided by Penal Code § 832.7(b)(4) against the deputy. However, factual information about the action of the deputy during an incident or the statements of a deputy shall be released if the statements are relevant to a sustained finding of the qualified allegation against another deputy that is subject to release (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(4)).

### 1026.9.1 REDACTION

The Custodian of Records, in consultation with the Sheriff or authorized designee, shall redact the following portions of records made available for release (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(5)):

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- (a) Personal data or information (e.g., home address, telephone number, identities of family members) other than the names and work-related information of deputies
- (b) Information that would compromise the anonymity of complainants and witnesses
- (c) Confidential medical, financial, or other information where disclosure is prohibited by federal law or would cause an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy that clearly outweighs the strong public interest in records about misconduct and serious use of force
- (d) Where there is a specific, articulable, and particularized reason to believe that disclosure of the record would pose a significant danger to the physical safety of the deputy or another person

Additionally, a record may be redacted, including redacting personal identifying information, where, on the facts of the particular case, the public interest served by not disclosing the information clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosing it (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(6)).

### 1026.9.2 DELAY OF RELEASE

Unless otherwise directed by the Sheriff, the Custodian of Records should consult with a supervisor familiar with the underlying investigation to determine whether to delay disclosure of records relating to the discharge of a firearm or use of force resulting in death or in great bodily injury due to any of the following conditions (Penal Code § 832.7):

- (a) Active criminal investigations
  - 1. Disclosure may be delayed 60 days from the date the use of force occurred or until the District Attorney determines whether to file criminal charges, whichever occurs sooner.
  - 2. After the initial 60 days, delay of disclosure may be continued if the disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with a criminal enforcement proceeding against a deputy or against someone other than a deputy who used the force.
- (b) Filed criminal charges
  - 1. When charges are filed related to an incident where force was used, disclosure may be delayed until a verdict on those charges is returned at trial or, if a plea of guilty or no contest is entered, the time to withdraw the plea has passed.
- (c) Administrative investigations
  - 1. Disclosure may be delayed until whichever occurs later:
    - (a) There is a determination from the investigation whether the use of force violated law or [department/office] policy, but no longer than 180 days after the date of the [department/office]'s discovery of the use of force or allegation of use of force
    - (b) Thirty days after the close of any criminal investigation related to the deputy's use of force

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### 1026.9.3 NOTICE OF DELAY OF RECORDS

When there is justification for delay of disclosure of records relating to the discharge of a firearm or use of force resulting in death or in great bodily injury during an active criminal investigation, the Custodian of Records, in consultation with the Sheriff or authorized designee, shall provide written notice of the reason for any delay to a requester as follows (Penal Code § 832.7):

- (a) Provide the specific basis for the determination that the interest in delaying disclosure clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure. The notice shall also include the estimated date for the disclosure of the withheld information.
- (b) When delay is continued beyond the initial 60 days because of criminal enforcement proceedings against anyone, at 180-day intervals provide the specific basis that disclosure could reasonably be expected to interfere with a criminal enforcement proceeding and the estimated date for disclosure.
  - 1. Information withheld shall be disclosed when the specific basis for withholding the information is resolved, the investigation or proceeding is no longer active, or no later than 18 months after the date of the incident, whichever occurs sooner, unless:
    - (a) When the criminal proceeding is against someone other than a deputy and there are extraordinary circumstances to warrant a continued delay due to the ongoing criminal investigation or proceeding, then the [Department/Office] must show by clear and convincing evidence that the interest in preventing prejudice to the active and ongoing criminal investigation or proceeding outweighs the public interest for prompt disclosure of records about use of serious force by deputies.

In cases where an action to compel disclosure is brought pursuant to Government Code § 6258, the [Department/Office] may justify delay by filing an application to seal the basis for withholding if disclosure of the written basis itself would impact a privilege or compromise a pending investigation (Penal Code § 832.7(b)(7)).

## Peer Support Program

### 1027.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of a peer support program is peers helping peers to provide departmental members of the opportunity to receive emotional and tangible peer support through times of personal or professional crisis and help anticipate and address potential difficulties.

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to provide its members with voluntary and confidential resources of support and assistance related to personal, work and/or critical incident stress.

### 1027.2 POLICY STATEMENT

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department grants the peer support team departmental confidentiality to encourage the use of peer support services. (Department policy may be affected by the levels of legal privilege and confidentiality that apply to Peer Support Persons at the state level as well as state-imposed limitations to confidentiality.)

Peer Support Persons shall not be asked to give information about members they support.

The only information that management may receive about peer support cases is the anonymous statistical information regarding the utilization of a Peer Support Person.

The peer support program is not an alternative to discipline. A Peer Support Person does not intervene in the disciplinary process, even at a member's request.

### 1027.3 DEFINITIONS

**Peer Support Person (PSP)** – A peer support person, sworn or non-sworn, is a specifically trained colleague, not a counselor or therapist. A peer support program can augment outreach programs such as Stanislaus County Employee Assistance Programs and other treatment programs, but not replace them.

**Critical Incident/Traumatic Event** – Directly experiencing or witnessing actual or threatened death or serious injury or experiencing a threat to one's own physical integrity or the physical integrity of someone else.

Any event that may temporarily overwhelm an individual's usual methods of coping or produce unusually strong reactions. *It is important to note an individual's reactions to a traumatic event is individual specific based on the totality of circumstances in that individual's life (i.e. the degree of involvement, cumulative events, personal likeness, children, etc.)*

**Critical Incident Debriefing** – Deemed appropriate by the Sheriff or his/her designee, designed to mitigate the psychological impact of a traumatic event, prevent the subsequent development of a post-traumatic stress disorder and serve as an early identification mechanism for individuals who may require professional mental health follow-up.

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Debriefings are a structured group meeting or discussion during which personnel are given the opportunity to discuss their thoughts and reactions concerning a traumatic event in a controlled environment under the direction of a mental health professional and/or peer support personnel. Participation is voluntary. Participants subject to administrative or criminal investigation should consult with their representative or legal counsel prior to participation.

It is a process that should generally be conducted within 72-hours of the traumatic event.

**Peer Assistance** – A process by which trained personnel provide emotional support and referrals for a colleague during a crisis or when they are under stress. Generally, peer assistance is sought by the employee in need or suggested by the employee's peer(s) or supervisor. Peer assistance or support is available in addition to professional mental health guidance and leadership in trauma support services. Peer assistance is not a replacement for the County's Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

**Defusing** – A defusing is a shortened version of the debriefing, generally lasting less than 1-hour. A defusing is a peer guided discussion that should take place as soon as possible after a traumatic event and before involved personnel are released (within 8-hours). Participation is voluntary. Participants subject to administrative or criminal investigation should consult with their representative or legal counsel prior to participation.

### **1027.4 PROGRAM STAFFING**

The Peer Support Team shall consist of the following positions:

- Program Manager: Sheriff's Operations or Adult Detention Lieutenant
- Program Coordinators: Operations and Adult Detention Sergeant
- Sheriff Chaplains
- Peer Support Person (PSP)

### **1027.5 STEERING COMMITTEE**

The steering committee membership is comprised of relevant employee organizations (sworn and non-sworn, Labor groups, Human Resources, unrepresented groups), managers and a mental health professional to provide organizational guidance and structure. Participation on the steering committee is encouraged to ensure maximum utilization of the program and to support assurances of confidentiality, make recommendations of team members; step in approval process. The steering committee membership should meet quarterly with the Peers Support Team manager to make recommendations with respect to PSP's, training, progress, etc.

### **1027.6 CLINICAL OVERSIGHT**

The peer support team will include clinical oversight and will maintain a continuing relationship with a licensed psychologist or licensed mental health professional who is qualified to provide

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supervision and consultation to the PSP team in clinical matters as needed. The role and scope of the overseer is to be mutually determined by the agency and the mental health professional.

### **1027.7 TEAM DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Program Manager -**

A lieutenant appointed by the Sheriff, as the primary liaison between the team and management staff and will be the only management representative on the team. The Program Manager will serve as the team administrator and be available for peer support for other Department managers. The manager will maintain a list of qualified referral resources for use of the Peer Support Team. Referral resources will be researched fully by the Program Manager prior to being included on the list.

The manager will generally not participate in peer support of non-management employees. The manager will be responsible for the team budget, authorizing overtime as necessary, approving team deployment in extraordinary circumstances and specifying and maintaining team standards.

#### **Program Coordinator -**

The role of the coordinator is to manage, maintain and coordinate the program. The coordinator acts as a liaison between Peer Support Person (PSP), outside resource persons and the Department. The coordinator authorizes overtime, supervises and coordinates PSP's, assists in conducting defusing and demobilization interventions, assesses the need for follow-up referrals and assist in teaching stress management.

The coordinator will be responsible for determining the continued training needs of the Peer Support Team and scheduling of initial and continued training.

#### **Sheriff Chaplain -**

Sheriff Chaplains will be adjunct members to the Stanislaus County Sheriff Peer Support team. The team Chaplain will be trained in Critical Incident Stress Management and Pastoral Crisis Intervention.

The Chaplain may assist, as requested by the Program Manager and/or the program Coordinator, in group crisis interventions, for follow-up referrals and to assist in teaching stress management.

#### **Peer Support Person (PSP) -**

PSP's make an invaluable addition to group interventions in conjunction with a licensed mental health professional. This includes PSP help for those in the outer circles of involvement (knew of the principles, but were not on scene). However, a confidential licensed mental health professional will conduct post-shooting individual debriefings of individual interventions.

PSP's are available to respond immediately when called upon for critical incidents. It is beneficial for the PSP to be involved in supporting individuals involved in critical incidents, such as an officer-involved shooting or any situation in which a Deputy Sheriff or other department member is injured or killed.

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The PSP is available to:

- Contact affected personnel to assess their needs and provide necessary assistance.
- Provide emotional support to involved personnel who may be experiencing difficult reactions as a result of a critical incident.
- Provide information to the employee or their family regarding possible reactions they may experience as a result of involvement in a critical incident.
- If necessary, suggest resources and refer the employee or family members to a resource(s) outside the Department.
- Ensure the involved employee gets home safely after a critical incident.
- Follow-up with the employee the day after the critical incident, or as necessary to assess additional needs.
- Provide one-on-one peer assistance to affected employees at the request of either the individual employee, or referred by a supervisor or the team coordinator.

### **1027.8 TEAM MEMBER SELECTION AND DESELECTION CRITERIA**

PSP's will be selected from volunteers of Deputy Sheriff Staff, Non-Sworn and Chaplains who are currently in good standing with the Department. The recruitment, selection and retention processes for the PSP will be consistent with individual labor MOU's.

Considerations for selection of PSP candidates can include, but are not limited to, previous education and training; resolved traumatic experiences; and desirable personal qualities, such as maturity, judgment, strong interpersonal communication skills and personal and professional credibility. Letters of recommendation(s) from Supervisors and Peers. Steering Committee approval in selection process.

All team members must be prepared to answer calls for help 24-hours a day.

Criteria for deselection from the Peer Support Program include breach of confidentiality; failure to attend training; or loss of one's good standing with the Department.

**A breach of confidentiality by Peer Support team members shall be cause for immediate removal from the Peer Support Program.**

PSP team members have the option to take a leave of absence and are encouraged to exercise this option should personal issues or obligations require it.

### **1027.9 TRAINING**

The Steering Committee and Program Manager will help identify appropriate ongoing training for PSP's in conjunction with the licensed mental health professional. Peer support personnel shall participate in bi-annual training sessions.

New team members shall attend a POST Individual Crisis Intervention/Peer Support Course.

Relevant introductory and continuing training for PSP could cover the following topics:

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- (a) confidentiality
- (b) role conflict
- (c) limits and liability
- (d) ethical issues
- (e) communication facilitation and listening skills
- (f) nonverbal communication
- (g) problem assessment
- (h) problem-solving skills
- (i) cross-cultural issues
- (j) psychological diagnoses
- (k) medical conditions often confused with psychiatric disorders
- (l) stress management
- (m) burn-out
- (n) grief management
- (o) domestic violence
- (p) suicide assessment
- (q) crisis management
- (r) trauma intervention
- (s) alcohol and substance abuse
- (t) when to seek mental health consultation and referral information

The Peer Support Coordinator is responsible for monitoring the training status of PSP's to ensure appropriate preparedness of team members. The Team Coordinator will be responsible for the scheduling of initial team training and as well, updated training for team members.

### **1027.10 CONFIDENTIALITY**

The most important aspect of the Peer Support Program is the promotion of trust, anonymity and confidentiality. PSP's must respect the confidentiality of their contacts, be fully familiar with the limits of confidentiality and communicate those limits to their contacts. Such communication needs to be given to the individuals directly served. It is essential that PSP's advise members of the level of confidentiality they can offer and legal privilege communication that they cannot offer. It is essential PSP explain the difference so that members have a thorough understanding.

PSP's must not provide information obtained through peer support contact to supervisors and should educate supervisors regarding the confidentiality guidelines established by the Department

The Department will not use PSP's in internal affairs investigations unless the PSP is directly involved as a participant or witness of the event.



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A PSP will not keep written formal or private records of supportive contacts other than non-identifying statistical records that help document the general productivity of the program.

The Department will also provide expectations and limits of confidentiality through agency-wide trainings, communications, etc.

Peer Support members shall explain reporting requirements of the Peer Support member to any participating member prior to any debriefing, defusing or any other discussion concerning the matter.

Peer Support members are not recognized as a protected class with respect to privileged communication(s). With this in mind, it is the intent of the Peer Support Program to keep all communications between Peer Support personnel and employees involved in critical incidents confidential, with the following exceptions:

- The Peer Support team member believes that the employee is a danger to self or others.
- The information provided to Peer Support team members constitutes a serious criminal offense. (I.e. suspected child or elder abuse).
- Information gathered that would require investigation per Department policy.
- When the employee is a clear and immediate danger to self or others due to substance abuse.
- In all cases above, an appropriate supervisor shall be notified.

If any of the conditions exist, the on-duty Watch Commander, Program Manager and/or Program Coordinator shall be notified immediately.

In the event that the employee has threatened injury to an individual, the intended victim shall also be notified.

The exceptions to confidentiality are either required by law or deemed necessary. Peer support team members shall not abdicate their responsibilities to report criminal conduct. If concerns arise, Peer Support personnel shall contact the Program Manager or Program Coordinator for guidance.

### **1027.11 RECORD KEEPING**

Record keeping will be for utilization of statistical information only. Names or identification numbers of employees will not be used. Peer Support team members shall keep a monthly tally of the number of contacts and hours involved in peer assistance. No identifying information regarding peer contact or group debriefing services will be collected.

The Peer Support Activity Summary shall be submitted to the Team Coordinator by the end of the month and then forwarded to the Team Manager.

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### **1027.12 DUTIES OF SUPERIORS**

Supervisors who are peer support members cannot abdicate their supervisory responsibilities when on duty and confronted with misconduct or disciplinary problems. After taking necessary action in these circumstances, supervisors may make referrals to the Peer Support Manager.

### **1027.13 PROGRAM PROCESS**

#### **Request for Peer Assistance -**

Participation in the Peer Support Program is voluntary and must be initiated by the person seeking support. There will be no mandatory referrals of employees, nor will peer support members be directed to initiate contact. PSP's who are aware of crisis or intervention opportunities can self-initiate contacts.

List of the names of Peer Support team members shall be [posted throughout the Department in conspicuous areas frequented by employees. Any Sheriff's employee in need of peer assistance may select a peer support team member of their choice.

#### **Critical Incident/Traumatic Event Activation -**

In the event a critical incident occurs, the supervisor of the employee should notify the Peer Support Manager as soon as possible. The Peer Support Manager and/or Peer Support Coordinator will then confer with the supervisor and assess whether or not the incident warrants the need for the formal group crisis intervention. The final decision as to whether a debriefing or defusing is warranted will be made by the Peer Support Manager.

When making the notification, the supervisor should attempt to utilize an on-duty Peer Support Team member in the absence of the Peer Support Coordinator or Manager.

#### **Debriefing/Defusing -**

This program is dependant upon the identification of all critical incidents large and small, to help reduce the emotional impact and to avoid the effects of post traumatic stress.

The critical incident debriefing should include any sworn and/or non-sworn personnel directly involved in the incident. I the debriefing to be conducted is for an incident described in this policy, an invitation to participate will be automatic for those involved. Active participation in the discussion is not a requirement. Anyone not directly involved in the incident, may not attend the critical incident stress debriefing. Peer support personnel will be in attendance. Participation is voluntary. Participants subject to administrative or criminal investigation should consult with their representative or legal counsel prior to participation.

Critical incident stress defusing may be used to determine the need for debriefing and/other services and are typically conducted by a peer support team member. Defusing will be offered to all employees to assist in identifying any stress or trauma experienced during the incident and should be held as soon as practical after the incident. Participation is voluntary. Participants subject to administrative or criminal investigation should consult with their representative or legal counsel prior to participation.

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### **Referrals -**

Members of the Peer Support Program are trained to be effective listeners and to provide feedback, clarify issues and assist employees in identifying options for the problem resolution; however, they are not therapists. When problems are acute or appear to require specialized assistance, information on referral resources will be made available to the employee.

Peer Support Team members should not make referral to a mental health professional without the Peer Support Manager's authorization.

Peer assistance is not a replacement for the County's Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

### **1027.14 ROLE CONFLICT**

Members of the Peer Support team should avoid conflicting peer support relationships. For example, peer support persons should avoid religious, sexual or financial entanglements with receivers of peer support.

PSP's who are also supervisors are to be sensitive to the potential role conflicts involved in providing peer support.

## Employee Commendations

### 1030.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Special recognition may be in order whenever an employee performs his/her duties in an exemplary manner. This procedure provides general guidelines for the commending of exceptional employee performance.

### 1030.2 WHO MAY MAKE COMMENDATIONS

A written commendation may be made by any supervisor regarding any other employee of the Department, provided the reporting person is superior in rank or is the person-in-charge of the individual being commended. Additionally, investigating deputies may commend uniformed deputies for exceptional assistance in investigative functions, with approval from the investigator's supervisor. Any employee may recommend a commendation to the supervisor of the employee subject to commendation.

### 1030.3 COMMENDABLE ACTIONS

A meritorious or commendable act by an employee of this department may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Superior handling of a difficult situation by an employee
- Conspicuous bravery or outstanding performance by any employee of the Department
- Any action or performance that is above and beyond the typical duties of an employee

#### 1030.3.1 COMMENDATION INCIDENT REPORT

The Commendation Incident Report shall be used to document the commendation of the employee and shall contain the following:

- (a) Employee name, bureau, and assignment at the date and time of the commendation
- (b) A brief account of the commendable action shall be documented on the form with report numbers, as appropriate
- (c) Signature of the commending supervisor

Completed reports shall be forwarded to the appropriate Division Commander for his/her review. The Division Commander shall sign and forward the report to the Sheriff for his/her review.

The Sheriff will return the commendation to the employee for his/her signature. The report will then be returned to the Administrative Secretary for entry into the employee's personnel file.

## Fitness for Duty

### 1032.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

All deputies are required to be free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition which might adversely affect the exercise of peace officer powers. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all deputies of this department remain fit for duty and able to perform their job functions (Government Code § 1031).

### 1032.2 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) It shall be the responsibility of each member of this department to maintain good physical condition sufficient to safely and properly perform essential duties of their position.
- (b) Each member of this department shall perform his/her respective duties without physical, emotional, and/or mental constraints.
- (c) During working hours, all employees are required to be alert, attentive, and capable of performing his/her assigned responsibilities.
- (d) Any employee who feels unable to perform he/her duties shall promptly notify a supervisor. In the event that an employee believes that another employee is unable to perform his/her duties, such observations and/or belief shall be promptly reported to a supervisor.

### 1032.3 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) A supervisor observing an employee, or receiving a report of an employee who is perceived to be, unable to safely perform his/her duties due to a physical or mental condition shall take prompt and appropriate action in an effort to resolve the situation.
- (b) Whenever feasible, the supervisor should attempt to ascertain in the reason or source of the problem and in all cases a preliminary evaluation should be made in an effort to determine the level of inability of the employee to perform his/her duties.
- (c) In the event the employee appears to be in need of immediate medical or psychiatric treatment, all reasonable efforts should be made to provide such care.
- (d) In conjunction with the Watch Commander or employee's available Division Commander, a determination should be made whether or not the employee should be temporarily relieved from his/her duties.
- (e) The Sheriff shall be promptly notified in the event that any employee is relieved from duty.

### 1032.4 NON-WORK RELATED CONDITIONS

Any employee suffering from a non-work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty may be required to use sick leave or other paid time off (PTO) in order to obtain medical treatment or other reasonable rest period.

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### **1032.5 WORK RELATED CONDITIONS**

Any employee suffering from a work related condition which warrants a temporary relief from duty shall be required to comply with personnel rules and guidelines for processing such claims. upon the recommendation of the Watch Commander or unit Supervisor and concurrence of a Division Commander, any employee whose actions or use of force in an official capacity result in death or serious injury to another may be temporarily removed from regularly assigned duties and/or placed on paid administrative leave for the wellbeing of the employee and until such time as the following may be completed:

- (a) A preliminary determination that the employee's conduct appears to be in compliance with policy and, if appropriate.
- (b) The employee has had the opportunity to receive necessary counseling and/or psychological clearance to return to full duty.

### **1032.6 PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS**

- (a) Whenever circumstances reasonably indicate that an employee is unfit for duty, the Sheriff may serve that employee with a written order to undergo a physical and/or psychological examination in cooperation with CEO-Human Resources to determine the level of the employee's fitness for duty. The order shall indicate the date, time and place for the examination.
- (b) The examining physician or therapist will provide the Department with a report indicating that the employee is either fit for duty or, if not, listing any functional limitations which limit the employee's ability to perform job duties (Civil Code § 56.10(c)(8)(A)). If the employee places his/her condition at issue in any subsequent or related administrative action/grievance, the examining physician or therapist may be required to disclose any and all information which is relevant to such proceeding (Civil Code § 56.10(c)(8)(B)).
- (c) In order to facilitate the examination of any employee, the Department will provide all appropriate documents and available information to assist in the evaluation and/or treatment.
- (d) All reports and evaluations submitted by the treating physician or therapist shall be part of the employee's confidential personnel file.
- (e) Any employee ordered to receive a fitness for duty examination shall comply with the terms of the order and cooperate fully with the examining physician or therapist regarding any clinical interview, tests administered or other procedures as directed. Any failure to comply with such an order and any failure to cooperate with the examining physician or therapist may be deemed insubordination and shall be subject to discipline up to and including termination.
- (f) Once an employee has been deemed fit for duty by the examining physician or therapist, the employee will be notified to resume his/her duties.

### **1032.7 LIMITATION ON HOURS WORKED**

Absent emergency operations members should not work more than:

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- 16 hours in one day (24 hour) period or
- 30 hours in any 2 day (48 hour) period or
- 84 hours in any 7 day (168 hour) period

Except in very limited circumstances members should have a minimum of 8 hours off between shifts. Supervisors should give consideration to reasonable rest periods and are authorized to deny overtime or relieve to off-duty status any member who has exceeded the above guidelines

Limitations on the number of hours worked apply to shift changes, shift trades, rotation, holdover, training, general overtime and any other work assignments.

### **1032.8 APPEALS**

An employee who is separated from paid employment or receives a reduction in salary resulting from a fitness for duty exam shall be entitled to an administrative appeal as outlined in Policy Manual.

### **1032.9 SECTION TITLE**

## Meal Periods and Breaks

### 1034.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy regarding meals and breaks, insofar as possible shall conform to the policy governing all County employees that has been established by the Chief Executive Officer.

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 10, 3.32.090, Rest Periods/Breaks

#### 1034.1.1 MEAL PERIODS

Sworn employees and dispatchers shall remain on duty subject to call during meal breaks. All other employees are not on call during meal breaks unless directed otherwise by a supervisor.

Uniformed patrol and traffic deputies shall request clearance from the Communications Center prior to taking a meal period. Uniformed deputies shall take their breaks within the County limits unless on assignment outside of the County.

The time spent for the meal period shall not exceed the authorized time allowed.

#### 1034.1.2 15 MINUTE BREAKS

Each employee is entitled to a 15 minute break, near the midpoint, for each four-hour work period. Only one 15 minute break shall be taken during each four hours of duty. No breaks shall be taken during the first or last hour of an employee's shift unless approved by a supervisor.

Employees normally assigned to the sheriff's facility shall remain in the sheriff's facility for their breaks. This would not prohibit them from taking a break outside the facility if on official business.

Field deputies will take their breaks in their assigned areas, subject to call and shall monitor their radios. When field deputies take their breaks away from their vehicles, they shall do so only with the knowledge and clearance of the Communications Center.



## Lactation Break Policy

### 1035.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide reasonable accommodations to employees desiring to express breast milk for the employee's infant child (29 USC § 207 and Labor Code §§ 1034).

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 10, 3.32.090 - Breast Feeding Breaks

### 1035.2 POLICY

It is the policy of this department to provide, in compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act, reasonable break time and appropriate facilities to accommodate any employee desiring to express breast milk for her nursing infant child (29 USC § 207 and Labor Code § 1030).

### 1035.3 LACTATION BREAK TIME

A rest period should be permitted each time the employee has the need to express breast milk (29 USC § 207; Labor Code § 1030). In general, lactation breaks that cumulatively total 30 minutes or less during any four-hour work period or major portion of a four-hour work period would be considered reasonable. However, individual circumstances may require more or less time. Such breaks, if feasible, should be taken at the same time as the employee's regularly scheduled rest or meal periods.

While a reasonable effort will be made to provide additional time beyond authorized breaks, any such time exceeding regularly scheduled and paid break time will be unpaid (Labor Code § 1030).

Employees desiring to take a lactation break shall notify the Communications Center or a supervisor prior to taking such a break. Such breaks may be reasonably delayed if they would seriously disrupt [department/office] operations (Labor Code § 1032).

Once a lactation break has been approved, the break should not be interrupted except for emergency or exigent circumstances.

### 1035.4 PRIVATE LOCATION

The [Department/Office] will make reasonable efforts to accommodate employees with the use of an appropriate room or other location to express milk in private. Such room or place should be in close proximity to the employee's work area and shall be other than a bathroom or toilet stall. The location must be shielded from view and free from intrusion from co-workers and the public (29 USC § 207; Labor Code § 1031).

Employees occupying such private areas shall either secure the door or otherwise make it clear to others that the area is occupied with a need for privacy. All other employees should avoid interrupting an employee during an authorized break, except to announce an emergency or other urgent circumstance.

Authorized lactation breaks for employees assigned to the field may be taken at the nearest appropriate private area.

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### **1035.5 STORAGE OF EXPRESSED MILK**

Any employee storing expressed milk in any authorized refrigerated area within the [Department/Office] shall clearly label it as such and shall remove it when the employee ends her shift.

#### **1035.5.1 STATE REQUIREMENTS**

Employees have the right to request lactation accommodations. If a break time or location accommodation cannot be provided, the supervisor shall provide the member with a written response regarding the reasons for the determination (Labor Code § 1034).

Lactation rooms or other locations should comply with the prescribed feature and access requirements of Labor Code § 1031.

Employees who believe that their rights have been violated under this policy or have been the subject of discrimination or retaliation for exercising or attempting to exercise their rights under this policy, are encouraged to follow the chain of command in reporting a violation, but may also file a complaint directly with the Labor Commissioner (Labor Code § 1033).

## Time Card Procedures

### 1036.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Payroll records are submitted to Administration on a weekly basis for the payment of wages. All time report procedures shall be in accordance with the approved Stanislaus County Personnel policy located at [www.co.stanislaus.ca.us](http://www.co.stanislaus.ca.us)

#### 1036.1.1 RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLETION OF PAYROLL RECORDS

Employees are responsible for the accurate and timely submission of payroll records for the payment of wages.

#### 1036.1.2 TIME REQUIREMENTS

All employees are paid on a bi-weekly basis every other Wednesday with certain exceptions such as holidays. Payroll records shall be completed and submitted to Administration no later than 9:00 a.m. on the Friday morning of each week, unless specified otherwise.

## Overtime Payment Requests

### 1038.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is the policy of the Department to compensate non-exempt salaried employees who work authorized overtime either by payment of wages as agreed and in effect through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or by the allowance of accrual of compensatory time off. In order to qualify for either, the employee must complete and submit a Request for Overtime Payment as soon as practical after overtime is worked.

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 10, 3.32.050, Overtime Policy plus MOU specific overtime sections.

#### 1038.1.1 DEPARTMENT POLICY

Because of the nature of police work, and the specific needs of the Department, a degree of flexibility concerning overtime policies must be maintained.

Non-exempt employees are not authorized to volunteer work time to the Department. All requests to work overtime shall be approved in advance by a supervisor. If circumstances do not permit prior approval, then approval shall be sought as soon as practical during the overtime shift and in no case later than the end of shift in which the overtime is worked.

Short periods of work at the end of the normal duty day (e.g., less than one hour in duration) may be handled unofficially between the supervisor and the employee by flexing a subsequent shift schedule to compensate for the time worked rather than by submitting requests for overtime payments. If the supervisor authorizes or directs the employee to complete a form for such a period, the employee shall comply.

The individual employee may request compensatory time in lieu of receiving overtime payment for assignments that are not billable to outside contractual services, however, the employee may not exceed 240 hours of compensatory time (Depending on MOU).

### 1038.2 REQUEST FOR OVERTIME COMPENSATION

Employees shall submit all overtime compensation requests to their immediate supervisors as soon as practicable for verification and forwarding to the Administration Division.

Failure to submit a request for overtime compensation in a timely manner may result in discipline.

#### 1038.2.1 EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBILITY

Employees shall complete the requests immediately after working the overtime and turn them in to their immediate supervisor or the Watch Commander. Employees submitting overtime cards for on-call pay when off duty shall submit cards to their supervisor the first day after returning for work.

#### 1038.2.2 SUPERVISORS RESPONSIBILITY

The supervisor who verifies the overtime earned shall verify that the overtime was worked before approving the request.

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After the entry has been made on the employee's time card, the overtime payment request form is forwarded to the employee's supervisor for final approval.

### **1038.3 ACCOUNTING FOR OVERTIME WORKED**

Employees are to record the actual time worked in an overtime status. In some cases, the Memorandum of Understanding provides that a minimum number of hours will be paid, (e.g., four hours for Court). The employee will enter the actual time worked.

#### 1038.3.1 BLANK PLACEHOLDER POLICY

#### 1038.3.2 VARIATION IN TIME REPORTED

Where two or more employees are assigned to the same activity, case, or court trial and the amount of time for which payment is requested varies from that reported by the other deputy, the Watch Commander or other approving supervisor may require each employee to include the reason for the variation on the back of the overtime payment request.

## Outside Employment and Volunteer Work

### 1040.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest for departmental employees engaging in outside employment, all employees shall obtain written approval from the Sheriff prior to engaging in any outside employment. Approval of outside employment, or designated volunteer work, shall be at the discretion of the Sheriff, or designee, in accordance with the provisions of this policy.

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 16, Outside County Employment (Moonlighting).

#### 1040.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Outside Employment** - Any member of this department who receives wages, compensation or other consideration of value from another employer, organization or individual not affiliated directly with this department for services, product(s) or benefits rendered. For purposes of this section, the definition of outside employment includes those employees who are self-employed and not affiliated directly with this department for services, product(s) or benefits rendered.

**Outside Overtime** - Any member of this department who performs duties or services on behalf of an outside organization, company, or individual within this jurisdiction. Such outside overtime shall be requested and scheduled directly through this department so that the Department may be reimbursed for the cost of wages and benefits.

### 1040.2 OBTAINING APPROVAL

No member of this department may engage in any outside employment without first obtaining prior written approval of the Sheriff or designee. Failure to obtain prior written approval for outside employment or engaging in outside employment prohibited by this policy may lead to disciplinary action.

In order to obtain approval for outside employment, the employee must complete an Outside Employment Application which shall be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor. The application will then be forwarded through channels to the Sheriff, or designee, for consideration.

If approved, the employee will be provided with a copy of the approved permit and a copy will be retained in the personnel file. The employee shall notify Human Resources when they are no longer employed in the outside employment and the authorization will be removed from their personnel file. Any additional outside employment requests will require a new approval.

Any employee seeking approval of outside employment, whose request has been denied, shall be provided with a written reason for the denial of the application at the time of the denial (Penal Code § 70(e)(3)).

#### 1040.2.1 APPEAL OF DENIAL OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

If an employee's Outside Employment Application is denied or withdrawn by the Department, the employee may file a written notice of appeal to the Sheriff or designee within ten days of the date of denial.

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### 1040.2.2 REVOCATION/SUSPENSION OF OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT PERMITS

Any outside employment permit may be revoked or suspended under the following circumstances:

- (a) Should an employee's performance at this department decline to a point where it is evaluated by a supervisor as needing improvement to reach an overall level of competency, the Sheriff may, at his or her discretion, revoke any previously approved outside employment permit(s). That revocation will stand until the employee's performance has been reestablished at a satisfactory level and his/her supervisor recommends reinstatement of the outside employment permit
- (b) Suspension or revocation of a previously approved outside employment permit may be included as a term or condition of sustained discipline
- (c) If, at any time during the term of a valid outside employment permit, an employee's conduct or outside employment conflicts with the provisions of department policy, the permit may be suspended or revoked
- (d) When an employee is unable to perform at a full duty capacity due to an injury or other condition, any previously approved outside employment permit may be subject to similar restrictions as those applicable to the employee's full time duties until the employee has returned to a full duty status

### 1040.3 PROHIBITED OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT

Consistent with the provisions of Government Code § 1126, the Department expressly reserves the right to deny any Outside Employment Application submitted by an employee seeking to engage in any activity which:

- (a) Involves the employee's use of departmental time, facilities, equipment or supplies, the use of the Department badge, uniform, prestige or influence for private gain or advantage
- (b) Involves the employee's receipt or acceptance of any money or other consideration from anyone other than this department for the performance of an act which the employee, if not performing such act, would be required or expected to render in the regular course or hours of employment or as a part of the employee's duties as a member of this department
- (c) Involves the performance of an act in other than the employee's capacity as a member of this department that may later be subject directly or indirectly to the control, inspection, review, audit or enforcement of any other employee of this department
- (d) Involves time demands that would render performance of the employee's duties for this department less efficient

#### 1040.3.1 OUTSIDE SECURITY AND PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT/VOLUNTEER WORK

Consistent with the provisions of Penal Code § 70, and because it would further create a potential conflict of interest, no member of this department may engage in any outside or secondary

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employment as a private security guard, private investigator or other similar private security position.

To prevent any conflict of interest, no member of this department may engage in any outside volunteer work providing security guard related services or investigative services.

Any private organization, entity or individual seeking special services for security or traffic control from members of this department must submit a written request to the Sheriff in advance of the desired service. Such outside extra duty overtime assignments will be assigned, monitored and paid through the Department.

- (a) The applicant will be required to enter into an indemnification agreement prior to approval.
- (b) The applicant will further be required to provide for the compensation and full benefits of all employees requested for such outside security services.
- (c) Should such a request be approved, any employee working outside overtime shall be subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. The deputy(s) shall wear the departmental uniform/identification.
  - 2. The deputy(s) shall be subject to the rules and regulations of this department.
  - 3. No deputy may engage in such outside employment during or at the site of a strike, lockout, picket, or other physical demonstration of a labor dispute.
  - 4. Compensation for such approved outside security services shall be pursuant to normal overtime procedures.
  - 5. Outside security services shall not be subject to the collective bargaining process.
  - 6. No deputy may engage in outside employment as a peace officer for any other public agency without prior written authorization of the Sheriff.

### 1040.3.2 OUTSIDE OVERTIME ARREST AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

Any employee making an arrest or taking other official police action while working in an approved outside overtime assignment shall be required to complete all related reports in a timely manner pursuant to department policy. Time spent on the completion of such reports shall be considered incidental to the outside overtime assignment.

### 1040.3.3 SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Except for emergency situations or with prior authorization from the Division Commander, undercover deputies or deputies assigned to covert operations shall not be eligible to work overtime or other assignments in a uniformed or other capacity which might reasonably disclose the deputy's law enforcement status.



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### **1040.4 DEPARTMENT RESOURCES**

Employees are prohibited from using any department equipment or resources in the course of or for the benefit of any outside employment. This shall include the prohibition of access to official records or databases of this department or other agencies through the use of the employee's position with this department.

#### **1040.4.1 REVIEW OF FINANCIAL RECORDS**

Employees approved for outside employment expressly agree that their personal financial records may be requested and reviewed/audited for potential conflict of interest (Government Code § 3308; Government Code § 1126). Prior to providing written approval for an outside employment position, the Department may request that an employee provide his/her personal financial records for review/audit in order to determine whether a conflict of interest exists. Failure of the employee to provide the requested personal financial records could result in denial of the off-duty work permit. If, after approving a request for an outside employment position, the Department becomes concerned that a conflict of interest exists based on a financial reason, the Department may request that the employee provide his/her personal financial records for review/audit. If the employee elects not to provide the requested records, his/her off-duty work permit may be revoked pursuant to § 1040.2.2(c) of this policy.

### **1040.5 CHANGES IN OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT STATUS**

If an employee terminates his or her outside employment during the period of a valid permit, the employee shall promptly submit written notification of such termination to the Sheriff through channels. Any subsequent request for renewal or continued outside employment must thereafter be processed and approved through normal procedures set forth in this policy.

Employees shall also promptly submit in writing to the Sheriff, or designee, any material changes in outside employment including any change in the number of hours, type of duties, or demands of any approved outside employment. Employees who are uncertain whether a change in outside employment is material are advised to report the change.

### **1040.6 OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT WHILE ON DISABILITY**

Department members engaged in outside employment who are placed on disability leave or modified/light-duty shall inform their immediate supervisor in writing within five days whether or not they intend to continue to engage in such outside employment while on such leave or light-duty status. The immediate supervisor shall review the duties of the outside employment along with any related doctor's orders, and make a recommendation to the Sheriff, or designee, whether such outside employment should continue.

In the event the Sheriff, or designee, determines that the outside employment should be discontinued or if the employee fails to promptly notify his/her supervisor of his/her intentions regarding their work permit, a notice of revocation of the member's permit will be forwarded to the involved employee, and a copy attached to the original work permit.

Criteria for revoking the outside employment permit include, but are not limited to, the following:

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- (a) The outside employment is medically detrimental to the total recovery of the disabled member, as indicated by the County's professional medical advisors.
- (b) The outside employment performed requires the same or similar physical ability, as would be required of an on-duty member.
- (c) The employee's failure to make timely notice of their intentions to their supervisor.

When the disabled member returns to full duty with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, a request (in writing) may be made to the Sheriff, or designee, to restore the permit.

### **1040.7 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS/VOLUNTEER WORK**

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office encourages its members to engage in and support volunteerism in the community. Members are encouraged to serve Community Based Organizations and non-profits on Boards, Committees, Work Groups etc. Members shall not provide any law enforcement sensitive information, (written, electronic, and/or verbal) or law enforcement consultation services. Any employee wanting to serve and at the same time, represent themselves as a member of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office, shall complete the Outside Employment application and process for review and approval to ensure there is no conflict of interest.

# Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting

## 1042.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance regarding the timely reporting of occupational diseases, mental health issues, and work-related injuries.

### 1042.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Occupational disease or work-related injury** - An injury, disease, or mental health issue arising out of employment (Labor Code § 3208; Labor Code § 3208.3; Labor Code § 3212 et seq.).

## 1042.2 POLICY

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will address occupational diseases and work-related injuries appropriately, and will comply with applicable state workers' compensation requirements (Labor Code § 3200 et seq.).

## 1042.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

### 1042.3.1 MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Any member sustaining any occupational disease or work-related injury shall report such event as soon as practicable, but within 24 hours, to a supervisor, and shall seek medical care when appropriate (8 CCR 14300.35).

### 1042.3.2 SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

A supervisor learning of any occupational disease or work-related injury should ensure the member receives medical care as appropriate.

Supervisors shall ensure that required documents regarding workers' compensation are completed and forwarded promptly. Any related Countywide disease- or injury-reporting protocol shall also be followed.

Supervisors shall determine whether the Major Incident Notification and Illness and Injury Prevention policies apply and take additional action as required.

## 1042.4 SETTLEMENT OF INJURY CLAIMS

Occasionally, an employee's work-related injury results from the negligent or wrongful acts of another, for which the employee, the County, and/or other insurers are entitled to recover civilly. To ensure that the County's interests are protected and that the employee has the benefit of the County's experience in these matters, the following procedure is to be followed:

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### 1042.4.1 EMPLOYEE TO REPORT INITIAL CONTACTS

When an employee sustains work-related injuries caused by another person and is then approached by such person or an agent, insurance company, or attorney and offered a settlement of claims, that employee shall take no action other than to report the responsible party's information to the Risk Management Division. Employees may not negotiate a settlement without first receiving the County's approval.

## Personal Appearance Standards

### 1044.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to project uniformity and neutrality toward the public and other members of the department, employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance to project a professional image appropriate for this department and for their assignment.

### 1044.2 GROOMING STANDARDS

Unless otherwise stated and because deviations from these standards could present officer safety issues, the following appearance standards shall apply to all employees, except those whose current assignment would deem them not appropriate, and where the Sheriff has granted exception.

#### 1044.2.1 HAIR

Hairstyles of all members shall be neat in appearance. For male sworn members, hair must not extend below the top edge of the uniform collar while assuming a normal stance.

For female sworn members, hair must be no longer than the horizontal level of the bottom of the uniform patch when the employee is standing erect, worn up or in a tightly wrapped braid or ponytail.

#### 1044.2.2 MUSTACHES

A short and neatly trimmed mustache may be worn. Mustaches shall not extend below the corners of the mouth or beyond the natural hairline of the upper lip.

#### 1044.2.3 SIDEBURNS

Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the outer ear opening (the top of the earlobes) and shall be trimmed and neat.

#### 1044.2.4 FACIAL HAIR

Facial hair other than sideburns, mustaches and eyebrows may be worn. Uniformed members are able to have a well-groomed goatee while on duty. All areas around the goatee will be shaved daily while on duty. Goatee will not be longer than 3/8 of an inch (#4 guard on the electric trimmer). No other facial hair is permitted while in uniform and on-duty unless authorized by the Sheriff or his or her designee.

#### 1044.2.5 FINGERNAILS

Fingernails extending beyond the tip of the finger can pose a safety hazard to deputies or others. For this reason, fingernails shall be trimmed so that no point of the nail extends beyond the tip of the finger (applies to sworn staff only).

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### 1044.2.6 JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES

No jewelry or personal ornaments shall be worn by deputies on any part of the uniform or equipment, except those authorized within this manual. Jewelry, if worn around the neck, shall not be visible above the shirt collar.

All staff are prohibited from wearing forms of facial jewelry, including dental jewelry or decoration, other than earrings for women. Only one ring may be worn on each hand of the employee while on-duty.

### 1044.3 TATTOOS

At no time while on-duty or representing the Department in any official capacity, shall any tattoo (body art), branding, body piercings or body alterations be visible by sworn personnel in Class "A" uniform.

#### 1044.3.1 TATTOO EXEMPTIONS

All tattoo exemptions must be approved by the division Captain and documented with Administration/HR. Tattoo denials may be appealed to the Sheriff or designee and the decision will be final. The only exemptions that are allowed are as follows:

- (a) Medical related tattoos.
  - 1. Radiation/cancer treatments.
  - 2. Tattoos to identify medical condition.
    - (a) Must be within 2" of wrist and equivalent to medical alert bracelet in size and design.
    - (b) No other tattoos may be combined, overlaid, or visible with a medical tattoo.
- (b) Permanent eyeliner/makeup.
- (c) Wedding ring tattoos that are appropriate and professional.
  - 1. Allowed on left ring finger only.
- (d) Employees in specialty assignments and only during undercover operations.
- (e) Staff who have tattooing or branding on exposed limbs, including on the hands, prior to March 1, 2010 will be considered "grandfathered" in if the tattoo have been appropriately documented with Sheriff's Department Administration. Members who choose to alter a grandfathered tattoo in any way such as: additions, modifications or coloring will no longer qualify for a grandfathered status and will be subject to 1044.3.
- (f) If the employee's uniform or attire does not completely cover the tattoo, they may use a cover matching their skin tone and it must be approved by the Sheriff or an appointed designee.

#### 1044.3.2 TATTOO RESTRICTIONS

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No tattoo or brand, of any type, is authorized on the head, face, neck, or hands. A standard T-shirt collar shall be the reference point for the back and sides of the neck; i.e., no tattoo or brand may be visible above the collar of the T-shirt on the neck.

- (a) In the case of a tattoo or brand very near the collarbone, a final evaluation shall be made by the Sheriff or designee to ensure that no tattoo or brand is visible when wearing a V-neck undershirt and an open collar shirt.
- (b) The wrist bone shall be the reference point for tattoos or brands on the hands. No tattoos or brands shall be visible below the wrist bone.

Tattoos or brands anywhere on the body that promote racism/discrimination, indecency, extremist or supremacist philosophies, lawlessness, violence, or sexually explicit material are prohibited.

- (a) Racist or discriminatory tattoos or brands are those that advocate the degradation of a person based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, religion, political affiliation, action, or belief, marital status, age, medical or physical disability, and genetic history.
- (b) Indecent or sexually explicit tattoos or brands are those that contain a visual image, the dominant theme of which depicts or promotes graphic nudity, including sexual activities or organs, in a lustful way. Tattoos featuring fully exposed nudity are prohibited.
- (c) Extremist tattoos or brands are those that depict or promote extremist activities or organizations that advocate hatred, intolerance, or lawlessness (e.g., terrorist groups, neo-Nazis, skinheads, outlaw gangs, Confederate Flag, extreme political organizations with violent histories). Because some extremist/criminal groups and organizations exploit popular symbols (e.g., cartoon characters), care must be taken in evaluation of such tattoos or brand based on its artistic value rather than a hidden meaning. In these cases, a determination will be made based on the totality of thematic elements expressed by tattoos or brands elsewhere on the body.
- (d) Tattoos or brands labeled violent or promoting lawlessness are those that depict extreme graphic violence, profanity, glorifications of drug culture, or markings that can reasonably be interpreted as anti-government in nature.

(a)

(b)

### **1044.4 BODY PIERCING OR ALTERATION**

Body piercing or alteration to any area of the body visible in any authorized uniform or attire that is a deviation from normal anatomical features and which is not medically required is prohibited. Such body alteration includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Tongue splitting or piercing.
- (b) The complete or transdermal implantation of any material other than hair replacement.
- (c) Abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose or teeth

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- (d) Branding or scarification.

### 1044.4.1 DISQUALIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION

Applicants for employment with prohibited tattoos, brands, or mutilations shall not be permitted to join the Sheriff's Department. Initially unqualified applicants who choose to either alter or remove a disqualifying tattoo, brand, or mutilation may be reconsidered at a later date, provided they remain qualified in all other respects.

However, no commitment shall be made suggesting that the removal or alteration of a tattoo or brand will ensure acceptance. Applicants with excess piercings that do not rise to the level of mutilation shall be given the option of discontinuing the use of the unauthorized piercings prior to employment.

- (a) Current Members

1. Current members whose tattoos, brands, or abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose, or teeth are determined to violate this Instruction shall be given the opportunity to seek competent medical advice regarding the removal or alteration of the disqualifying tattoo or brand. Members who refuse to take the necessary steps to satisfy the requirements of this policy shall be separated from the service.
2. Staff who have excessive tattooing or branding on exposed limbs, including on the hands, prior to March 1, 2010 will be considered "grandfathered" in if the tattoo have been appropriately documented. Members who choose to alter a grandfathered tattoo in any way such as: additions, modifications or coloring will no longer qualify for a grandfathered status and will be subject to 1044.3.1.

Documentation:

- (a) To facilitate the grandfathering process, all tattoos shall be documented on the Tattoo Screening Form. All forms shall be approved by the Division Captain.

### 1044.5 APPEARANCE EXEMPTIONS

When deemed operationally necessary, sworn Department personnel in undercover assignments may wear beards, display tattoos, scarifications, brands, or jewelry otherwise prohibited by this order with approval from the Sheriff or an appointed designee.

Exemptions may be granted for articles of faith that are a required part of a recognized religious organization, such as turbans (black in color only) and well kempt facial hair. Exemptions may also be granted for tattoos, scarifications, or brands already in existence on the date of this order (July 2018). The final authority for granting any exemption will rest with the Sheriff or an appointed designee.

No exemption will be granted for any Kirpans (while working in a custodial facility), unauthorized tattoos, scarifications or brands considered inappropriate, unprofessional or offensive as outlined in this order.



## Uniform Regulations

### 1046.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The uniform policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department is established to ensure that uniformed deputies will be readily identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of department uniforms. Employees should also refer to the following associated policies:

Department Owned and Personal Property

Body Armor

Personal Appearance Standards

The Uniform and Equipment Specifications manual is maintained and periodically updated by the Sheriff or his/her designee. That manual should be consulted regarding authorized equipment and uniform specifications.

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will provide uniforms for all employees required to wear them in the manner, quantity and frequency agreed upon in the respective employee group's collective bargaining agreement.

#### 1046.1.1 UNIFORM MANUAL

Personnel should refer to the Uniform Manual for standards related to uniformed and non-uniformed attire, grooming, and safety equipment.

### 1046.2 WEARING AND CONDITION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Sheriff's employees wear the uniform to be identified as the law enforcement authority in society. The uniform also serves an equally important purpose to identify the wearer as a source of assistance in an emergency, crisis or other time of need.

- (a) Uniform and equipment shall be maintained in a serviceable condition and shall be ready at all times for immediate use. Uniforms shall be neat, clean, and appear professionally pressed.
- (b) All peace officers of this department shall possess and maintain at all times, a serviceable uniform and the necessary equipment to perform uniformed field duty.
- (c) Personnel shall wear only the uniform specified for their rank and assignment.
- (d) The uniform is to be worn in compliance with the specifications set forth in the department's uniform specifications that are maintained separately from this policy.
- (e) All supervisors will perform periodic inspections of their personnel to ensure conformance to these regulations.
- (f) Civilian attire shall not be worn in combination with any distinguishable part of the uniform.

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## *Uniform Regulations*

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- (g) Uniforms are only to be worn while on duty, while in transit to or from work, for court, or at other official department functions or events.
- (h) If the uniform is worn while in transit, an outer garment shall be worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the employee while he/she is off-duty.
- (i) Employees are not to purchase or drink alcoholic beverages while wearing any part of the department uniform, including the uniform pants.
- (j) Mirrored sunglasses will not be worn with any Department uniform.
- (k) Visible jewelry, other than those items listed below, shall not be worn with the uniform unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
  - 1. Wrist watch
  - 2. Wedding ring(s), class ring, or other ring of tasteful design. A maximum of one ring/set may be worn on each hand
  - 3. Medical alert bracelet

### 1046.2.1 DEPARTMENT ISSUED IDENTIFICATION

The Department issues each employee an official department identification card bearing the employee's name, identifying information and photo likeness. All employees shall be in possession of their department issued identification card at all times while on duty or when carrying a concealed weapon.

- (a) Whenever on duty or acting in an official capacity representing the department, employees shall display their department issued identification in a courteous manner to any person upon request and as soon as practical.
- (b) Deputies working specialized assignments may be excused from the possession and display requirements when directed by their Division Commander.

### 1046.3 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, ENDORSEMENTS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff, Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department employees may not wear any part of the uniform, be photographed wearing any part of the uniform, utilize a department badge, patch or other official insignia, or cause to be posted, published, or displayed, the image of another employee, or identify himself/herself as an employee of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to do any of the following (Government Code §§ 3206 and 3302):

- (a) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any political campaign or initiative.
- (b) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any social issue, cause, or religion.
- (c) Endorse, support, or oppose, any product, service, company or other commercial entity.
- (d) Appear in any commercial, social, or non-profit publication, or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast, or any website.

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### **1046.4 OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT - MAINTENANCE, AND REPLACEMENT**

- (a) Any of the items listed in the Uniform Manual as optional shall be purchased totally at the expense of the employee. No part of the purchase cost shall be offset by the Department for the cost of providing the Department issued item.
- (b) Maintenance of optional items shall be the financial responsibility of the purchasing employee. For example, repairs due to normal wear and tear.
- (c) Replacement of items listed in this order as optional shall be done as follows:
  - 1. When the item is no longer functional because of normal wear and tear, the employee bears the full cost of replacement.
  - 2. When the item is no longer functional because of damage in the course of the employee's duties, it shall be replaced following the procedures for the replacement of damaged personal property. (Policy Manual § 700)

#### **1046.4.1 RETIREE BADGES**

The Sheriff may issue identification in the form of a badge, insignia, emblem, device, label, certificate, card or writing that clearly states the person has honorably retired from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. This identification is separate and distinct from the identification authorized by Penal Code § 25455 and referenced in the Retired Deputy CCW Endorsement Policy in this manual.

A badge issued to an honorably retired peace officer that is not affixed to a plaque or other memento will have the words "Honorably Retired" clearly visible on its face. A retiree shall be instructed that any such badge will remain the property of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and will be revoked in the event of misuse or abuse (Penal Code § 538d).

#### **1046.5 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES**

Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department employees may not wear any uniform item, accessory or attachment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform Manual or by the Sheriff or designee.

Stanislaus County Sheriffs Department employees may not use or carry any safety item, tool or other piece of equipment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform Manual or by the Sheriff or designee.

## Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships

### 1050.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure equal opportunity and effective employment practices by avoiding actual or perceived favoritism, discrimination or actual or potential conflicts of interest by or between members of this department. These employment practices include: recruiting, testing, hiring, compensation, assignment, use of facilities, access to training opportunities, supervision, performance appraisal, discipline and workplace safety and security.

See County Personnel Policy, Tab 16, 3.08.250, Employment of Relatives - Nepotism

#### 1050.1.1 DEFINITIONS

**Business relationship** - Serving as an employee, independent contractor, compensated consultant, owner, board member, shareholder, or investor in an outside business, company, partnership, corporation, venture or other transaction, where the Department employee's annual interest, compensation, investment or obligation is greater than \$250.

**Conflict of interest** - Any actual, perceived or potential conflict of interest in which it reasonably appears that a department employee's action, inaction or decisions are or may be influenced by the employee's personal or business relationship.

**Nepotism** - The practice of showing favoritism to relatives over others in appointment, employment, promotion or advancement by any public official in a position to influence these personnel decisions.

**Personal relationship** - Includes marriage, cohabitation, dating or any other intimate relationship beyond mere friendship.

**Public official** - A supervisor, officer or employee vested with authority by law, rule or regulation or to whom authority has been delegated.

**Relative** - An employee's parent, stepparent, spouse, domestic partner, significant other, child (natural, adopted or step), sibling or grandparent.

**Subordinate** - An employee who is subject to the temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority of a supervisor.

**Supervisor** - An employee who has temporary or ongoing direct or indirect authority over the actions, decisions, evaluation and/or performance of a subordinate employee.

### 1050.2 RESTRICTED DUTIES AND ASSIGNMENTS

The Department will not prohibit all personal or business relationships between employees. However, in order to avoid nepotism or other inappropriate conflicts, the following reasonable restrictions shall apply (Government Code § 12940(a)):

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## *Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships*

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- (a) Employees are prohibited from directly supervising, occupying a position in the line of supervision or being directly supervised by any other employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.
  - 1. If circumstances require that such a supervisor/subordinate relationship exist temporarily, the supervisor shall make every reasonable effort to defer matters pertaining to the involved employee to an uninvolved supervisor.
  - 2. When personnel and circumstances permit, the Department will attempt to make every reasonable effort to avoid placing employees in such supervisor/subordinate situations. The Department, however, reserves the right to transfer or reassign any employee to another position within the same classification in order to avoid conflicts with any provision of this policy.
- (b) Employees are prohibited from participating in, contributing to or recommending promotions, assignments, performance evaluations, transfers or other personnel decisions affecting an employee who is a relative or with whom they are involved in a personal or business relationship.
- (c) Whenever possible, FTOs and other trainers will not be assigned to train relatives. FTOs and other trainers are prohibited from entering into or maintaining personal or business relationships with any employee they are assigned to train until such time as the training has been successfully completed and the employee is off probation.
- (d) To avoid actual or perceived conflicts of interest, members of this department shall refrain from developing or maintaining personal or financial relationships with victims, witnesses or other individuals during the course of or as a direct result of any official contact.
- (e) Except as required in the performance of official duties or, in the case of immediate relatives, employees shall not develop or maintain personal or financial relationships with any individual they know or reasonably should know is under criminal investigation, is a convicted felon, parolee, fugitive or registered sex offender or who engages in serious violations of state or federal laws.

### 1050.2.1 EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITY

Prior to entering into any personal or business relationship or other circumstance which the employee knows or reasonably should know could create a conflict of interest or other violation of this policy, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, next highest level of supervisor.

Whenever any employee is placed in circumstances that would require the employee to take enforcement action or provide official information or services to any relative or individual with whom the employee is involved in a personal or business relationship, the employee shall promptly notify his/her uninvolved, immediate supervisor. In the event that no uninvolved supervisor is immediately available, the employee shall promptly notify dispatch to have another uninvolved employee either relieve the involved employee or minimally remain present to witness the action.

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### 1050.2.2 SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

Upon being notified of, or otherwise becoming aware of any circumstance that could result in or constitute an actual or potential violation of this policy, a supervisor shall take all reasonable steps to promptly mitigate or avoid such violations whenever possible. Supervisors shall also promptly notify the Sheriff of such actual or potential violations through the chain of command.

## Department Badges

### 1052.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department badge and uniform patch as well as the likeness of these items and the name of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department are property of the Department and their use shall be restricted as set forth in this policy.

### 1052.2 POLICY

The uniform badge shall be issued to department members as a symbol of authority and the public's trust and confidence in law enforcement. The use and display of departmental badges shall be in strict compliance with this policy. Only authorized badges issued by this department shall be displayed, carried or worn by members while on duty or otherwise acting in an official or authorized capacity.

#### 1052.2.1 FLAT BADGE

Sworn deputies and correctional deputies, with the written approval of the Sheriff may purchase, at his/her own expense, a flat badge capable of being carried in a wallet. The use of the flat badge is subject to all the same provisions of departmental policy as the uniform badge.

- (a) Should the flat badge become lost, damaged, or otherwise removed from the deputy's control, he/she shall make the proper notifications as outlined in the Policy Manual 700.
- (b) An honorably retired deputy may keep his/her flat badge upon retirement.
- (c) The purchase, carrying or display of a flat badge is not authorized for non-sworn personnel.

#### 1052.2.2 NON-SWORN PERSONNEL

Badges and departmental identification cards issued to non-sworn personnel shall be clearly marked to reflect the position of the assigned employee (e.g. Parking Control, Dispatcher).

- (a) Non-sworn personnel shall not display any department badge except as a part of his/her uniform and while on duty, or otherwise acting in an official and authorized capacity.
- (b) Non-sworn personnel shall not display any department badge or represent him/herself, on or off duty, in such a manner which would cause a reasonable person to believe that he/she is a sworn peace officer.

#### 1052.2.3 RETIREE UNIFORM BADGE

Upon honorable retirement employees may purchase his/her assigned duty badge for display purposes. It is intended that the duty badge be used only as private memorabilia as other uses of the badge may be unlawful or in violation of this policy.

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### 1052.2.4 BADGE PURCHASE

In conformance with Attorney General's Opinion, No. 06-307 the Sheriff will allow sworn members to purchase official department badges in limited circumstances.

- (a) Retiree Badge:
  - 1. Employees may purchase their official department badge upon retirement, if all of the following criteria exist:
    - (a) Employee pays for the badge
    - (b) The badge is clearly marked "Retiree"
- (b) Voluntary Separation:
  - (a) Employees, including reserve deputies, may purchase their official department badge when they voluntarily leave the department in good standing, excluding resignation in lieu of discipline and retirement, if all of the following criteria exist:
    - (a) Employee pays for the badge.
    - (b) Employee agrees that the badge will be used for display purposes only and not as identification.
- (c) Promotion:
  - 1. Employees, including reserve deputies, may purchase their official department badge when they promote to a higher classification in the department, if all of the following criteria exist:
    - (a) Employee pays for the badge
    - (b) Employee agrees that the badge will be used for display purposes only and not as identification
  - 2. This purchase should be made at time of promotion in the Sheriff's Department
- (d) Process:
  - (a) Employees wishing to purchase their official department badge may submit their request in writing to the Sheriff upon promotion, separation or retirement from County service.
  - (b) All official department badge purchases shall be coordinated through the Sheriff's Administration Division.
  - (c) If the Sheriff approves the purchase, the employee must submit a check to the Administrative Assistant in the Sheriff's Administration Division to process the order. Checks must be made payable to Stanislaus County. The Administrative Assistant in the Sheriff's Administration Division can confirm vendor information.



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### **1052.3 UNAUTHORIZED USE**

Except as required for on-duty use by current employees, no badge designed for carry or display in a wallet, badge case or similar holder shall be issued to anyone other than a current or honorably retired peace officer.

Department badges are issued to all sworn employees and non-sworn uniformed employees for official use only. The department badge, shoulder patch or the likeness thereof, or the department name shall not be used for personal or private reasons including, but not limited to, letters, memoranda, and electronic communications such as electronic mail or web sites and web pages.

The use of the badge, uniform patch and department name for all material (printed matter, products or other items) developed for department use shall be subject to approval by the Sheriff.

Employees shall not loan his/her department badge or identification card to others and shall not permit the badge or identification card to be reproduced or duplicated.

### **1052.4 PERMITTED USE BY EMPLOYEE GROUPS**

The likeness of the department badge shall not be used without the expressed authorization of the Sheriff and shall be subject to the following:

- (a) The employee associations may use the likeness of the department badge for merchandise and official association business provided they are used in a clear representation of the association and not the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department. The following modifications shall be included:
  - 1. The text on the upper and lower ribbons is replaced with the name of the employee association.
  - 2. The badge number portion displays the acronym of the employee association.
- (b) The likeness of the department badge for endorsement of political candidates shall not be used without the expressed approval of the Sheriff.

## Modified Duty Assignments

### 1054.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy establishes procedures for providing temporary modified-duty assignments. This policy is not intended to affect the rights or benefits of employees under federal or state law, County rules, current memorandums of understanding or collective bargaining agreements. For example, nothing in this policy affects the obligation of the Department to engage in a good faith, interactive process to consider reasonable accommodations for any employee with a temporary or permanent disability that is protected under federal or state law.

### 1054.2 POLICY

**Temporary Modified Duty** - Temporary Modified Duty is a temporary, limited-term assignment not requiring performance of the full range of duties associated with the regular job classification. Modified duty also may be termed as light-duty assignments.

**Permanent Accommodations** - A permanent accommodation is made when the employee receives medical certification that additional medical improvement is no longer expected and, as a result, the employee's work restrictions are not expected to change. Any accommodation made by the Department at this time would be considered permanent.

**Interactive Process** - The Interactive Process is a collaborative effort between the employee and his/her supervisor and/or manager to determine if the employee can return to work or continue to work in a safe and effective manner given the employee's medical work restrictions.

**Temporary Modified Work Restriction Agreement** - The Temporary Modified Work Restriction Agreement (MWRA) is used to document the interactive process between the Department and the employee when the employee is temporarily unable to perform the full range of duties of his/her position.

**Permanent Work Restriction Agreement** - The Permanent Work Restriction Agreement (PWRA) is used to document the interactive process between the Department and the employee when the employee is considered permanent and stationary and no additional medical improvement is expected.

### 1054.3 GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

Employees with work restrictions must provide their Division Commander or his/her designee with medical certification from their healthcare provider that describes their restrictions, limitations and expected duration. The statement must also indicate if the employee requires any workplace accommodations, mobility aids or medical devices. The Division Commander or designee will determine what modified-duty assignments may be available based on the needs of the Department through the interactive process. The Department will consider as part of the interactive process the limitations of the employee and the suitability of the employee to work a particular

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## *Modified Duty Assignments*

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assignment. Modified duty assignments or reduced work hours will be considered along with other restrictions. All interactive process discussions will be documented using the MWRA or PWRA.

Temporary modified-duty assignments shall be subject to continuous re-assessment dependent upon Department need and the employee's ability to perform in a modified-duty capacity. An employee may be assigned to a modified-duty position outside of his/her normal assignment or duties if it becomes available within their job classification or at a lower level classification. Accommodations will not include positions that require a competitive process. Employees seeking accommodations to a position filled through a competitive process will have the ability to apply as positions become open. This will include specialty and collateral assignments.

- (a) If an employee cannot adequately perform in a modified-duty assignment, such assignment may be modified or terminated.
- (b) The lack of Department need or a change in priorities may result in the employee's removal from, or modification of, a temporary modified-duty assignment.
- (c) The Department may place conditions as deemed appropriate upon any modified-duty assignment.

Temporary modified duty assignments will require a new medical certification at minimum every 90 days or after each doctor's visit. This does not preclude the Department from requesting additional physician notes in accordance with County policy.

### **1054.4 MODIFIED DUTY SCHEDULES**

The schedules of employees assigned to modified duty may be adjusted to suit medical appointments or Department needs at the discretion of the Division Commander. The employee and his/her supervisors should be informed in writing of the schedule, assignment, limitations and restrictions as determined by the employee's healthcare provider. This information will be documented on the MWRA.

### **1054.5 ACCOUNTABILITY**

It is the policy of the Department to follow the County's pregnancy disability policy. When medically appropriate and with proper certification, the Department will engage in the interactive process to determine the Department's ability to accommodate and reassign employees as appropriate.

Upon receiving the medical verification of the pregnancy and a request for job accommodation, reassignment or leave, the supervisor shall notify the Division Commander who will consider assigning the employee to an available temporary modified-duty assignment if it is deemed appropriate by the Department and medically necessary by the employee's healthcare provider.

If at any point during the pregnancy it becomes necessary for the employee to take a leave of absence, such leave shall be granted consistent with the County's Personnel Rules and Regulations regarding family and medical care leave.

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### **1054.6 PREGNANCY**

Employees assigned to modified duty shall maintain all certification, training and qualifications appropriate to both their regular and temporary duties, provided the certification, training or qualifications are not in conflict with any limitations or restrictions. Employees who are assigned to modified duty shall inform their supervisor of any inability to maintain any certification, training or qualifications.

## Reserves

### 1055.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to establish and describe the functions of the Reserve Deputy Sheriff. It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to adhere to all laws and regulations, which govern Reserve Deputy Sheriff's in the State of California. The applicable provisions on the Penal Code (830.1) (830.6) (832.6) and the POST Administrative Manual (Section H) are hereby adopted and incorporated.

### 1055.2 RESPONSIBILITIES

To assist the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in:

- (a) The enforcement of laws and maintenance of order.
- (b) Protection of Life and Property.
- (c) In times of emergency, provide qualified personnel to augment the regular full-time force of deputy sheriff.
- (d) Perform other duties that may be designated or authorized by the Sheriff or his/her designated representative.

### 1055.3 AUTHORITY

- (a) Reserve Deputy Sheriffs shall have peace officer powers only during the duration of their specific duty assignment. At the conclusion of each assignment, Reserve Deputies shall assume civilian status pending their next authorized assignment. Those reserves, which have been granted full-time peace officer powers, as defined in California Penal Code Section 832.6(b) shall be exempt from this requirement.
- (b) Reserve Deputy Sheriffs will be bonded with the same coverage as full time deputies and will be provided with public liability protection equal to that provided for full time personnel.

### 1055.4 CLASSIFICATIONS

- (a) Classification Requirements Reserve Deputy Sheriffs shall be classified according to requirements established by State Law, the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training and Department Policy.
- (b) State Law
  - 1. Level I Designated: A trained Reserve Deputy Sheriff, as described in Penal Code Section 830.6(A)(2) and is assigned to the prevention and detection of crime and the general enforcement of the laws of this state is a peace officer as provided by section 830.1.

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2. Level I Non-designated: A trained Reserve Deputy Sheriff, as described in Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(1), and who is assigned the general enforcement of the laws of the State whether or not working alone
3. Level II: A trained Reserve Deputy Sheriff, as described in Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(2), who works under the immediate supervision of a peace officer possessing a POST Basic Certificate, and is assigned to the prevention and detection of crime and the general enforcement of the laws of the State. For the purposes of this General Order, immediate supervision shall be defined as :the reserve officer acts under the direction of a Level I Reserve or a Regular Full-time peace officer and is routinely in the physical proximity of and available to the reserve officer; however, allowance is permitted for necessary temporary separation.. A Level II reserve is authorized to carry out duties in any of the County's Adult Detention facilities.
4. Level III: A trained Reserve Deputy Sheriff, as described in Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(3). Level III reserves may be deployed and are authorized only to carry out limited support duties not requiring general law enforcement powers in their routine performance. Those limited duties shall include traffic control, security at parades and sporting events, report taking, evidence transportation, parking enforcement, and other duties that are not likely to result in physical arrests. Level III reserves while assigned these duties shall be supervised in the accessible vicinity by a Level I or a full-time, regular peace officer. Level III reserves may transport prisoners without immediate supervision. Level III reserves are authorized to carry out duties in any of the County's Adult Detention Facilities. Those persons classified as Level III reserves shall have completed the training as required under 832 PC prior to exercising any official duties. A level III reserve shall not be assigned to the general enforcement of the laws of this state.

### 1055.5 QUALIFICATION AND SELECTION

- (a) The selection and testing criteria for Reserve Deputy Sheriff shall be the same as for full-time peace officers with the department.
- (b) The department may select, Level I Reserve Deputy Sheriffs as full-time officers (830.1 PC) as provided for in penal code section 830.6(a)(2) as long as they meet the criteria as set forth in section 832.6 of the Penal Code.
- (c) The department may select Reserve Deputies classified as Level II as defined by California Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(2). These reserve deputies will have completed a state certified Level II reserve training program as defined in California Penal Code Section 832 prior to appointment and shall satisfactorily complete an 80 hour course on patrol prior to appointment.

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- (d) The department may select Reserve Deputies classified as Level III as defined by California Penal Code Section 832.6(a)(3). These reserve deputies will have completed a state certified training program as defined in California Penal Code Section 832 prior to appointment.
- (e) The department may elect to only utilize a reserve in a lower level assignment regardless of their state Reserve Level training (i.e., State Reserve Level I only performing Level II duties).

### **1055.6 UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT**

Reserve Deputies shall wear the same uniform and carry the same equipment as regular full time sworn deputies. Uniforms and equipment shall be commensurate with the duties performed.

### **1055.7 TRAINING AND COMPENSATION**

Reserve Deputies shall attend all required training for their reserve level and applicable job classification. It is the responsibility of the Reserve Deputy to remain current with all training mandates. Reserve Deputies found to be out of compliance shall relinquish their department issued badge until they are back in compliance.

- (a) The Sheriff's Department effective June 26, 2010 as a result of the Reduction-In-Force will compensate the Reserve Deputies using the following Job Classifications:
  - 1. County Job Classification Reserve Level
  - 2. Deputy Sheriff Level I Deputy Sheriff-Custodial Level II and Level III
- (b) Reserve Level I
  - 1. Level I Reserves are hired based upon the needs of the Department. Individuals who apply to be a Level I Reserve, and who are hired from outside of the department, must first meet the requirements of appointment and will have their competency and training verified.
  - 2. A Level I reserve may be assigned to any general law enforcement function normally filled by a regularly employed sworn deputy sheriff as defined in California Penal Code Section 830.1. All Level I Reserves who wish to become patrol qualified will need to complete a Level I FTO program as directed by the Department. Requests to participate in the FTO program will be reviewed by Administration and the Reserve Executive board and may or may not be approved based on the needs of the Department. If approved, this training assignment will be compensated.
  - 3. All training to stay qualified as a Level I Reserve that may be required by POST, as well as any other mandatory training required by the department, will be compensated as Deputy Sheriff-Coroner pay rate. Level I Reserves who desire

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to become full-time Deputy Sheriff-Coroners will be given credit for their patrol FTO training. Such consideration will be done on a case-by-case basis.

- (c) Reserve Level II Reserves in this category will fall into two groups:
  - 1. Level II that work Adult Detention only.
  - 2. Level II that work both Adult Detention and Operations.
    - (a) In order to become qualified to accept assignments as a Patrol (Operations) Qualified Reserve Level II, the Reserve Level II Deputy is required to complete a Reserve Level II FTO program with a full-time patrol FTO. This department authorized training assignment will be compensated.
    - (b) All Level II Reserves shall be paid as Deputy Sheriff-Custodial.
    - (c) A Level II Reserve may be assigned to non-general law enforcement functions such as Jail, Honor Farm, Identification, Civil or hospital guard.
    - (d) A Level II Reserve may be assigned general law enforcement duties only if under the immediate supervision of a regularly employed sworn Deputy Sheriff who possesses a Basic POST certificate or a Reserve Level I Deputy.
    - (e) A Level II Reserve may be assigned, without supervision, to limited duties that are authorized for Level III reserves, and other duties that are not likely to result in physical arrests. A Level II Reserve shall not engage in the general enforcement of the laws of this state while alone.
    - (f) All POST Level II Reserve or STC mandated training, as well as any other mandatory training required by the Department will be compensated at the appropriate job classification rate of pay (Deputy Sheriff -Custodial).
- (d) Reserve Level III
  - (a) Newly hired Level III reserves are generally assigned to Adult Detention. In order to become qualified to accept shifts, Reserve Level III Deputies are required to complete the training program of the facility they desire to work in, before accepting any shifts. This Department authorized training assignment will be compensated. After meeting this requirement, any additional mandated training required by STC or the department, as it pertains to the Adult Detention position will be compensated by the appropriate job classification (Deputy Sheriff-Custodial).
  - (b) After meeting this requirement, any additional mandated training required by STC or the department as it pertains to the Adult Detention position will be compensated by the appropriate job classification (Deputy Sheriff -Custodial).



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- (c) Level III Reserves that are in good standing with the department may be utilized in other assignments, as directed by Administration. A Reserve that wishes to accompany general law enforcement deputies, i.e. patrol or detectives, but does not have the training and appointment to a reserve level enabling the exercise of police powers, is to be considered a private citizen by the assigning supervisor.
- (e) Evaluations
  - (a) Annual evaluations will be completed on each Reserve Deputy Sheriff. The Lieutenant overseeing the Reserve Unit, working in conjunction with the Reserve Executive Board, will ensure annual evaluations are completed in accordance with annual review dates.

### 1055.8 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- (a) Chain of Command
  - 1. Reserve Deputies will adhere to their respective Chain of Command as illustrated below.
  - 2. The Reserve Executive Board shall report to the Lieutenant assigned to be the Reserve Liaison.
  - 3. When a Reserve Deputy Sheriff is on duty they shall adhere to the same chain of command as a full-time employee in a same or like classification or position.
  - 4. The Chain of Command requirements, with respect to assignment and position, shall be adhered to by deputies within the Reserve Unit, and between deputies of the Reserve Unit and full-time employees of the department. The Chain of Command shall not be bypassed or circumvented except in an emergency or when a Reserve Deputy has been instructed to do so by a person of rank either from within the Reserve Unit itself or from a ranking member of the department.
- (b) Rank Structure (within the Reserve unit)
  - 1. Reserve Captain
  - 2. Reserve Lieutenant
  - 3. Reserve Sergeant
  - 4. Reserve Deputy Sheriff
- (c) Squads
  - 1. The Reserve Unit shall be divided into squads. The number of squads will depend on unit staffing levels.
    - (a) A Reserve Lieutenant will act as a liaison between either the Operation's Division or the Adult Detention Division and a particular squad.

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- (b) A Reserve Sergeant will be in charge of a squad.

### **1055.9 ADMINISTRATIVE**

Reserve Deputy Sheriffs are to be considered at will employees of the department. The appointment and retention of any Reserve Deputy Sheriff rests solely with the Sheriff and or his/her designee.

Reserves Deputy Sheriffs, who are found to be in violation of any department General Order or policy, shall be handled the same as any at will employee of the department. The Reserve Deputy Sheriff may ask to meet with the Sheriff, but this meeting shall not confer any right of employment.

This does not preclude the Reserve Executive Board from taking action for violations of the Reserve By-Laws that do not pertain to employment matters.

## Financial Policies

### 1057.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office adheres to the financial policies contained in the Stanislaus County Personnel Manual.

The policies may be accessed through this link: [www.stancounty.com/personnel/PerPol/PersonnelManual.pdf](http://www.stancounty.com/personnel/PerPol/PersonnelManual.pdf)

### 1057.2 FBI ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

This policy is to establish the guidelines that will allow payment for mandatory expenses while attending the FBI National Academy.

The Sheriff is accountable to the Board of Supervisors and the public for funds and assets entrusted to him. The Department is accountable for the economic use of public funds. Expenses shall be documented and required and shall leave no question that such expenditure did, in fact relate to and were necessary for conducting County business.

#### 1057.2.1 PROCEDURES

- (a) Obtain approval from the Sheriff to attend the FBI National Academy.
- (b) Complete a Trip Authorization.
- (c) Submit original detailed itemized receipts immediately upon return from the FBINA.

#### 1057.2.2 ALLOWABLE EXPENSES

The Sheriff's Office will pay up to \$800.00 for the following mandatory expenses while attending the FBINA.

- (a) Mandatory Gym and FBINA Uniform \$500
  - 1. Green Polo Shirts (Max 3)
  - 2. Cargo Pants (Max 3)
  - 3. Rugby S-XXXL (Max 3)
  - 4. Black Walking Shoes (one pair)
  - 5. Belt
  - 6. Fabric Neck Chain FBINA
  - 7. Grey Shirt (Max 3)
  - 8. Blue Shorts (Max 3)
  - 9. Grey Spandex Pants (Max 3)
  - 10. Warm-up Suit (Cold Weather only)

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11. Socks crew or ankle (Max 6 pairs)
- (b) Mandatory Assessment Fee \$115
- (c) FBINAA Membership (Initial Fee Only) \$105
- (d) Office Supplies (purchased at FBINA) and Shipping \$80
- (e) **Maximum Reimbursement \$800**

The employee must obtain itemized sales receipts for each transaction when goods have been received. Copies of detailed itemized receipts must be provided to the finance department by the end of the month. The original receipts must be submitted to the finance department on the first day back to work after attending the FBINA.

While attending the FBINA the Sheriff's Office will continue to pay the salary and benefits for employees holding the rank of Lieutenants and higher.

### 1057.2.3 PROHIBITED EXPENSES

The following expenses are not allowable:

- (a) Shoes other than the mandatory black walking shoes listed above.
- (b) Personal expenses: dry cleaning laundry, haircuts, and personal hygiene supplies.

Items not included in the allowable expense section above.

### 1057.3 TOLLS AND TICKETS

Employees are expected to observe all rules, laws and regulations while performing County business, including observance of parking restrictions and proper payment of tolls.

If an employee receives a ticket, fine, or toll violation while engaged in County business, the employee is personally responsible for the full amount plus penalties.

#### 1057.3.1 REIMBURSEMENT

Tickets and fines are not authorized expenses and cannot be reimbursed by the County.

Basic tolls are reimbursable, but toll violations for failure to stop at the toll booth are not.

#### 1057.3.2 TOLLS

If an employee must use a toll bridge/road while performing County business he/she is expected to have the proper toll amount in possession before leaving the County.

If an employee unexpectedly finds that he/she does not have the proper toll amount he/she **MUST** stop at the toll booth and follow the appropriate procedure for the respective Bridge/Road Agency.

Under no circumstance shall the employee fail to stop at the toll booth, including fast track systems.

# Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking

## 1058.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy is intended to address issues associated with employee use of social networking sites and to provide guidelines for the regulation and balancing of employee speech and expression with the needs of the Department.

Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit or infringe upon any communication, speech or expression that is protected or privileged under law. This includes speech and expression protected under state or federal constitutions as well as labor or other applicable laws. For example, this policy does not limit an employee from speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of a recognized bargaining unit or deputy associations, about matters of public concern, such as misconduct or corruption.

Employees are encouraged to consult with their supervisor regarding any questions arising from the application or potential application of this policy.

### 1058.1.1 APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all forms of communication including, but not limited to, film, video, print media, public or private speech, use of all Internet services, including the World Wide Web, e-mail, file transfer, remote computer access, news services, social networking, social media, instant messaging, blogs, forums, video and other file-sharing sites.

## 1058.2 POLICY

Public employees occupy a trusted position in the community, and thus, their statements have the potential to contravene the policies and performance of this department. Due to the nature of the work and influence associated with the law enforcement profession, it is necessary that employees of this department be subject to certain reasonable limitations on their speech and expression. To achieve its mission and efficiently provide service to the public, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department will carefully balance the individual employee's rights against the Department's needs and interests when exercising a reasonable degree of control over its employees' speech and expression.

## 1058.3 SAFETY

Employees should consider carefully the implications of their speech or any other form of expression when using the Internet. Speech and expression that may negatively affect the safety of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department employees, such as posting personal information in a public forum, can result in compromising an employee's home address or family ties. Employees should therefore not disseminate or post any information on any forum or medium that could reasonably be anticipated to compromise the safety of any employee, an employee's family or

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## *Employee Speech, Expression and Social Networking*

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associates. Examples of the type of information that could reasonably be expected to compromise safety include:

- Disclosing a photograph and name or address of a deputy who is working undercover.
- Disclosing the address of a fellow deputy.
- Otherwise disclosing where another deputy can be located off-duty.

### **1058.4 PROHIBITED SPEECH, EXPRESSION AND CONDUCT**

To meet the department's safety, performance and public-trust needs, the following is prohibited unless the speech is otherwise protected (for example, an employee speaking as a private citizen, including acting as an authorized member of a recognized bargaining unit or deputy associations, on a matter of public concern):

- (a) Speech or expression made pursuant to an official duty that tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or its employees.
- (b) Speech or expression that, while not made pursuant to an official duty, is significantly linked to, or related to, the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department and tends to compromise or damage the mission, function, reputation or professionalism of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or its employees.
- (c) Speech or expression that could reasonably be foreseen as having a negative impact on the credibility of the employee as a witness. For example, posting statements or expressions to a website that glorify or endorse dishonesty, unlawful discrimination or illegal behavior.
- (d) Speech or expression of any form that could reasonably be foreseen as having a negative impact on the safety of the employees of the Department. For example, a statement on a blog that provides specific details as to how and when prisoner transportations are made could reasonably be foreseen as potentially jeopardizing employees by informing criminals of details that could facilitate an escape or attempted escape.
- (e) Speech or expression that is contrary to the canons of the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics as adopted by the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.
- (f) Use or disclosure, through whatever means, of any information, photograph, video or other recording obtained or accessible as a result of employment with the Department for financial or personal gain, or any disclosure of such materials without the express authorization of the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
- (g) Posting, transmitting or disseminating any photographs, video or audio recordings, likenesses or images of department logos, emblems, uniforms, badges, patches, marked vehicles, equipment or other material that specifically identifies the Stanislaus

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County Sheriff's Department on any personal or social networking or other website or web page, without the express authorization of the Sheriff.

- (h) Accessing websites for non-authorized purposes, or use of any personal communication device, game device or media device, whether personally or department-owned, for personal purposes while on-duty, except in the following circumstances:
  - 1. When brief personal communication may be warranted by the circumstances (e.g., inform family of extended hours).
  - 2. During authorized breaks such usage should be limited as much as practicable to areas out of sight and sound of the public and shall not be disruptive to the work environment.

Employees must take reasonable and prompt action to remove any content, including content posted by others, that is in violation of this policy from any web page or website maintained by the employee (e.g., social or personal website).

### 1058.4.1 UNAUTHORIZED ENDORSEMENTS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

While employees are not restricted from engaging in the following activities as private citizens or as authorized members of a recognized bargaining unit or deputy associations, employees may not represent the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department or identify themselves in any way that could be reasonably perceived as representing the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in order to do any of the following, unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff (Government Code § 3206; Government Code § 3302):

- (a) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any political campaign or initiative.
- (b) Endorse, support, oppose or contradict any social issue, cause or religion.
- (c) Endorse, support or oppose any product, service, company or other commercial entity.
- (d) Appear in any commercial, social or nonprofit publication or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast or on any website.

Additionally, when it can reasonably be construed that an employee, acting in his/her individual capacity or through an outside group or organization (e.g., bargaining group or deputy associations), is affiliated with this department, the employee shall give a specific disclaiming statement that any such speech or expression is not representative of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.

Employees retain their right to vote as they choose, to support candidates of their choice and to express their opinions as private citizens, including as authorized members of a recognized bargaining unit or deputy associations, on political subjects and candidates at all times while off-duty.

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However, employees may not use their official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the result of an election or a nomination for office. Employees are also prohibited from directly or indirectly using their official authority to coerce, command or advise another employee to pay, lend or contribute anything of value to a party, committee, organization, agency or person for political purposes (5 USC § 1502).

### **1058.5 PRIVACY EXPECTATION**

Employees forfeit any expectation of privacy with regard to e-mails, texts or anything published or maintained through file-sharing software or any Internet site (e.g., Facebook, MySpace) that is accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed on any department technology system.

The Department reserves the right to access, audit and disclose for whatever reason any message, including attachments, and any information accessed, transmitted, received or reviewed over any technology that is issued or maintained by the Department. This includes the department e-mail system, computer network or any information placed into storage on any department system or device.

It also includes records of all key strokes or web-browsing history made at any department computer or over any department network.

The fact that access to a database, service or website requires a user name or password will not create an expectation of privacy if it is accessed through a department computer or network. However, the Department may not require an employee to disclose a personal user name or password or open a personal social website, except when access is reasonably believed to be relevant to the investigation of allegations of work related misconduct (Labor Code § 980).

### **1058.6 CONSIDERATIONS**

Subject to available resources, the Department should provide training regarding employee speech and the use of social networking to all members of the Department.

### **1058.7 TRAINING**

Subject to available resources, the Department should provide training regarding employee speech and the use of social networking to all members of the Department.



## Volunteer Emergency Personnel

### 1059.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this General Order is to provide employees with guidelines and procedures to follow for services as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel.

#### 1059.1.1 POLICY

The Sheriff's Office encourages employees to participate as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. In all cases, employees must have an authorized outside work agreement.

#### 1059.1.2 PROCEDURE

- (a) Employees shall notify their supervisor if they are interested in becoming or are an existing volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel.
- (b) Employee shall explain to their supervisor some of the duties that they would be expected to perform as volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel. Pursuant to Labor code 230.3a, no employer shall discharge or in any manner discriminate against an employee for taking time off to perform emergency duty as a volunteer firefighter, reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel.
- (c) Complete an outside work agreement form to obtain approval from the Sheriff.
- (d) Pursuant to Labor Code 230.4 - An employee, who is a volunteer firefighter, and works for an employer employing 50 or more employees, shall be permitted to take temporary leaves of absence, not to exceed an aggregate of 14 days per calendar year, for the purpose of engaging in fire or law enforcement training. This would not, however, be County paid time. Employee will be permitted to use their vacation accrual during their temporary absence.
- (e) Training to acquire or maintain proper status as a volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel should be scheduled with a supervisor as far in advance as possible to provide, if possible, changes in scheduling to accommodate said training. All scheduling must be considered based on the current job description to avoid any conflicts with current job responsibilities.
- (f) If an employee is called to respond to an emergency by an associated fire agency as a volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel, they must immediately contact their direct supervisor to arrange adequate coverage before leaving their job responsibilities. In the event the employee's immediate supervisor is not available, they must arrange adequate coverage with another co-worker with an equal level of responsibility before leaving their job responsibilities. Employee will be required to wait at their duty station until the replacement coverage arrives.

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## *Volunteer Emergency Personnel*

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- (g) In the case that an employee is called to respond to an emergency as a volunteer firefighter, a reserve peace officer, or emergency rescue personnel, the Department will attempt to rearrange scheduling to accommodate their temporary absence. However, the accommodations must be reasonable and not create undue hardships to the Department staff.
- (h) Upon return, written documentation from the associated fire agency shall be provided to verify the emergency response requirement. Employee will be permitted to use their vacation accrual during their temporary absence.

## Stars

### 1061.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the General Order is to establish guidelines for Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Volunteer Organization herein referred to as "STARS."

#### 1061.1.1 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to maintain a volunteer organization by using the following procedures.

#### 1061.1.2 REGULATIONS

- (a) All General Orders, Manuals, Policies and Procedures of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department shall apply to all members of "STARS."
- (b) Title of Organization
  - 1. The Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department Volunteers shall be officially known as "STARS."
- (c) Authority for Organization
  - 1. Volunteers are authorized by the Board of Supervisors, and are under the direction and control of the Sheriff.

#### 1061.1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

- (a) Assist and support the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in its mission to serve the community, and perform other duties that may be assigned by the Sheriff or his designated representative.
- (b) Volunteer positions within the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department are not sworn.
- (c) "STARS" shall perform all of their duties in a non-sworn capacity.

#### 1061.1.4 SCOPE

- (a) All volunteers serve within the provisions of law and at the pleasure of the Sheriff. No written or oral representation from any source shall supersede this provision or create a contract of any type with any volunteer.
- (b) There are no maximum numbers of hours a volunteer may work.

#### 1061.1.5 MEMBERSHIP

Authorized strength of the "STARS" organization is determined by the Sheriff and is currently limited to sixty (60) members.

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### 1061.1.6 UNIFORMS AND IDENTIFICATION

- (a) Each "STARS" member shall be responsible for furnishing his or her approved uniform attire. The uniform shall clearly distinguish all volunteer positions from sworn officers and shall identify them as a "STARS" member. The uniform shall consist of a black pant and a white shirt as outlined in the uniform manual. Any variations of this uniform must be approved by the Sheriff or his designee.
- (b) Volunteer Identification
  - 1. Volunteers will be issued a Department identification badge / card and they will be required to display it while on duty or in a Department facility when not in approved uniform. While in uniform, a Department issued metal badge shall be worn as approved by Department uniform policy. The Department issued identification badge / card shall be carried at all times when on duty or in a Department facility.
  - 2. The identification badge or metal badge shall not to be worn when off duty or used for general identification purposes, such as check cashing.
  - 3. Improper use of the volunteer uniform or identification badge will be grounds for dismissal from the volunteer program.

### 1061.1.7 TRAINING

- (a) Training Guidelines
  - 1. The Volunteer Coordinator shall establish training guidelines for the "STARS" organization. The coordinator of the "STARS" program shall maintain documentation of the training received.
  - 2. Volunteers may attend regularly scheduled Department training days with approval of the Training Unit Supervisor.
- (b) Volunteer Coordinator Responsibilities
  - 1. Coordinate both classroom and in-service training for volunteers.
  - 2. Establish and maintain volunteer training standards.
  - 3. Annually review the volunteer training program to insure it is adequate and in compliance with any relevant State, Federal, and Department guidelines.

### 1061.1.8 SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Minimum Requirements to Apply
  - 1. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age at the time their application is filed.
  - 2. No felony convictions
  - 3. Ability to read and write at an acceptable level.

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## Stars

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4. Possess the ability to follow and interpret written and verbal instructions, and complete reports accurately.
  5. Applicants will be required to be fingerprinted and pass a background investigation.
- (b) Selection Process
1. After evaluation of the initial application, the applicant may be asked to complete and must successfully pass the following requirements:
    - (a) Oral Board Examination;
    - (b) Background Investigation;
    - (c) Interview with the Sheriff or his designee.
- (c) Conflict of Interest Employment
- (a) The rules that apply to employees restricting outside employment do not apply to "STARS" members.
  - (b) Volunteers shall not be employed in any occupation, or have an ownership in any business which is in conflict with the ethical, moral, or professional standards of the law enforcement profession, or any other occupation or business interest deemed by the Sheriff to be in conflict with the best interests of Stanislaus County and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department.
  - (c) Volunteers must inform the Department in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of any changes to their regular occupation, business or business affiliation(s) which conflict with item one (1) of this section.

## Line-of-Duty Deaths

### 1062.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to members of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department in the event of the death of a member occurring in the line of duty and to direct the Department in providing proper support for the member's survivors.

The Sheriff may also apply some or all of this policy in situations where members are injured in the line of duty and the injuries are life-threatening.

#### 1062.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

**Line-of-duty death** - The death of a sworn member during the course of performing law enforcement-related functions while on- or off-duty, or a non-sworn member during the course of performing their assigned duties.

**Survivors** - Immediate family members of the deceased member, which can include spouse, children, parents, other next of kin or significant others. The determination of who should be considered a survivor for purposes of this policy should be made on a case-by-case basis given the individual's relationship with the member and whether the individual was previously designated by the deceased member.

### 1062.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department to make appropriate notifications and to provide assistance and support to survivors and coworkers of a member who dies in the line of duty.

It is also the policy of this department to respect the requests of the survivors when they conflict with these guidelines, as appropriate.

### 1062.3 INITIAL ACTIONS BY COMMAND STAFF

- (a) Upon learning of a line-of-duty death, the deceased member's supervisor should provide all reasonably available information to the Watch Commander and the Communications Center.
  1. Communication of information concerning the member and the incident should be restricted to secure networks to avoid interception by the media or others (see the Public Information Officer section of this policy).
- (b) The Watch Commander should ensure that notifications are made in accordance with the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths and Major Incident Notification policies as applicable.
- (c) If the member has been transported to the hospital, the Watch Commander or the designee should respond to the hospital to assume temporary responsibilities as the Hospital Liaison.

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- (d) The Sheriff or the authorized designee should assign members to handle survivor notifications and assign members to the roles of Hospital Liaison (to relieve the temporary Hospital Liaison) and the Department Liaison as soon as practicable (see the Notifying Survivors section and the Department Liaison and Hospital Liaison subsections in this policy).

### **1062.4 NOTIFYING SURVIVORS**

Survivors should be notified as soon as possible in order to avoid the survivors hearing about the incident in other ways.

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should review the deceased member's emergency contact information and make accommodations to respect the member's wishes and instructions specific to notifying survivors. However, notification should not be excessively delayed because of attempts to assemble a notification team in accordance with the member's wishes.

The Sheriff, Watch Commander or the authorized designee should select at least two members to conduct notification of survivors, one of which may be the Department Chaplain.

Notifying members should:

- (a) Make notifications in a direct and compassionate manner, communicating as many facts of the incident as possible, including the current location of the member. Information that is not verified should not be provided until an investigation has been completed.
- (b) Determine the method of notifying surviving children by consulting with other survivors and taking into account factors such as the child's age, maturity and current location (e.g., small children at home, children in school).
- (c) Plan for concerns such as known health concerns of survivors or language barriers.
- (d) Offer to transport survivors to the hospital, if appropriate. Survivors should be transported in department vehicles. Notifying members shall inform the Hospital Liaison over a secure network that the survivors are on their way to the hospital and should remain at the hospital while the survivors are present.
- (e) When survivors are not at their residences or known places of employment, actively seek information and follow leads from neighbors, other law enforcement, postal authorities and other sources of information in order to accomplish notification in as timely a fashion as possible. Notifying members shall not disclose the reason for their contact other than a family emergency.
- (f) If making notification at a survivor's workplace, ask a workplace supervisor for the use of a quiet, private room to meet with the survivor. Members shall not inform the workplace supervisor of the purpose of their visit other than to indicate that it is a family emergency.
- (g) Offer to call other survivors, friends or clergy to support the survivors and to avoid leaving survivors alone after notification.
- (h) Assist the survivors with meeting childcare or other immediate needs.

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- (i) Provide other assistance to survivors and take reasonable measures to accommodate their needs, wishes and desires. Care should be taken not to make promises or commitments to survivors that cannot be met.
- (j) Inform the survivors of the name and phone number of the Survivor Support Liaison (see the Survivor Support Liaison section of this policy), if known, and the Department Liaison.
- (k) Provide their contact information to the survivors before departing.
- (l) Document the survivor's names and contact information, as well as the time and location of notification. This information should be forwarded to the Department Liaison.
- (m) Inform the Sheriff or the authorized designee once survivor notifications have been made so that other Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members may be apprised that survivor notifications are complete.

### 1062.4.1 OUT-OF-AREA NOTIFICATIONS

The Department Liaison should request assistance from law enforcement agencies in appropriate jurisdictions for in-person notification to survivors who are out of the area.

- (a) The Department Liaison should contact the appropriate jurisdiction using a secure network and provide the assisting agency with the name and telephone number of the department member that the survivors can call for more information following the notification by the assisting agency.
- (b) The Department Liaison may assist in making transportation arrangements for the member's survivors, but will not obligate the Department to pay travel expenses without the authorization of the Sheriff.

### 1062.5 NOTIFYING DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Supervisors or members designated by the Sheriff are responsible for notifying department members of the line-of-duty death as soon as possible after the survivor notification is made. Notifications and related information should be communicated in person or using secure networks and should not be transmitted over the radio.

Notifications should be made in person and as promptly as possible to all members on-duty at the time of the incident. Members reporting for subsequent shifts within a short amount of time should be notified in person at the beginning of their shift. Members reporting for duty from their residence should be instructed to contact their supervisor as soon as practicable. Those members who are working later shifts or are on days off should be notified by phone as soon as practicable.

Members having a close bond with the deceased member should be notified of the incident in person. Supervisors should consider assistance (e.g., peer support group, modifying work schedules, approving sick leave) for members who are especially affected by the incident.

Supervisors should direct members not to disclose any information outside the Department regarding the deceased member or the incident.



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### **1062.6 LIAISONS AND COORDINATORS**

The Sheriff or the authorized designee should select members to serve as liaisons and coordinators to handle responsibilities related to a line-of-duty death, including, but not limited to:

- (a) Department Liaison.
- (b) Hospital Liaison.
- (c) Survivor Support Liaison.
- (d) Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) coordinator.
- (e) Funeral Liaison.
- (f) Mutual aid coordinator.
- (g) Benefits Liaison.
- (h) Finance coordinator.

Liaisons and coordinators will be directed by the Department Liaison and should be given sufficient duty time to complete their assignments.

Members may be assigned responsibilities of more than one liaison or coordinator position depending on available department resources. The Department Liaison may assign separate liaisons and coordinators to accommodate multiple family units, if needed.

#### **1062.6.1 DEPARTMENT LIAISON**

The Department Liaison should be a Division Commander or of sufficient rank to effectively coordinate department resources, and should serve as a facilitator between the deceased member's survivors and the Department. The Department Liaison reports directly to the Sheriff. The Department Liaison's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Directing the other liaisons and coordinators in fulfilling survivors' needs and requests. Consideration should be given to organizing the effort using the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- (b) Establishing contact with survivors within 24 hours of the incident and providing them contact information.
- (c) Advising survivors of the other liaison and coordinator positions and their roles and responsibilities.
- (d) Identifying locations that will accommodate a law enforcement funeral and presenting the options to the appropriate survivors, who will select the location.
- (e) Coordinating all official law enforcement notifications and arrangements.
- (f) Making necessary contacts for authorization to display flags at half-mast.
- (g) Ensuring that department members are reminded of appropriate information—sharing restrictions regarding the release of information that could undermine future legal proceedings.
- (h) Coordinating security checks of the member's residence as necessary and reasonable.

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- (i) Serving as a liaison with visiting law enforcement agencies during memorial and funeral services.

### 1062.6.2 HOSPITAL LIAISON

The Hospital Liaison should work with hospital personnel to:

- (a) Arrange for appropriate and separate waiting areas for:
  - 1. The survivors and others whose presence is requested by the survivors.
  - 2. Department members and friends of the deceased member.
  - 3. Media personnel.
- (b) Ensure, as much as practicable, that any suspects who are in the hospital and their families or friends are not in close proximity to the member's survivors or Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members (except for members who may be guarding the suspect).
- (c) Ensure that survivors receive timely updates regarding the member before information is released to others.
- (d) Arrange for survivors to have private time with the member, if requested.
  - 1. The Hospital Liaison or hospital personnel may need to explain the condition of the member to the survivors to prepare them accordingly.
  - 2. The Hospital Liaison should accompany the survivors into the room, if requested.
- (e) Stay with survivors and ensure that they are provided with other assistance as needed at the hospital.
- (f) If applicable, explain to the survivors why an autopsy may be needed.
- (g) Ensure hospital bills are directed to the Department, that the survivors are not asked to sign as guarantor of payment for any hospital treatment and that the member's residence address, insurance information and next of kin are not included on hospital paperwork.

Other responsibilities of the Hospital Liaison include, but are not limited to:

- Arranging transportation for the survivors back to their residence.
- Working with investigators to gather and preserve the deceased member's equipment and other items that may be of evidentiary value.
- Documenting his/her actions at the conclusion of his/her duties.

### 1062.6.3 SURVIVOR SUPPORT LIAISON

The Survivor Support Liaison should work with the Department Liaison to fulfill the immediate needs and requests of the survivors of any member who has died in the line of duty, and serve as the long-term department contact for survivors.

The Survivor Support Liaison should be selected by the deceased member's Division Commander. The following should be considered when selecting the Survivor Support Liaison:

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- The liaison should be an individual the survivors know and with whom they are comfortable working.
- If the survivors have no preference, the selection may be made from names recommended by the deceased member's supervisor and/or coworkers. The deceased member's partner or close friends may not be the best selections for this assignment because the emotional connection to the member or survivors may impair their ability to conduct adequate liaison duties.
- The liaison must be willing to assume the assignment with an understanding of the emotional and time demands involved.

The responsibilities of the Survivor Support Liaison include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Arranging for transportation of survivors to hospitals, places of worship, funeral homes and other locations, as appropriate.
- (b) Communicating with the Department Liaison regarding appropriate security measures for the family residence, as needed.
- (c) If requested by the survivors, providing assistance with instituting methods of screening telephone calls made to their residence after the incident.
- (d) Providing assistance with travel and lodging arrangements for out-of-town survivors.
- (e) Returning the deceased member's personal effects from the Department and the hospital to the survivors. The following should be considered when returning the personal effects:
  1. Items should not be delivered to the survivors until they are ready to receive the items.
  2. Items not retained as evidence should be delivered in a clean, unmarked box.
  3. All clothing not retained as evidence should be cleaned and made presentable (e.g., items should be free of blood or other signs of the incident).
  4. The return of some personal effects may be delayed due to ongoing investigations.
- (f) Assisting with the return of department-issued equipment that may be at the deceased member's residence.
  1. Unless there are safety concerns, the return of the equipment should take place after the funeral at a time and in a manner considerate of the survivors' wishes.
- (g) Working with the CISM coordinator to ensure that survivors have access to available counseling services.
- (h) Coordinating with the department's Public Information Officer ([PIO]) to brief the survivors on pending press releases related to the incident and to assist the survivors with media relations in accordance with their wishes (see the Public Information Officer section of this policy).
- (i) Briefing survivors on investigative processes related to the line-of-duty death, such as criminal, internal and administrative investigations.

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- (j) Informing survivors of any related criminal proceedings and accompanying them to such proceedings.
- (k) Introducing survivors to prosecutors, victim's assistance personnel and other involved personnel as appropriate.
- (l) Maintaining long-term contact with survivors and taking measures to sustain a supportive relationship (e.g., follow-up visits, phone calls, cards on special occasions, special support during holidays).
- (m) Inviting survivors to department activities, memorial services or other functions as appropriate.

Survivor Support Liaisons providing services after an incident resulting in multiple members being killed should coordinate with and support each other through conference calls or meetings as necessary.

The Department recognizes that the duties of a Survivor Support Liaison will often affect regular assignments over many years, and is committed to supporting members in the assignment.

If needed, the Survivor Support Liaison should be issued a personal communication device (PCD) owned by the Department to facilitate communications necessary to the assignment. The department-issued PCD shall be used in accordance with the Personal Communication Devices Policy.

### 1062.6.4 CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

The CISM coordinator should work with the Sheriff or the authorized designee, liaisons, coordinators and other resources to make CISM and counseling services available to members and survivors who are impacted by a line-of-duty death. The responsibilities of the CISM coordinator include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Identifying members who are likely to be significantly affected by the incident and may have an increased need for CISM and counseling services, including:
  - 1. Members involved in the incident.
  - 2. Members who witnessed the incident.
  - 3. Members who worked closely with the deceased member but were not involved in the incident.
- (b) Ensuring that members who were involved in or witnessed the incident are relieved of department responsibilities until they can receive CISM support as appropriate and possible.
- (c) Ensuring that CISM and counseling resources (e.g., peer support, debriefing, grief counselors) are available to members as soon as reasonably practicable following the line-of-duty death.
- (d) Coordinating with the Survivor Support Liaison to ensure survivors are aware of available CISM and counseling services and assisting with arrangements as needed.

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- (e) Following up with members and the Survivor Support Liaison in the months following the incident to determine if additional CISM or counseling services are needed.

### 1062.6.5 FUNERAL LIAISON

The Funeral Liaison should work with the Department Liaison, Survivor Support Liaison and survivors to coordinate funeral arrangements to the extent the survivors wish. The Funeral Liaison's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Assisting survivors in working with the funeral director regarding funeral arrangements and briefing them on law enforcement funeral procedures.
- (b) Completing funeral notification to other law enforcement agencies.
- (c) Coordinating the funeral activities of the Department, including, but not limited to the following:
  - 1. Honor Guard
    - (a) Casket watch
    - (b) Color guard
    - (c) Pallbearers
    - (d) Bell/rifle salute
  - 2. Bagpipers/bugler
  - 3. Uniform for burial
  - 4. Flag presentation
  - 5. Last radio call
- (d) Briefing the Sheriff and command staff concerning funeral arrangements.
- (e) Assigning a deputy to remain at the family home during the viewing and funeral.
- (f) Arranging for transportation of the survivors to and from the funeral home and interment site using department vehicles and drivers.

### 1062.6.6 MUTUAL AID COORDINATOR

The mutual aid coordinator should work with the Department Liaison and the Funeral Liaison to request and coordinate any assistance from outside law enforcement agencies needed for, but not limited to:

- (a) Traffic control during the deceased member's funeral.
- (b) Area coverage so that as many Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department members can attend funeral services as possible.

The mutual aid coordinator should perform his/her duties in accordance with the Mutual Aid and Outside Agency Assistance Policy.

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### 1062.6.7 BENEFITS LIAISON

The Benefits Liaison should provide survivors with information concerning available benefits and assist them in applying for benefits. Responsibilities of the Benefits Liaison include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Confirming the filing of workers' compensation claims and related paperwork (see the Occupational Disease and Work-Related Injury Reporting Policy).
- (b) Researching and assisting survivors with application for federal government survivor benefits, such as those offered through the:
  - 1. Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Programs.
  - 2. Public Safety Officers' Educational Assistance (PSOEA) Program.
  - 3. Social Security Administration.
  - 4. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- (c) Researching and assisting survivors with application for state and local government survivor benefits.
  - 1. Education benefits (Education Code § 68120)
  - 2. Health benefits (Labor Code § 4856)
  - 3. Worker's compensation death benefit (Labor Code § 4702)
- (d) Researching and assisting survivors with application for other survivor benefits such as:
  - 1. Private foundation survivor benefits programs.
  - 2. Survivor scholarship programs.
- (e) Researching and informing survivors of support programs sponsored by sheriff's associations and other organizations.
- (f) Documenting and informing survivors of inquiries and interest regarding public donations to the survivors.
  - 1. If requested, working with the finance coordinator to assist survivors with establishing a process for the receipt of public donations.
- (g) Providing survivors with a summary of the nature and amount of benefits applied for, including the name of a contact person at each benefit office. Printed copies of the summary and benefit application documentation should be provided to affected survivors.
- (h) Maintaining contact with the survivors and assisting with subsequent benefit questions and processes as needed.

### 1062.6.8 FINANCE COORDINATOR

The finance coordinator should work with the Sheriff and the Department Liaison to manage financial matters related to the line-of-duty death. The finance coordinator's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

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- (a) Establishing methods for purchasing and monitoring costs related to the incident.
- (b) Providing information on finance-related issues, such as:
  - 1. Paying survivors' travel costs if authorized.
  - 2. Transportation costs for the deceased.
  - 3. Funeral and memorial costs.
  - 4. Related funding or accounting questions and issues.
- (c) Working with the Benefits Liaison to establish a process for the receipt of public donations to the deceased member's survivors.
- (d) Providing accounting and cost information as needed.

### **1062.7 PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

In the event of a line-of-duty death, the department's [PIO] should be the department's contact point for the media. As such, the [PIO] should coordinate with the Department Liaison to:

- (a) Collect and maintain the most current incident information and determine what information should be released.
- (b) Ensure that department members are instructed to direct any media inquiries to the [PIO].
- (c) Prepare necessary press releases.
  - 1. Ensure coordination with other entities having media roles (e.g., outside agencies involved in the investigation or incident).
  - 2. Ensure that important public information is disseminated, such as information on how the public can show support for the Department and deceased member's survivors.
- (d) Arrange for community and media briefings by the Sheriff or the authorized designee as appropriate.
- (e) Respond, or coordinate the response, to media inquiries.
- (f) If requested, assist the member's survivors with media inquiries.
  - 1. Brief the survivors on handling sensitive issues such as the types of questions that reasonably could jeopardize future legal proceedings.
- (g) Release information regarding memorial services and funeral arrangements to department members, other agencies and the media as appropriate.
- (h) If desired by the survivors, arrange for the recording of memorial and funeral services via photos and/or video.

The identity of deceased members should be withheld until the member's survivors have been notified. If the media has obtained identifying information for the deceased member prior to survivor notification, the [PIO] should request that the media withhold the information from release until proper notification can be made to survivors. The [PIO] should ensure that media are notified when survivor notifications have been made.

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### **1062.8 DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN**

The Department chaplain may serve a significant role in line-of-duty deaths. His/her duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Assisting with survivor notifications and assisting the survivors with counseling, emotional support or other matters, as appropriate.
- Assisting liaisons and coordinators with their assignments, as appropriate.
- Assisting department members with counseling or emotional support, as requested and appropriate.

Further information on the potential roles and responsibilities of the chaplain is in the Chaplains Policy.

### **1062.9 INVESTIGATION OF THE INCIDENT**

The Sheriff shall ensure that line-of-duty deaths are investigated thoroughly and may choose to use the investigation process outlined in the Officer-Involved Shootings and Deaths Policy.

Investigators from other agencies may be assigned to work on any criminal investigation related to line-of-duty deaths. Partners, close friends or personnel who worked closely with the deceased member should not have any investigative responsibilities because such relationships may impair the objectivity required for an impartial investigation of the incident.

Involved department members should be kept informed of the progress of the investigations and provide investigators with any information that may be pertinent to the investigations.

### **1062.10 LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT ANIMAL**

The Sheriff may authorize appropriate memorial and funeral services for law enforcement animals killed in the line of duty.

### **1062.11 NON-LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH**

The Sheriff may authorize certain support services for the death of a member not occurring in the line of duty.



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